STF 2025 Call for Workshop Proposals

Sharing the Fire (STF), the Northeast's premier storytelling conference, is known for having highly interactive workshops. We are looking for workshops that center on participation to create an engaging, fulfilling experience for all attendees. We will be accepting proposals for 90-minute workshops and 3-4 hour Intensives.

DEADLINE: Submissions must be received by 11:59 pm (Eastern Time) on **Monday, September 16, 2024**.

The Conference Theme is **Dynamic Listening: Paths into Deeper Connections and Powerful Stories.** Workshop submissions should align with the conference theme in some way. The exceptions to this are sessions for the **family track**, **absolute beginners**, and those relating to the **business of storytelling**.
Conference dates: March 28-30, 2025

Location: The Queensbury Hotel, 88 Ridge St, Glens Falls, NY 12801.

STF workshops and intensives are at least 50% interactive. Lectures, panels, showcases, etc. will not be considered.

We are open to sessions that would benefit participants from beginning through advanced levels. Areas for consideration may include, but are not limited to:

- Applied Storytelling
- Introduction to Storytelling for Beginners
- Storytelling Skills (various levels)
- Humor & Play
- Healing & Spirituality
- Technology
- Culture & Traditions
- The Business of Storytelling
- Engagement in the World
- Improvisation
- Movement
- Vocal Care

Presenter(s) must register for the entire conference. Compensation is listed below, and limited to the amount listed regardless of the number of presenters of the session. Scholarship information will be available on the website; check there if you need financial assistance. Everyone who stays in the conference hotel will receive a discounted room rate of $149/night for Fri and Sat nights ($114 for Thurs night). Additional hotel info will be posted soon.

New This Year: Family Track

This year, we are looking for a few workshops specifically geared towards families (children ages 8+ with at least one adult). These workshops will run concurrently with Adult workshops; the exact schedule will be set after workshops are selected.

Virtual Track

We are also seeking three 90-minute Virtual Workshops that will be presented to people in our Virtual Track concurrently with in-person workshops. These workshops should still meet the requirements of STF workshops, but will be delivered in a Virtual Format over Zoom. They can utilize features such as breakout rooms for small group work, screen sharing, whiteboards, and other online tools. Virtual Track workshop leaders are paid a stipend of $150 and are responsible for their own conference registration, stable internet connection, lighting, and sound equipment.

WORKSHOPS

Workshops are held on Saturday and Sunday (March 29-30). Workshops run for 90 minutes. Please plan 85 minutes of activities and about 5 minutes for evaluation at the end.

All in-person workshop leaders (including Family Track) are paid a stipend of $200 and are responsible for their own conference registration, travel and hotel room.

We *may* be interested in live streaming a handful of workshops from the conference to the Virtual Track. If your workshop would be a good fit for live streaming, please indicate that on your proposal and tell us how you would make the workshop meaningful/useful for those watching from home. Please note that live streamed workshop participants will be able to use the chat function in youtube, and any other virtual resources you provide. Workshops chosen to be live streamed will receive an additional $25 stipend.

INTENSIVES

Intensives are deeper dives into one area of interest.

The honorarium for an intensive is $400. Compensation is the same regardless of the number of presenters OR the number of participants in the intensive, with minimum pre-registration of 5 participants per session.

Intensives will run in the morning and afternoon on Friday, March 28. We have 4 intensive slots available, one of which will be for beginner storytellers.

Tech note

Please note that some people have had trouble with google forms when using **Firefox**. We recommend you use a different browser to complete this form. If you have no other options, please update Firefox before continuing.

If you have questions after reading through this information, please reach out to Katie Knutson at nestorytelling@gmail.com

Submit by 11:59 pm (Eastern Time) on Monday, September 16, 2024.

1. Email *

Contact Information

2. Full Name *

**IMPORTANT NOTE:
THIS PDF FORM IS FOR YOUR REFERENCE ONLY.**

**DO NOT attempt to fill in this form and submit it.
IT WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**
Instead, please fill out the live form available at nestorytelling.org/stf25

(Please use a browser other than Firefox to ensure your success.)

3. Preferred Pronouns

   Mark only one oval.

   ◯ she/her

   ◯ he/him

   ◯ they/them

   ◯ Other:

4. Mobile Phone Number *

5. Mailing Address *

    _____

6. Website (if applicable)

    _____

7. Will there be another presenter? *

    Mark only one oval.

    ( ) No   *Skip to question 14*

    ( ) Yes   *Skip to question 8*

Additional Presenter Information

Please enter the info for all additional presenters here. If you are presenting with more than one additional person, please enter the contact info in the same order. Example: Presenter 1 Name, Presenter 2 Name. Presenter 1 email, Presenter 2 email.

Contact Information

8. Full Name(s) of Additional Presenter(s) *

    Separate names with commas

    _____

9.   Email(s) of Additional Presenter(s) *
Separate with commas

_____

10.   Preferred Pronouns

_____

11.   Mobile Phone Number *

_____

12.   Mailing Address *

_____

13.   Website (if applicable)

_____

Session Information

Workshop time slots are 90 minutes long. Intensives are 3-4 hours. Remember to leave 5 minutes at the end for participants to fill out evaluation forms.

14.   **Session Title** *

_____

15. If there is a maximum number of participants, please indicate how many.

_____

16. **Experience Level of Participants (check all that apply)** *

Please think carefully about the content you plan to present. Note that if you say your workshop is for Beginners or Inclusive of All Levels, this means that it needs to actually be appropriate for a beginner storyteller. This means that you will not be asking participants to do anything that you have not already prepared them to do in the workshop. For example, if you expect beginners to tell a story, give them a written or told version they can use, or coach them in finding a moment from their own lives.

Check all that apply.

☐ Beginner
☐ Intermediate
☐ Advanced
☐ Inclusive of all levels

17. This session would appeal to: (check all that apply) *

Check all that apply.

☐ Tellers of traditional stories (folktales/fairytales/legends/fables)
☐ Tellers of personal stories
☐ Tellers of historical stories
☐ Tellers of healing stories
☐ Those who use storytelling in their work (applied storytelling, i.e., teachers, librarians, social workers)
☐ Other: _____

18. **Tell us your qualifications for presenting this workshop** *

19. **Have you presented this workshop before? If so, where and when?** *

20. **Your Bio for publication in program (maximum 100 words):** *

21. **Session Description for publication in program (maximum 100 words):** *

22. **Workshop Objectives** *

Complete the sentence:

"At the end of my presentation, participants will be able to…"

Please list 3-5 objectives for workshops or 4-6 objectives for intensive proposals.

_____

_____

_____

_____

Brief Outline of your Session

We are hoping for at least 50% of the workshop time to be spent with active engagement of participants. Here are some activities participants enjoy: Turning and talking, solving problems, creating things, doing an assignment, being on their feet/using their bodies and voices, playing games, working with partners, large and small group activities/discussions, etc.

23. **Please outline the activities that participants will engage in:** *

Include who will do what during each section. Please label each section as demonstration, lecture, group discussion, partner activities, etc. Give us a sense of how long each section will last.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

24. **Please elaborate on one of the activities mentioned above.**
     For example:
     A. I will tell the story "The Ant and the Grasshopper" using three hand instruments for sound effects (lecture/demo)
     B. Participants will work in pairs to brainstorm sound effects for one of three short stories using the hand instruments provided. (Active Engagement)

     How does this activity relate to your objectives for the session?

     _____

     _____

     _____

     _____

     _____

25. **This year's theme (2025) is: "Dynamic Listening: Paths into Deeper Connections and Powerful Stories". Will your workshop have a connection to this theme? Please state how.**

     _____

     _____

     _____

     _____

     _____

26. **Do you see ways that your workshop could attract new audiences (beyond the NEST membership) to the conference? If so, please describe how.**

     _____

     _____

     _____

     _____

     _____

27. **GETTING THE WORD OUT**

We ask you to promote STF through your website, listservs, and social media platforms so that we can ensure a robust conference. If you have any additional ways that you might promote the conference, please list them here. (optional)

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_____

_____

_____

28. If selected to present at the conference, would you be willing to record a brief (20-90 seconds) video teaser for your workshop that NEST can share to promote the conference and your workshop?

Mark only one oval.

◯ Yes

◯ No

◯ Yes, but I will need some coaching/assistance

◯ Other: _____

29. I am applying to present a(n): *

Mark only one oval.

◯ Adult Workshop (90 mins - in-person)   *Skip to question 32*

◯ Adult Workshop (90 mins - in-person that can also be live streamed via youtube)
   Skip to question 30

◯ Virtual Workshop (90 mins - online - can be presented from anywhere)
   Skip to question 37

◯ Family Workshop (90 mins - in-person)   *Skip to question 32*

◯ Intensive (3-4 hours - in-person with adults)   *Skip to question 32*

LIVESTREAMING OPTIONS

If we choose to livestream your workshop, it will be shared live with our online audience and the recording will be available for 2 months after the conference to all virtual and in-person attendees. All live streamed workshops will take place in the ballroom, with a stage in front and theater-style seating. Microphones will be available and required for the online audience to hear the content happening in the room. Free high-speed wi-fi will be available at the hotel.

30.   Do you agree to the terms above about livestreaming?

Mark only one oval.

◯ Yes

◯ No

31.   **How would you incorporate the live streamed audience or make the workshop accessible/active for them?** If there are times when the in-person attendees will be doing an exercise or activity that the online participants will not be able to do, please describe how you will keep the online participants actively engaged.

Note that we will be streaming over youtube. Chat will be enabled, but features like breakout rooms will not be available. You *may* choose to use other online programs like the google suite to distribute handouts or provide a place for interaction. One way that presenters may engage with the online audience is to chat with them while the in-person audience is working in small groups/partners.

_____

_____

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_____

IN-PERSON ROOM AND EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

NEST will provide easels with a flip chart and markers. The cost of renting other equipment is the responsibility of the presenter.

32. **List audio/visual equipment you will provide (If not applicable, type "none").** *

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

33. **List audio/visual equipment rental requests**

If your session is selected, you will be connected to the hotel's A/V team to facilitate rental at your own expense.

_____

_____

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_____

_____

34. **Preferred Room Set-up**

Most STF workshops have traditionally been done in a large circle of chairs. If you require something else, please state that below. Additionally, we will be having workshops in the ballroom. If your session would benefit from being in the ballroom and having sound equipment, please let us know.

Mark only one oval.

◯ Large circle of chairs around the perimeter of the room

◯ Theater-style (chairs in rows facing forward)

◯ Classroom (chairs with tables in rows facing forward)

◯ Ballroom (large open room set up Theater-style with a microphone, stage and speakers)

◯ We will be moving the chairs a lot during the workshop, so the setup doesn't really matter.

◯ Other: _____

35. Please upload a current headshot that can be used for promotional materials. We   *
    require one headshot per potential presenter.

    Please make sure the image is current, clear, and of your entire head (not your whole body
    or a small portion of your face).

    Files submitted:

36. Optional: If you have any additional material that you would like the workshop
    committee to know about you or your workshop, please upload it here. We accept
    pdfs and image files. This may include things like a resume, handout, or photo of
    something one might make or use during the workshop.

    Files submitted:

ONLINE ROOM AND EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

All Virtual Track workshops that are not live-streamed from the conference will be conducted
using Zoom.

37. **List audio/visual equipment you will provide.** Please tell us your tech set-up   *
    (including computer, whether a wired internet connection is available,
    lighting/sound equipment, etc):

    _____

    _____

    _____

    _____

38. **Preferred Zoom room functionality**

We will provide a tech host for your workshop. Please let us know the things they should familiarize themselves with before your workshop. (Check all that apply)

Check all that apply.

- ☐ Playing videos
- ☐ Screensharing
- ☐ Setting up and using Breakout Rooms (please share any specific requests using the "Other" option below)
- ☐ Using the Whiteboard
- ☐ Setting up the sound to share musical instruments well
- ☐ Allowing workshop participants to share their screens
- ☐ Other: _____

39. Please upload a current headshot that can be used for promotional materials. We * require one headshot per potential presenter.

Please make sure the image is current, clear, and of your entire head (not your whole body or a small portion of your face).

Files submitted:

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