

## PRESS RELEASE: Riverway Storytelling Festival, April 4-10

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What has 30 storytellers and 23 great storytelling events?

The third annual Riverway Storytelling Festival – seven days of storytelling for all ages!

The festival takes place at locations in Albany and Rensselaer Counties. Twenty-three separate events are planned, including twelve concerts, workshops for librarians, educators and storytelling aficionados, student performances and school performances.

Riverway Storytelling Festival kicks off on Monday, April 4 at 7:00 p.m. with four evenings of free family storytelling programs at eight public libraries around Albany and Rensselaer Counties.

One hundred twenty area third-graders travel to the New York State Museum on Thursday, April 7 to enjoy storytelling throughout the Museum. On Friday, April 8, librarians, educators and other interested adults learn about storytelling in two workshops at Upper Hudson Library System in Albany.

Friday evening festivities, held at Guilderland Public Library, begin at 7:00 p.m. with "Things That Go Bump in the Night: A Ghost Story Concert for Families" with tales told by three storytellers. At 8:30 p.m., the lights are turned down for "Tales to Keep You Up All Night: A Ghost Story Concert." The stories, told by the four tellers, will be scary stuff, intended for ages 12 and up.

The festival kicks into high gear on Saturday, with various events during the day and a performance in the evening. The site for Saturday morning and afternoon events is Albany Public Library. Two concurrent workshops are offered in the morning. Later, student tellers from Maple Hill Middle School in Schodack perform as well as six regional tellers. In the afternoon, there is a family storytelling concert and two additional concurrent workshops. The afternoon activities end with story swaps, where anyone can tell a story.

"Laughin' Night: Stories that Make You Giggle and Grin," a storytelling concert for families, held at St. Joseph's Hall, College of St. Rose in Albany, begins at 7:00 p.m. and features nationally renowned storytellers Derek Burrows and Susan Klein.

A storytelling concert for adults concludes the festival on Sunday afternoon. The performance, held at the William K. Sanford Town Library in Colonie, begins at 3:30 p.m. and features Susan Klein.

Over thirty storytellers are performing at the festival. Festival sponsors include Upper Hudson Library System, Albany Public Library, the Time Warner/Capital News 9, Times Union, Radio Disney, Cocca's Inns & Suites, Friends of the Albany Public Library, Friends of the Guilderland Library, Hudson River Bank and Trust Foundation, Fleet National Bank as Trustee for the Frederick McDonald Trust, Stewart's Shops, Friends of East Greenbush Community Library, Honest Weight Food Co-op, Mail Boxes Etc. (Delmar), a grant from the Slingerland Family Foundation, and Want AD Digest.

See [www.riverwaystorytellingfestival.org](http://www.riverwaystorytellingfestival.org) for complete information as well as press photos. Reservations for individual events may be made by calling 518-732-4212. Limited tickets for each event are available at the door.