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The National Storytelling Festival: Words, Music, and Memories



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Description

Excerpt: A Other acclaimed masters of the spoken word scheduled to appear at this year's Festival include David Novak, Minton Sparks, Joseph Bruchac, Milbre Burch, and Jackson Gillman. Each year the Festival seeks to represent storytelling from a range of cultural traditions, and this year is no exception. Rev. Robert Jones and Diane Ferlatte will present stories and music relating African American experience, while Festival attendees may also see and hear performances by Yiddish storyteller Shonaleigh, Chinese American storyteller and musician Charlie Chin, and Brazilian performance artist Antonio Rocha. Several special events will be held in Anyone who shares an appreciation for A the telling of stories should note that the world's oldest and largest festival dedicated to celebrating that ancient art will take place a short drive from western North Carolina on October 4-6, 2013.

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Oral storytelling is an Appalachian tradition, and from traditional Jack tales to personal stories of childhood mishaps, the National Storytelling Festival has it all. I certainly remember listening to the legendary Ray Hicks tell stories of Jack and his bumbling antics when I was a child, but I also heard African and Caribbean folktales from Len Cabral, what it was like to grow up in Georgia by Kathryn Windham, perfectly spun lies by Bill Lepp, and how to deal with nuns taking your tonsils by Donald Davis. This cast of storytellers has helped me better hear the stories around me—both true and Udaipur Tales is an international storytelling festival that brings together storytellers and performers from all over the world. Once upon a time — these are four familiar words that are filled with promise, leading into a world of fantasy and lore. We once settled in by the sides of our grandparents, or perhaps an indulgent aunt or uncle, to hear many a fantastic tale. It is increasingly rare to hear stories being told in a time of packed schedules and technology-fuelled lives. A charming festival seeks to celebrate this oral tradition of storytelling, bringing together artists from around the world to revel in this intangible heritage. “Our generation today is missing the charm and innocence that these stories carry within them. Technology has taken over widely.