



1061 West Sager Road, Hastings, MI 49058

269-945-4943, 269-838-8361

www.storybetold.com

jenifer@storybetold.com

STORYTELLING PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

“Let a Story be Told...Let a Story be Heard...Let a Story be Told Again”

With a warm and interactive style, Storyteller, Jenifer Strauss tells enthusiastic, participatory tales from **around the world**, and **within the shared human experience**. A former teacher, Jenifer found Storytelling to be a powerful tool for motivating students.

Uniting her teaching and Storytelling talents, Jenifer created Story Be Told Productions, offering dynamic **Storytelling performances, and Workshops** for young and old, long term **Writing Residencies, Conference Keynotes**, award winning storytelling CD's and publications.

EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE

Bachelors of Science in Environmental Education, The University of Michigan

Secondary Education Teacher Certification in Biology, Michigan State University

Elementary Education Teacher Certification, Western Michigan University

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Environmental and Outdoor Education Teacher, Battle Creek Outdoor Education Center, Battle Creek Public Schools. Taught Environmental curriculum and outdoor skills to students in grades 3-6 in a residential education program.

Elementary Education Teacher, Ionia Public Schools, Ionia Michigan, 1987-1991. Taught sixth grade and second grade curriculum.

Professional Storyteller, Performances, workshops, long-term writing residencies, keynotes and programs in Storytelling for all ages, presenting over 300 programs annually 1993-present.

Performer for Michigan's Great Outdoors Culture Tour, A Michigan Humanities Council history, culture and tourism program. Touring and performing in Michigan state, and national campgrounds and historical sites in northern lower, and the Upper Peninsula 1997-2004.

Professional Speaker, Weaving narrative into motivational and energy-injected keynote speeches for conferences, businesses, universities, life-long learners, teacher in-service, and community organizations on topics such as literacy, parenting, health, women's issues, curriculum enrichment, Michigan history, and living life as an adventure, 1997-present.

Speaker for the National Institute for Media and the Family. Speaking on topics that maximize the benefits and minimize the harm of media on individuals and families. www.mediawise.org

AFFILIATIONS AND LISTINGS

CYGNUS STORYTELLING LLC, A business cooperative consisting of five professional storytellers, combining talent and knowledge to offer performances and workshops for teachers, students and families. Authors of the book: "**Telling Stories: A Storytelling Handbook for Families, groups, Classrooms and Individuals**" and the award winning CD called **U Tell A Tale**, produced for the **National Institute on Media and the Family**. Contact Tina Rohde, 952-937-9643. <http://www.cygnus-storytelling.org/>

MICHIGAN TOURING ARTS AGENCY, listed in the adjudicated *Michigan Arts and Humanities Touring Directory*, 2009-2012. Grant money available. 517/372-770 or directory at <http://michiganhumanities.org>

OMNI ARTS IN EDUCATION, Roster Performer and workshop facilitator for a non-profit arts and cultural education organization providing educational arts experiences and services for Detroit area schools in dance, music, theater, storytelling, and visual arts. www.omniarts.org

NORTHLANDS STORYTELLING NETWORK PAST-PRESIDENT and Board Member, Northlands is a Regional Storytelling Organization that promotes networking and education of Storytellers in the states of MI, MN, IN, IL, WI and IO. www.northlands.net

THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON MEDIA AND THE FAMILY,
Speaker and Training Consultant. www.mediawise.org

MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF PSYCHOSOCIAL SERVICES (MIAPSRs) Board member starting May, 2009. www.miapsrs.org