

**Sherry Norfolk**  
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#### **SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS**

- Adjunct Professor, Lesley University (Integrated Arts in Learning program) 2009-date.
- Adjunct Professor, East Tennessee State University (Storytelling Masters Program) 2011.
- Adjunct Professor, Mercer University-Atlanta (1996-1998) and Florida Atlantic University (1987-1988).
- Co-author of award-winning books: *The Storytelling Classroom: Applications Across the Curriculum* (Libraries Unlimited, 2006) and *Literacy Development in the Storytelling Classroom* (Libraries Unlimited, 2009).
- Teaching Artist with Tennessee Arts Commission's *Value Plus Schools* and *Arts360* programs (2009 *Teaching Artist of the Year*); rostered artist with Mississippi Arts Commission, Georgia Council for the Arts, Louisiana Council for the Arts, Interchange / COCA St. Louis, South Carolina Arts Commission, Tennessee Arts Commission (teaching artist and professional development), Virginia Commission on the Arts, Young Audiences-Woodruff Arts Center, Springboard for Learning / Young Audiences of St. Louis.
- National Storytelling Network 2011 Oracle Award winner for Distinguished National Service; past Chairman of the NSN Board of Directors.
- *"You were a rip roaring success! The students valued the content of the course as well as your teaching style. Over and over students mentioned the relevance of your assignments to their teaching jobs and the 'integration between storytelling and actual curriculum we teach.' [They] clearly valued your teaching and the personal attention you gave to them. You inspired them with your energy and your knowledge. Lesley is fortunate that you've joined our teaching team, and so are the students you teach in the future, as well as the students THEY teach in their classrooms!"* -- Course Mentor, Integrated Arts in Learning program, Lesley University

#### **RELEVANT EXPERIENCE**

##### **ADULT INSTRUCTION**

Combines a belief in the power of story with an inborn talent for teaching, an infectious enthusiasm, and a dynamic energy that empowers and revitalizes participants.

- Adjunct Professor, Lesley University (Integrated Arts in Learning program) 2009-date.
- Adjunct Professor, East Tennessee State University (Storytelling Masters Program) 2011.
- Adjunct Professor, Mercer University-Atlanta (1996-1998) and Florida Atlantic University (1987-1988).
- Professional Development leader for DeKalb County (GA) Public Schools; Gwinnett County (GA) Public Schools; University of Alaska-Anchorage; Grand Canyon National Park; North Carolina Center for the Advancement of Teaching; Tennessee Arts Commission, and East Tennessee State University.
- Trainer for LYRASIS, Northeast Florida Library Network, Anchorage Municipal Libraries, Arizona State Library, Hawaii State Libraries, Louisiana State Library, Georgia Public Library Services, Metrowest Massachusetts Regional Library System, Miami-Dade Public Library System, St. Louis Public Library, and Knox County (TN) Public Libraries.
- *"Bravo! Sherry is a superb teller and teacher!"* --Teacher, North Carolina Center for the Advancement of Teaching

##### **KEYNOTE AND CONFERENCE SPEAKER**

Sought-after conference presenter on the potential of arts integration to transform whole schools by reinvigorating teaching in core subjects and inspiring students to greater joy and achievement in

learning.

- Keynoted and/or presented at Singapore International Storytelling Festival and Asian International Story Congress; Manila International Storytelling Festival; Thailand Reading Exhibition; Florida Storytelling Camp; Timpanogos Winter Conference; American Library Association Conferences; American Horticultural Society Conference; Head Start Centers of Southeastern Georgia Training Conference; National Storytelling Conferences; Macon Arts - a Community Alliance; TalkStory Storytelling Conference (Waikiki, HI), Florida Library Association Conferences.
- *"Thank you so much for being the highlight of my conference experience! Your enthusiasm and genuine love of your topic was wonderful - I learned a great deal and enjoyed meeting you."* -- Julie Hudson, Florida Library Association Conf. participant

#### TEACHING ARTIST / CLASSROOM EXPERIENCE

Leads highly successful storytelling/creative writing residencies in elementary and middle schools across America and SE Asia.

- Sherry has conducted well over 100 residencies for pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup> grade; all residencies are tailored to the meet children at their level, working in cooperation with the grade-level teachers to develop projects that challenge and motivate the students while demonstrating viable arts-integrated classroom strategies for staff development.
- Works with special populations such as the Alaska Children's Center, a residential treatment center for children with severe emotional disabilities, as well as "alternative" schools for children with behavioral disorders, and inclusive schools with large populations of children with severe learning disorders.
- *"Sherry is a dedicated professional who truly cares for the children and the teachers and is concerned that everyone is learning. She worked with grades one through six and each one was extremely pleased with her efforts. She is congenial, energetic, dedicated, and, most importantly, knowledgeable. Mrs. Norfolk has been one of the strongest and most outstanding artists that we have had to work with Bradley Academy."* – Cheryl Harris, ValuePlus Program Coordinator, Murfreesboro (TN) Public Schools.

#### PERFORMING ARTIST

Performs internationally; her strong, clear, direct stage presence immediately connects to audiences of all ages, and her use of tones, timbres, and rhythms in her telling breathes life into her rich repertoire of folktales from around the world.

- International Storytelling Center, Jonesborough, TN (2003, 2009)
- Singapore International Storytelling Festival (2008, 2009)
- Manila International Storytelling Festival (2009)
- Many more festivals, schools, libraries and universities nationwide.
- *"... that VOICE! I don't know where it comes from but perhaps there lives in her chords a pantheon of BOTH gods and goddesses! I hear a hidden musician in there as well for Sherry imbues musicality in a telling for folk tales. Her use of tones, timbres, and rhythms in her telling breathe life into her style yet never draw away from the service of the story."* – Robert Kikuchi-Yngojo, Eth-Noh-Tec

#### FAMILY LITERACY CONSULTANT

Helps teachers, librarians and parents discover how to take advantage of the important relationship between storytelling and literacy. Extensive experience in designing and implementing award-winning emergent and family literacy programs provides the foundation for inspiring, creative workshops and projects

- 1994 Urban Libraries Council Award of Excellence for "Project Horizons," a family literacy program serving homeless children.
- 1994 ALA/Margaret Alexander Edwards Trust Award for Outstanding Service to Young Adults for "Building Blocks to Literacy." (Family literacy)
- 1993 National Association of Counties Award for "Building Blocks." (Family literacy)

- 1992 ALA/ALSC EconoClad Children’s Literature Program Award for Project Horizons
- 1991 National Association of Counties (NACO) Award for Project Horizons

**AUTHOR**

Co-authors award-winning professional books and folktale-based picturebooks.

- *Social Studies in the Storytelling Classroom: The Voices of Humanity*. (Parkhurst Brothers Publishing, forthcoming 2012)
- *Literacy Development in the Storytelling Classroom*. Co-edited with Jane Stenson and Diane Williams. (Libraries Unlimited, 2009)
- *Billy Brown and the Belly Button Beastie*. Co-authored with Bobby Norfolk. (August House Little Folk, 2008)
- *The Storytelling Classroom: Applications Across the Curriculum*. Co-authored with Jane Stenson and Diane Williams. (Libraries Unlimited, 2006)
- *Anansi* series, co-authored with Bobby Norfolk. (August House StoryCove):
  - *Anansi and the Pot of Beans*, 2006
  - *Anansi and the Tug of War*, 2007
  - *Anansi Goes to Lunch*, 2007
  - *Anansi and Turtle Go to Dinner*, 2008
  - *Anansi and the Kingdom of the Sky*, 2008
- *The Moral of the Story: Folktales for Character Development, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition*. Co-authored with Bobby Norfolk, August House Publishers, 2006.

**WORK HISTORY**

2011-date	Adjunct Professor	East Tennessee State University
2009-date	Adjunct Professor	Lesley University
2009-2010	Chairman of the Board/ President of the corporation	National Storytelling Network
1996-date	Professional storyteller, instructor, author and teaching artist	Nationally and internationally
1996-1998	Adjunct Professor	Mercer University-Atlanta
1988-1996	Youth Services Coordinator	DeKalb County (GA) Public Library
1987-1988	Adjunct Professor	Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton
1986-1988	Coord. Children’s Outreach	Miami-Dade Public Library (MDPL)
1979-1986	Children’s Librarian (I & II)	North Dade Regional Library, MDPL

**EDUCATION**

Certificate of Public Management	University of Georgia, 1991
Masters in Library Science	Indiana University, 1978
Bachelor of Science (Elementary Education)	Indiana University, 1974

**REFERENCES**

1. Jane Stenson, Resident Storyteller / retired Kindergarten teacher  
Baker Demonstration School  
201 Sheridan Rd.  
Wilmette, IL 60091  
Phone: (day) 827.425.5800 (evening) 827.826.7627  
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2. Nancy Self, Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Teaching, Learning and Culture, a division of the College of Education and Human Development  
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3. Brandi Self (no relation to above)

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