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Mark Your Calendar

- ◆ 1/26: Wandering Storytellers, Lexington Public Library
- ◆ 2/12: KSA Board Meeting, Conference Call
- ◆ 2/23: Wandering Storytellers, Lexington Public Library
- ◆ 3/30: Story Slam, Lexington Public Library
- ◆ 4/1—6/1: Kentucky Youth Storytelling Submissions



Kentucky Storytelling Association Winter 2017 NEWSLETTER

January 2017: Volume 13, Issue 1

\$1000 Given in Memory of Holcomb

Pam Holcomb's legacy lives on in the storytelling realm of Kentucky.

KSA has received a \$1,000 gift in memory of Holcomb, who died Oct. 31. That money has been earmarked for the Kentucky Youth Storytelling (KYS) Program.

North Carolina storyteller and Harlan, Kentucky native **Tim Lowry** made an appeal for donations in Holcomb's name during his December tour of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol."

"It was my hope that I could collect a \$1 here and \$5 there and make a small contribution toward this ex-

cellent program. Wow! The Christmas Spirit (past, present, and future) is alive in the hearts of my audience," Lowry said on Facebook.

One of Holcomb's drama students, Lowry fondly recalls her as a "dear friend" and a "storytelling mentor."

He added, "She helped me have a deeply rooted sense of place and a profound appreciation for culture."

"It made me feel warm inside to know Pam's legacy will live on through the efforts of a student," said **Gwenda Huff Johnson**, KYS co-chair.

(Continued on page 3)



Pam Holcomb

Members of KSA Remember Holcomb

When **Pam Holcomb** told the story "Brer Rabbit Earns a Dollar-A-Minute," members of the audience couldn't help but smile.

Holcomb died Oct. 31 right before the 2017 Kentucky Storytelling Conference.

"I never tired of hearing her tell about Brer Rabbit fooling Brer Bear," **Mary Hamilton**, KSA President, remarked. "Her embodiment of both characters as she

(Continued on page 4)

September Named Storytelling Month in State

September 2017 has been proclaimed as Kentucky Storytelling Month, per an official proclamation by Gov. Matt Bevin.

Storytelling Month encourages programming statewide -- at schools, libraries, parks, community events, wherever people gather -- to emphasize Kentucky's rich heritage of stories and tellers.

KSA hopes to lead in the observance of storytelling month by promoting it, publicizing telling events, and providing assistance to members of the public who want to host a storytelling event or who need help finding a teller.

Last year KSA members hosted a Liars Contest in Frankfort among other events during September.

Next KSA Board Meeting Scheduled Feb. 12

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The next KSA Board meeting will be a phone conference call on Sunday afternoon, Feb. 12. The exact time and call information will be announced later.

All KSA members are invited to all board meetings.

One item of business expected to be discussed at the next board meeting is the viability of using Square, a credit card read attachable to cell phones and tablets, to conduct KSA business. Board members **Bob Thompson** and **Amanda**

Hay are researching this issue.

Other board meetings in 2017 are Saturday, June 3, tentatively at 1:30 p.m. in Frankfort; Saturday, Sunday, Aug. 20, at 2:30 p.m. in Crestwood; and Sunday, Nov. 5, in Louisville after the conference.

President's Message ... *Mary Hamilton*

With the beginning of 2017, your new KSA Board embarks on the challenges of serving you by leading KSA and monitoring KSA's financial well-being. You'll find a list of your KSA Board members along with contact information in your newsletter. In this column I'd like to tell you more about these ten varied people.

In age – the oldest just turned sixty-seven; the youngest will soon turn twenty. Some have always been aware of phones with huge computing and WI-FI capabilities while others remember computers that took up an entire room and used punch cards. Educationally, they include high school graduates, college Dean's list undergraduates and graduate students, and folks with Bachelor and Masters Degrees. They've studied geology, education, math, physics, theatre arts, journalism, religion, computer science, political science, library science, health education administration, mechanical engineering, and more. One will soon begin an online Masters program in Information Architecture Knowledge Management User Ex-

perience Design – yes, your board members continue to learn!

Some are retired; some work for others, both part-time and full-time; some are self-employed. They've made their financial way in the world by washing dishes, designing & building geodesic domes, teaching, processing credit card payments, waiting tables, working construction building the University of Kentucky Commonwealth Stadium, shelving books, educating people with diabetes, editing newspapers, developing integrated computerized electronic control systems, coaching cheerleaders, developing software, serving as a minister, working in a tobacco warehouse, writing poetry, fiction, or technical documents, telling stories, and more.

They grew up in a West Virginia railroad town, in the mountains of North Carolina, and in Kentucky on family farms; in small towns, in Louisville suburbs, in a southeastern Harlan County holler, and beside the family grocery store in western McCracken County. Your board members are parents, step-

parents, grandparents, and people with no children.

Yes, your board members are just like you – people with a wide variety of experiences and expertise they bring to their service to KSA. Some love to tell stories; some much prefer listening. Some can tell you how they first encountered storytelling and came to love this art form; others grew up in families where storytelling was so ever-present they can't possibly recall their first storytelling encounter. Like you, they all share a desire to increase support and appreciation for storytelling through KSA.

Wisely, your Kentucky Storytelling Association limits the number of years anyone may serve on the KSA Board. The next time a call goes out asking you to consider board service I hope you will say "Yes." Whatever your background and skills, you are sure to fit right in with your oh-so-varied colleagues on the KSA Board.



2017 KY Storytelling Conference Planned for Louisville

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For the first time ever, downtown Louisville is the destination for Kentucky Storytelling Conference.

The 2017 conference is set for Nov. 3-4 at [Hotel Louisville](#), which is not only a hotel with conference facilities, but also a transitional shelter for women and families.

This site will be different from past conference locations, offering interesting possibilities, according to conference co-chairs Ed Bryson and Mary Hamilton.

Hotel Louisville is a former Holiday Inn owned and operated by Wayside Christian Mission, a well-established ministry to the homeless, poor, and recovering communities. Click [here](#) to learn more about these services.

In addition to the various workshops

and activities typically offered, the conference committee will be exploring grants for using the storytelling arts to add value to children and adults associated with Wayside Christian Mission.

The conference co-chairs welcome your questions, and your ideas for initiatives, grants and workshops for the conference. You can contact them at conference2017@kystory.org, 859-489-9417 (Bryson) or 502-223-4523 (Hamilton).

The conference venue offers rooms and meals at a very affordable rate and other hotels and restaurants are nearby.

In February, the committee will issue a call for conference workshop proposals. As more details become available, they will be posted on the [2017 conference page](#) at the KSA website.

\$1000 Donated....

(Continued from page 1)

“She saw the importance of preserving and promoting storytelling through our youth. As a teacher, she incorporated storytelling into her curriculum,” Johnson continued.

Holcomb was one of the founders of the youth storytelling program and served as the KYS committee chair for many years.

“In the program's early years, Pam and **Buck Creacy** traveled around the state at their own expense to hold regional KYS competitions,” KSA President **Mary Hamilton** recalled.

Holcomb also served as Kentucky's representative to the National Youth Storytelling group.

So it was fitting to collect donations in Holcomb's name during his tour, according to Lowry.

“Of all the people who influenced me as a storyteller, I don't think anyone was more passionate. I appreciated that about Pam—all or nothing,” Lowry said.

He added, “Her deep appreciation for the Kentucky Mountains gave her an authentic storytelling voice. Her life experiences gave her a depth of knowledge. Her love of people gave her a passion for life.”

Lexington Wandering Storytellers Ready for 2017

KSA members **Don Ray Smith** and **Debra Kumar** will headline Lexington Wandering Storytellers on Jan. 26 and Feb. 23 as the featured tellers.

Both events offer Open Mic segments for audience members wanting to tell.

On March 30, there will be a Story Slam open to anyone who'd like to compete.

Wandering Storytellers meets at 7 p.m. the last Thursday of each month at the main branch of the Lexington Public Library, 140 E. Main, Lexington.

Jerry Young and **Kerry Boudreaux** have taken over as the program co-chairs.

Wandering Storytellers in Western Kentucky is on hiatus right now.



Wandering Storytellers (WS) in Lexington ended 2016 with a Story Slam in December. From left are Steve Lanham, slam emcee; Cynthia Lanham, 2016 WS chair; Ann Roseberry, 2nd place; Ray Mendenhall, 1st place ; and Jerry Young, 3rd place.

Done something newsworthy?
Send news items to
newsletter@kystory.org

KSA Members Remember Holcomb....

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(Continued from page 1)

told was a wonder to behold,” especially how she created effective and believable characters.

“I loved to hear Pam do the Brer Rabbit stories,” KSA member **Gwenda Johnson** agreed, adding “but she told her mountain (and) coal mining stories with much more passion.”

Johnson first encountered Holcomb after Holcomb got lost traveling to Sandy Hook for a storytelling workshop. The two began talking after the training and “when she left, I knew I had a lifelong friend. It seemed we had known each other forever.”

Johnson described Holcomb as “a mountain woman, strong and determined. Witty, truthful, passionate toward her faith and family. A true friend.”

Holcomb did a great job of adjusting her style to the type of story she was telling, Hamilton said. “When she told a humorous story, it was truly funny. When she told a ghost story, it was properly eerie.”

What Johnson liked about Holcomb’s storytelling style was that “she told stories without a lot of theatrics. She used her voice, body language, (and) facial expressions to emphasize her main thought.”

But what Johnson really enjoyed about Holcomb stories was that she told them “as if she lived them. And some she did. She made the listener feel they were a part of the story. They lived them with her.”

Holcomb also portrayed the mother of a Civil War soldier in a tandem story that she told with Georgetown story-

teller **Bill Watson**. He said that the story needed a woman’s voice and, after talking it over, Pam agreed to team up on the story.

They told the story across Kentucky and it was widely acclaimed as one of the best stories told during the 150th anniversary of the Civil War a couple of years ago. In fact, the duo was



In her tandem tale with Bill Watson, Pam Holcomb reads a letter from her son James, a Confederate soldier.

scheduled to tell that story two weeks before Holcomb died, Watson said.

He added that Holcomb “was always encouraging to me as well as a mentor for my own storytelling. “

Holcomb was actively involved in KSA, serving as president, treasurer, and quadrant director over the years. She also coordinated the Storytelling in the Mountains event in Harlan County as a fund-raising event for KSA.

While there’s no doubt that she told stories all her life, her life as a professional teller took off after she retired from nearly 30 years of teaching high school math and drama. When she

retired, she was quickly accepted for positions on the Arts Education and Performing Artists rosters managed by the Kentucky Arts Council.

As a retired teacher, Holcomb never lost her love of helping young people achieve. She was actively involved in the Kentucky Youth Storytelling program and chaired it for several years.

“Her years as a teacher came into play in our relationship,” Watson said. “She taught me about storytelling.”

Hamilton said what she remembered most about Holcomb was “her laughter, her smile, and her tolerance and patience for seemingly everyone.”

Johnson had similar recollections.

“Pam was genuine, always the same. I remember her smile, her personality.... She never made anyone feel insignificant. She was a caring person.”

Holcomb will be remembered differently in different circles, Johnson said. “The Christian Storytellers ... will remember her as spreading the word of God through Storytelling. That would please her.”

Others will remember her as an Appalachian storyteller Johnson added.

“She would be the same on stage as she would sitting on the front porch or under the shade tree swapping stories,” she said.

“I miss her every day,” Johnson continued. “Never have I met anyone that had a bigger impact on me personally or professionally than Pam Holcomb. To me she is bigger than life. I will forever call on her spirit to enter the room and support me as a storyteller.”

Watson summed it up this way:

“There was only one Pam Holcomb ... and there won’t be another like her.”

KSA Looking for Volunteers in Various Areas

Your Kentucky Storytelling Association is an all-volunteer organization, so help is always needed.

Do you have a skill you are willing to volunteer to help KSA? If yes, please take a look at the list below, and mark any skill you possess that you are willing to donate.

Feel free to use "other" and tell KSA about the other skills you have that

you are willing to use on behalf of KSA.

If you prefer to have a chat about how you could volunteer, please call KSA President, **Mary Hamilton** 502-223-4523.

Over the course of the coming year, every effort will be made to put you in touch with the KSA committee in need of your skills.

KSA Volunteer Application

- Editing
 - Evaluating Workshop Proposals
 - Event promotion
 - Graphic arts (design, layouts)
 - Interviewing
 - Judging Youth Storytelling Entries
 - Other (please describe your skills or areas of expertise below)
- Photography
 - Proofreading
 - Researching (mostly online research)
 - Storytelling
 - Writing (mostly non-fiction writing)

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Best way to reach you – Email, phone, or both? _____

If phone, best time to reach you: _____

Send this completed form to

volunteers@kystory.org

OR

**KSA
P O Box 4148
Frankfort, KY 40601-4148**

KSA Board Members

President: Mary Hamilton
president@kystory.org

President-Elect: Ed Bryson
president-elect@kystory.org

Secretary: Bob Thompson
secretary@kystory.org

Treasurer: Steve Lanham
treasurer@kystory.org

Quad 1 Director: Debra Kumar
Quad1@kystory.org

Quad 2 Director: Octavia Sexton
Quad2@kystory.org

Quad 3 Director: Sierra Hatfield
Quad3@kystory.org

Quad 4 Director: Amanda Hay
Quad4@kystory.org

At-Large Director 1: Charles Wright
At-large1@kystory.org

At-Large Director 2: Mick Parsons
At-large2@kystory.org

Selected Committee Chairs

Wandering Storytellers Chairs:
Jerry Young, Kerry Boudreaux
wanderingtellers@kystory.org

2017 Conference Chair
Ed Bryson and Mary Hamilton
conference2017@kystory.org

KY Youth Storytelling Chair:
Gwenda Johnson, Mary Hamilton,
Betsy Fleischer, Sierra Hatfield
kys@kystory.org

KY Storytelling Month Chair: None
StorytellingMonth@kystory.org

Finance Chair: Steve Lanham
finance@kystory.org

Communications Chair: Ed Bryson
communications@kystory.org

Website Chair: Mary Hamilton
website@kystory.org

Publicity Chair: Steve Lanham
publicity@kystory.org

Fundraising Chair: Charles Wright
fundraising@kystory.org

Volunteer Chair: Mary Hamilton
volunteers@kystory.org

Regional Storytelling Calendar

January 2017

Kentucky Events

- **K, O, – Thursday, January 26, Lexington, KY.** Wandering Storytellers, Featured teller: [Don Ray Smith](#), plus open mic. Details: [KSA Wandering Storytellers](#).
- **C, O – Tuesday, January 31, Louisville, KY.** The Moth Story Slam. Theme: Risk. Details [Louisville Moth January](#).

Elsewhere

- **P – Friday, January 27, Indianapolis, IN.** Sharing Hoosier History through Stories: “Over There and Back Again” told by Sharon Kirk Clifton. 8:00 – 9:00 p.m. Eugene and Marilyn Glick Indiana History Center, 450 W Ohio Street, Indianapolis, IN. Tickets and more information at [Storytelling Arts Over There](#).

February 2017

Kentucky Events

- **P – Tuesday, February 7, Louisville, KY.** Louisville Storytellers Project. Theme: Out: Coming out, finding love & seeking acceptance. Play Louisville, 1101 E. Washington Street, Louisville. Note: Early and late show times available. \$13 (discounted season tickets also available) Details: <https://tickets.courier-journal.com/>
- **P – Saturday, February 11, Louisville, KY.** Kentucky Homefront. Details: www.kentuckyhomefront.org.
- **O – Monday, February 20, Louisville, KY.** Tale Talk, Details: [Talk](#).
- **K, O, – Thursday, February 23, Lexington, KY.** Wandering Storytellers, Featured teller: [Debra Kumar](#), plus open mic. Details: [KSA Wandering Storytellers](#).
- **C, O – Tuesday, February 28, Louisville, KY.** The Moth Story Slam. Theme: Love Hurts. Details: [Louisville Moth February](#).

Elsewhere

- **O – Thursday, February 2, Columbus, OH.** Speak Easy. Details: [Speakeasy](#).
- **P – Saturday, February 11, Indianapolis, IN.** “Family Man” featuring Don White. 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. Eugene and Marilyn Glick Indiana History Center, 450 W Ohio Street, Indianapolis, IN. Tickets and more information at [Storytelling Arts Family Man](#).
- **P – Friday, February 24, Indianapolis, IN.** If These Walls Could Tell: Fowler Theater, told by Stephanie Holman. 8:00 – 9:00 p.m. Indiana Landmarks Center, 1200 Central Avenue, Indianapolis, IN. Tickets and more information at [Storytelling Arts Fowler Theater](#).

March 2017

Kentucky Events

- **P – Saturday, March 11, Louisville, KY.** Kentucky Homefront. Details: www.kentuckyhomefront.org.
- **P – Friday – Saturday, March 17 – 18, Corbin, KY.** Cumberland Falls Storytelling Festival featuring Suzi Whaples, Stephen Hollen and Amy Yeary Holmes, Cumberland Falls State Resort Park, 7351 Highway 90, Corbin, KY. Cost: \$25 per person, or weekend packages including lodging and

meals for \$149 per person. Details: [Cumberland Falls Storytelling, Bre-ta.Smittev@ky.gov](#) or 606-528-4121.

- **O – Monday, March 20, Louisville, KY.** Tale Talk, Details: [Talk](#).
- **C, K, O, – Thursday, March 30, Lexington, KY.** Wandering Storytellers, Story Slam. Details: [KSA Wandering Storytellers](#).

Elsewhere

- **O – Wednesday, March 1, Newburgh, IN.** River Town Story Tellers, 6:30 p.m. Business, 7:00 p.m. Storytelling and Story Listening. Ohio Township Central Library, **Newburgh, IN.** Information: 1-800-213-0527, www.rivertownstorytellers.com or Mary Jo Huff, 812-455-1558.
- **O – Thursday, March 2, Columbus, OH.** Speak Easy. Details: [Speakeasy](#).
- **W – Saturday, March 11, Indianapolis, IN.** Writing Workshop with Minton Sparks, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Eugene and Marilyn Glick Indiana History Center, 450 W Ohio Street, Indianapolis, IN. Tickets and more information at [Storytelling Arts Writing](#).
- **P – Saturday, March 11, Indianapolis, IN.** “An Evening with Minton Sparks and Guitarist John Jackson” 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. Eugene and Marilyn Glick Indiana History Center, 450 W Ohio Street, Indianapolis, IN. Tickets and more information at [Storytelling Arts Sparks & Jackson](#).

April 2017

Kentucky Events

- **P – Saturday, April 8, Louisville, KY.** Kentucky Homefront. Details: www.kentuckyhomefront.org.
- **O – Monday, April 17, Louisville, KY.** Tale Talk, Details: [Talk](#).
- **P – Tuesday, April 18, Louisville, KY.** Louisville Storytellers Project. Theme: Derby Decadence: High rollers, flamboyant jockeys, wild party promoters. Location: Mellwood Arts & Entertainment Center, 1860 Mellwood Avenue, Louisville. Details: <https://tickets.courier-journal.com/>

Elsewhere

- **O – Thursday, April 6, Columbus, OH.** Speak Easy. Details: [Speakeasy](#).
- **P – Saturday, April 8, Indianapolis, IN.** Talk of the Town featuring Bill Harley. 7:30 – 10:00 p.m. Eugene and Marilyn Glick Indiana History Center, 450 W Ohio Street, Indianapolis, IN. Tickets and more information at [Storytelling Arts Talk](#).
- **P – Sunday, April 9, Indianapolis, IN.** “Grownups are Strange” told by Bill Harley. 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. (Doors open at 1:45 p.m.) Central Library, 40 E St. Clair Street, Indianapolis, IN. Free. More information at [Storytelling Arts Harley](#).

May 2017

Kentucky Events

- **P, W – Friday – Saturday, May 12 – 13, Paris, KY.** Storytelling Festival – tellers include Bil Lepp, Buck Creacy, Sheila Arnold, and Mary Hamilton. This event features a variety of both free and ticketed events. For details, contact Mary Lovell 859

Event Activity Types

Types of event activities are designated as follows:

- ASL** – American Sign Language Interpreted
- B** – Broadcasts & podcasts
- C** - Competitions (events with prizes)
- D** - Deadlines
- F** - Festival
- K** - KSA Events
- O** – Open Mic / Story Swaps
- P** – Performance
- W** – Workshops, classes, courses, retreats
- Y** - Youth storytelling events

-707-6890 or mslovell@gmail.com.

- **B – Saturday, May 13, Louisville, KY.** Kentucky Homefront. Details: www.kentuckyhomefront.org.
- **O – Monday, May 15, Louisville, KY.** Tale Talk, Details: [Talk](#).

Elsewhere

- **O – Thursday, May 4, Columbus, OH.** Speak Easy. Details: [Speakeasy](#).

June 2017

Kentucky Events

- **C, D, K, Y – Thursday, June 1, Entry deadline for Kentucky Youth Storytelling Contest.** Details: [Kentucky Youth Storytelling Program](#).
- **O – Monday, June 19, Louisville, KY.** Tale Talk, Details: [Talk](#).
- **P – Tuesday, June 27, Louisville, KY.** Louisville Storytellers Project. Theme: Summer of Love: The highs, lows and outright bizarre world of big love on small screens. Location: Mellwood Arts & Entertainment Center, 1860 Mellwood Avenue, Louisville. Details: <https://tickets.courier-journal.com/>

Elsewhere

- **O – Thursday, June 1, Columbus, OH.** Speak Easy. Details: [Speakeasy](#).
- **O – Wednesday, June 7, Newburgh, IN.** River Town Story Tellers, 6:30 p.m. Business, 7:00 p.m. Storytelling and Story Listening. Ohio Township Central Library, **Newburgh, IN.** Information: 1-800-213-0527, www.rivertownstorytellers.com or Mary Jo Huff, 812-455-1558.

July 2017

Kentucky Events

- **O – Monday, July 17, Louisville, KY.** Tale Talk, Details: [Talk](#).

Elsewhere

- **O – Thursday, July 6, Columbus, OH.** Speak Easy. Details: [Speakeasy](#).

August 2017

Kentucky Events

- **P – Saturday, August 12, Louisville, KY.** Kentucky Homefront. Details: www.kentuckyhomefront.org.
- **O – Monday, August 21, Louisville, KY.** Tale Talk, Details: [Talk](#).

Elsewhere

- **O – Thursday, August 3, Columbus, OH.** Speak Easy. Details: [Speakeasy](#).

(Continued on page 7)

Storytelling Calendar...

(Continued from page 6)

September 2017

Kentucky Storytelling Month

Email your event information to calendar@kystory.org or submit it [here](#).

Kentucky Events

- **P – Tuesday, September 5, Louisville, KY.** Louisville Storytellers Project. Theme: Bourbon: Makers, high-proof detectives & crazed collectors. Location: Mellwood Arts & Entertainment Center, 1860 Mellwood Avenue, Louisville. Details: <https://tickets.courier-journal.com/>
- **O – Monday, September 18, Louisville, KY.** Tale Talk, Details: [Talk](#).
- **P – Saturday, September 9, Louisville, KY.** Kentucky Homefront. Details: www.kentuckyhomefront.org.

Elsewhere

- **O – Wednesday, September 6, Newburgh, IN.** River Town Story Tellers, 6:30 p.m. Business, 7:00 p.m. Storytelling and Story Listening. Ohio Township Central Library, Newburgh, IN. Information: 1-800-213-0527, www.rivertownstorytellers.com or Mary Jo Huff, 812-455-1558.
- **O – Thursday, September 7, Columbus, OH.** Speak Easy. Details: [Speakeasy](#).
- **P – Saturday, September 16, Oneida, TN.** Haunting in the Hills Storytelling Festival, Bandy Creek Campground Area, Big South Fork.

October 2017

Kentucky Events

- **P – Saturday, October 14, Louisville, KY.** Kentucky Homefront. Details: www.kentuckyhomefront.org.
- **O – Monday, October 16, Louisville, KY.** Tale Talk, Details: [Talk](#).

Elsewhere

- **O – Thursday, October 5, Columbus, OH.** Speak Easy. Details: [Speakeasy](#).

November 2017

Kentucky Events

- **K, O, P – Friday and Saturday, November 3 – 4, Louisville, KY.** Kentucky Storytelling Conference. More details will be posted as they become available. Contact: Conference2017@kystory.org.
- **K – Sunday, November 5, Louisville, KY.** Kentucky Storytelling Association Board Meeting. For more information: President-elect@kystory.org.
- **P – Saturday, November 11, Louisville, KY.** Kentucky Homefront. Details: www.kentuckyhomefront.org.
- **P – Tuesday, November 14, Louisville, KY.** Louisville Storytellers Project. Theme: Die Hard: Tales of Kentucky's basketball obsession. Location: Mellwood Arts & Entertainment Center, 1860 Mellwood Avenue, Louisville. Details: <https://tickets.courier-journal.com/>
- **O – Monday, November 20, Louisville,**

KY. Tale Talk, Details: [Talk](#).

Elsewhere

- **O – Thursday, November 2, Columbus, OH.** Speak Easy. Details: [Speakeasy](#).

December 2017

Kentucky Events

- **P – Monday, December 18, Louisville, KY.** Louisville Storytellers Project. Theme: Holiday: Strange Christmas miracles, Hanukkah disasters and holiday stories not for greeting cards. Location: Mellwood Arts & Entertainment Center, 1860 Mellwood Avenue, Louisville. Details: <https://tickets.courier-journal.com/>
- **O – Monday, December 18, Louisville, KY.** Tale Talk, Details: [Talk](#).
- **O – Wednesday, December 6, Newburgh, IN.** River Town Story Tellers, 6:30 p.m. Business, 7:00 p.m. Storytelling and Story Listening. Ohio Township Central Library, Newburgh, IN. Information: 1-800-213-0527, www.rivertownstorytellers.com or Mary Jo Huff, 812-455-1558.
- **O – Thursday, December 7, Columbus, OH.** Speak Easy. Details: [Speakeasy](#).

24/7

Kentucky Events

- **B – Kentucky Voices and Views** - a podcast about interesting people, places and activities around Kentucky hosted by Tom Hailey from Lexington. Topics vary & include interviews with storytellers. <http://www.kentuckyvoicesandviews.com/>.

Weekly

Kentucky Events

- **B – A Time for Tales, Sundays, - 3:00 p.m.** Morehead State Public Radio, 90.3 FM. (Morehead, KY), hosted by Carolyn Franzini. Each week the stories relate to a theme... "Work," "School," "Ghost Stories," "Lessons Learned" and more. Listen on the web at <http://wmky.org/programs/time-tales>.
- **B – Kentucky Homefront, Saturdays, 8:00 a.m.** on WFPK 91.9 FM, Louisville, KY. Radio show, taped in front of a live audience. All live tapings include storytelling and music; half of broadcasts include storytelling. Details: www.kentuckyhomefront.org.
- **B - Kentucky Homefront, Saturdays, 2:00 p.m.** streamed on Crescent Hill Radio. Details: www.CrescentHillRadio.com and www.kentuckyhomefront.org.

Elsewhere

- **P – Teller In Residence, May – October, Jonesborough, TN.** Tuesday – Saturday, 2:00 Matinee Performances, Mary B. Martin Storytelling Hall, International Storytelling Center, 100 W. Main Street, Jonesborough, TN. Tickets: \$12 for adults and \$11 for seniors, students, and children under 18 years of age. Season Tickets: \$175 includes entrance to one matinee performance each week - a 44% savings over regular adult admission! For tickets or more information, or to request a brochure, call (800) 952-8392 or (423) 913-1276. **Tickets go on sale April 1st.** Details: [Teller In Residence](#)

Monthly Kentucky Events

- **P – Kentucky Homefront, 2nd Saturdays,** February – June and August – December, a radio show, taped in front of a live audience. All live tapings include storytelling and music. Live tapings happen at 7:30 p.m. The Clifton Center, 2117 Payne Street, Louisville, KY. Admission: \$12.00, season ticket discounts available. www.kentuckyhomefront.org At least half of broadcasted shows include storytelling. Broadcasts can be heard **weekly** on Saturdays at 8:00 a.m. on WFPK 91.9 FM, Louisville, KY and at 2:00 p.m. streamed on Crescent Hill Radio.
- **O – Tale Talk, 3rd Mondays,** Tale Talk, a gathering of storytellers and listeners in **Louisville, KY,** 6:30 p.m. Participants come tell stories, try out new stories, or listen to stories. Locations vary, but all within the Louisville area. FREE To learn the next Tale Talk gathering location, contact Jamie "Thorny" Eiler 812-725-5229 or visit <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Tale.Talk/>.
- **O, The Moth, last Tuesdays, Louisville, KY.** 8 p.m. Headliners Music Hall, 1386 Lexington Rd, Louisville, KY. Admission: \$10. Details: [Moth Louisville](#).
- **K, P, O, Wandering Storytellers, last Thursdays, 7 p.m. Lexington, KY.** 7 p.m. Lexington Public Library main branch, Farish Theater, 140 E. Main St. Lexington, KY. Suggested donation: \$5. Details: [KSA Wandering Story tellers](#)

Elsewhere

O – SpeakEasy, 1st Thursdays, 7:00 p.m. \$5.00. An open-mic event for adults co-sponsored by Storytellers of Central Ohio (SOCO) and Wild Goose Creative, 2491 Summit Street, **Columbus, OH** 43202. Wild Goose Creative believes everyone has a story to tell. To give those stories a voice we're proud to offer, Speak Easy, Columbus's premier event for live storytelling! It's simple: an audience, an open microphone, and great stories. Always something unexpected--a different topic every month! Details: [SpeakEasy](#)

Deadline Feb. 15 to Apply for KY Artists Directory

Feb. 15 is the deadline to apply for inclusion in the Kentucky Performing Artists Directory, "an adjudicated online roster of performing artists," according to a news release.

Those interested are encouraged to attend a webinar on Jan. 30 at 5 p.m.

For more information, contact Tamara Coffey at tamara.coffey.ky.gov or 502-892-3121.

Applications are assessed on three criteria: (1) artistic excellence (70 %), (2) performance experience (20 %), (3) marketing capacity (10 %).

Hay, Wann Compete in Moth Grand Slam

Members, Others Donate \$2,000+ to KSA Last Year

KSA received \$2,244.92 in cash donations, plus in-kind services and other considerations from its program partners during the year ending Oct. 31, 2016.

"We are just thrilled by the support of our members and others," said 2016 KSA President **Steve Lanham**. "Thank you so much!"

The cash donations include \$557 given by attendees at the monthly Wandering Storytellers event in Lexington, \$122.82 donated by members through the Kroger Community Rewards Program, and \$23.81 from supporters through the Goodshop / Goodread program.

In-kind donations in the last year included gifts of door prizes and storytelling services at KSA events.

Two program partners contributed to the 2015 storytelling conference. The Knowledge Center on Deafness assisted with ASL interpreter costs and Dale Hollow State Park, the venue for the conference, helped with featured teller fee, lodging for ASL interpreters, and evening concert publicity.

Other program partners: Lexington Public Library donated space for Wandering Storytellers and the Harlan County Extension Office hosted the Storytelling in the Mountains event.

Donating \$100-\$499: Russ Conrad, Betsy Fleischer, Mary Hamilton, Charles Hardy, Gwenda Huff Johnson, Steve Lanham, Bob Thompson, Charles Wright, Maryann Zoll.

Donating \$50-\$99: Bobby Hamilton.

Donating up to \$49: Ed Bryson, Russ Conrad, Bryan Grubb, Debra Kumar, Lillian Klipsch, Cynthia Lanham, Laura Seaman, Harold & Jonatha Wright.

(Send corrections to secretary@kystory.org.)

KSA members **Amanda Hay** and **Regan Wann** had the opportunity to take their telling skills to a higher level when they participated in The Moth Grand Slam of storytelling in Louisville on Jan. 12 at the Kentucky Center.

As winners of monthly story slams in the last 18 months, both were invited to be among the 10 competitors at the Grand Slam.

Hay shared her transformation from being a self-avowed "cat person" to the realization that she is also a "dog person," after adopting a very special canine companion.

Wann's story centered around a very cantankerous, antisocial horse named Imbri that eventually allowed her to become close to her.

"It's overwhelming. It's really exciting," Hay said about the Slam. With Louisville being a small city, "everybody (in the slam) gets to know each other — it's a collective experience."

Hay said that she plans to continue telling at the Moth, because it's where "I discovered that storytelling is a thing I could be involved in."

Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer told the



Amanda Hay and Regan Wann

first story of the night, which is done to take the pressure off the first speaker. That just happened to be Hay, who joked about the mayor being her warm-up act.

Wann ditched her original story, because "it didn't feel right to me," she said. Instead, she decided to go with a story she enjoyed rather than one geared more to the slam theme.

"The day of the event I had a few hours of just pure-adrenaline terror," Wann admitted, "mostly because I wanted to tell a good story."

A Moth producer assisted both with their stories — another benefit.

Several KSA members attended the event. Both Hay and Wann said they appreciated that.

Youth Teller Program Submissions Start April 1

The Kentucky Youth Storytelling (KYS) program will be accepting entries April 1 through June 1.

Kentucky storytellers ages 7 to 17 are eligible to participate.

Entries can be submitted via electronic link or mailed DVD. Those interested can find a scoring rubric, telling tips, and a link to helpful websites at [KYS](http://kystory.org).

KYS co-chair **Mary Hamilton** is asking that KSA members help promote this program.

The current KYS Torchbearers have been invited to attend the Cumberland Falls Storytelling Festival in March and the new storytelling festival in Paris, Kentucky in May. Free admission to these storytelling festivals are part of the KYS Competition prize package.

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