



## Judy Thibault Klevins

Contact: (301) 983-6721

E-mail: [Klevins@erols.com](mailto:Klevins@erols.com)

### **BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH STORYTELLING**

**Workshop Leader: Judy Thibault Klevins**

**For Parents and Other Community Members**

**Time Required: 1.5 hours**

**(can be extended to fit longer time periods)**

**Maximum number of workshop participants: 50**

Telling stories is an artistic way to transmit history, values, and culture in families, schools, and communities. It's challenging, however, to choose, limit, and tell stories so others want to listen. In this workshop, participants learn ways to choose appropriate topics, visualize stories, and organize and capture their own and others' personal narratives. Working with partners, participants begin to structure, tell, and then "swap stories"—retelling their partners' stories in the first person.

Judy Thibault Klevins is a drama educator who has directed hundreds of plays and projects with people who range in age from seven to ninety-two. A theater and language arts teacher in Arlington, Virginia, Ms. Klevins' high school booster club named her "Coach of the Year," and she continues to serve as a coach/mentor to teachers as they introduce drama strategies in their classroom. Ms. Klevins also served as Arlington's Arts Education Specialist. A presenter at international and national conventions, she has created, directed, and performed readings at the U.S. Senate Office Building, the National Institutes of Health, and other venues, and created *Swapping Stories*<sup>®</sup>, a unique intergenerational/intercultural drama project.