



Stuart Stotts

Contact: (608) 513-0724

E-mail: stuart@stotts.com

Web site: stuart.stotts.com

WRITING THE HERO'S JOURNEY: BUILDING WRITING SKILLS THROUGH STORYTELLING AND ORAL LANGUAGE

Developed in collaboration with Madison Civic Center, Madison Metropolitan School District, and University of Wisconsin-Madison; Wausau Area Performing Arts Foundation, Wausau School District, and D.C. Everest Area School District; and Weidner Center for the Performing Arts, and Green Bay Area Public Schools, Wisconsin

Workshop Leader: Stuart Stotts

For Teachers of Grades 4-8

3 hours of instruction time

Maximum number of workshop participants: 30

Teachers have recognized the value of pre-writing exercises in helping students develop their writing. But, when the pre-writing takes place orally through storytelling, the organization of a story, its descriptive language, voice, and sentence fluency all follow more easily for students. Using the story form of the hero's journey (rite-of-passage stories), teachers explore basic storytelling techniques for pre-writing exercises and learn a process for helping students create stories that draw on their creative thinking and oral communication.

THE TEACHER AS STORYTELLER: BUILDING STORY COMPREHENSION IN BEGINNING READERS

Developed in collaboration with the Wausau Area Performing Arts Foundation and the Wausau, D.C. Everest Area, and Merrill Area Public Schools, Wisconsin

Workshop Leader: Stuart Stotts

For Teachers of Grades K-2

3 hours of instruction time

Maximum number of workshop participants: 30

Good storytellers capture attention. They help listeners visualize characters, connect to dialogue, and become sensitive to sensory details that bring a story to life. In this hands-on workshop, teachers develop their ability to tell stories to students more effectively by involving students in the telling through the expressive use of voice and movements. Participants' increased skills will help develop students' story comprehension and recall as they add character gestures, create lines of dialogue, and describe sensory details. As evidenced in classroom after classroom, these are powerful strategies for developing comprehension skills in students who are not yet competent readers. Reading specialists and special education teachers will also benefit from this unique workshop.

STUART STOTTS is a songwriter, storyteller, and author from Madison, Wisconsin. He has worked as a full-time performer since 1986 and gives more than 200 shows a year for kids, families, and adults around the Midwest, and sometimes farther. Mr. Stotts is a frequent presenter at conferences and workshops for teachers, parents and librarians. He has worked extensively as an artist-in-residence in elementary, middle, and high schools. He has also released several award-winning recordings and is the author of *The Bookcase Ghost: A Collection of Wisconsin Ghost Stories*, *Books in a Box: Lutie Stearns and the Traveling Libraries of Wisconsin*, *Curly Lambeau and the Green Packers*, and the forthcoming *We Shall Overcome: A Song that Changed the World*.

SINGING THE WORDS: LYRIC WRITING IN THE CLASSROOM

Workshop Leader: Stuart Stotts

For Teachers of Grades 2-5

3 hours of instruction time

Maximum number of workshop participants: 30

Music is a central part of most students' lives; they listen, they sing, they dance. Teachers can use this natural affinity to motivate and engage students in the classroom. In this workshop with songwriter and author Stuart Stotts, participants explore three different song structures and patterns that students can use to write, sing, rehearse, and perform original song lyrics. This creative process helps students demonstrate their understanding of any content area while experiencing the joy of music. No musical training is necessary; only an interest in singing is required.

ARTS INTEGRATION: THE KENNEDY CENTER'S APPROACH

For Administrators, Arts Specialists, Teaching Artists, and Teachers of All Grade Levels

Many of the Kennedy Center's professional development offerings are based on a philosophy and practice of teaching called arts integration. So what is arts integration? This session unpacks the Kennedy Center's definition and gives you the opportunity to uncover the characteristics of quality integration. In addition, the session includes your participation in an arts-integrated lesson and examines how arts-integrated instruction aligns with current learning principles and best practice.

Kennedy Center Teaching Artists Randy Barron, Deborah Brzoska, Karen Erickson, Lenore Blank Kelner, Judy Thibault Klevins, and Sean Layne also offer the Arts Integration [Presentation](#).

An 8-hour version of this presentation is available as a Seminar for Artist Development. Please contact the Partners in Education office at (202) 416-8806 for more information.

STUART STOTTS ALSO OFFERS THE FOLLOWING SERVICES* FOR:

Students

- Performances/Exhibits/Lecture-Demonstrations
- Workshops in Preparation for Performance/Exhibit Attendance
- Other Workshops
- Residencies

Teachers

- In-Depth Courses
- Demonstration Teaching
- Coaching in the Classroom
- Workshops in Preparation for Performance/Exhibit Attendance

Parents

- PTA/PTO Presentations/Speeches
- Workshops for Parents
- Workshops for Parents with their Children

School Administrators

- Speeches
- Workshops

Other

- Author Visits/Writing Workshops
- Young Author Keynotes
- Early Childhood Conference Keynotes

**Not all services have been designed or presented by the Kennedy Center.*