



**April 12-13, 2024**



### **You Can Become Part of the Story...**

*“We are all storytellers. We all live in a network of stories. There isn’t a stronger connection between people than storytelling.” –Jimmy Neil Smith*

Are you interested in becoming part of the Georgia Mountain Storytelling Festival? We’d love to have you join us for our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary festival as we enjoy the glorious lake and mountain views surrounding the festival’s 2024 venue, The Ridges Resort in Young Harris, Georgia.

The 2024 Festival will feature some of the brightest stars in storytelling, including Michael Reno Harrell, an award-winning North Carolina singer-songwriter known for his “Appalachian grit and wit”; Megan Hicks, an internationally acclaimed storyteller who is at home in an impressive array of stories, from fairy tales to personal narratives to ghost stories; Nestor Gomez, an immigrant who came to the U.S. in the 1980s, learned English, and overcame a stutter before going on to win more than 75 Moth Story Slams; Anne Rutherford, an electric performer whose funny and touching stories, singing, and mandolin playing have enchanted audiences across the country; and Len Cabral, the great grandson of a Cape Verdean whaler whose African, Cape Verdean, and Caribbean folktales take listeners on unforgettable journeys. Performances by our featured tellers will enrich and educate listeners of all ages, and workshops will enable festival-goers to claim their own voices and become storytellers themselves.

The GMSF will bring attention to the strengths of our mountain setting, highlighting the traditions and beauty of the Southern Appalachians. It will introduce our region to many outsiders, who will then connect to this place and return in the future, benefiting our local communities economically. Additionally, participation by local schools, libraries, churches, and businesses will make this a rich opportunity for all of us. We are excited to host an activity that can mobilize and strengthen these community partnerships.

**Most importantly, the festival will connect our past with our future. The festival is free for students 18 and under to encourage young people to embrace and participate in the legacy of telling their own stories and the stories of their region. Sponsorships from people like you will make that possible.**

As a festival sponsor, you can have a significant impact on the event and on the community at large. Your sponsorship can help enrich, educate, and entertain children, parents, teachers, aspiring tall tale tellers, and many, many others. It can help bring us all a little closer together by showing that, as individuals and families, we share the same dreams, the same aspirations, and even the same stories!

**Georgia Mountain Storytelling Festival, Inc. is a 501c3 organization, so donations are tax deductible.** Whether you are an individual, a family, an organization, a business, or a foundation, you can make a donation through a variety of sponsorship levels. We’ll be glad to speak with you about ways to become involved. Contact us at [info@gamountainstoryfest.org](mailto:info@gamountainstoryfest.org) or 828-389-2654. Online donations may be made through [www.gamountainstoryfest.org](http://www.gamountainstoryfest.org). Checks may be written to Georgia Mountain Storytelling Festival and mailed to: GMSF, 440 Butternut Creek Road, Blairsville, GA 30512.

We look forward to hearing from you and to having you join us for the festival!  
Ruth Looper and Amanda M. Lawrence, co-directors

## Here's How You Can Become Part of the Story...

<b>Epic:</b> Sponsor a performance venue at the festival by donating \$2500 or more	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Name/logo displayed at venue and announced at all festival events</li> <li>• Full page in the event program in recognition of your business's sponsorship</li> <li>• Name on festival t-shirts</li> <li>• Logo (with clickable link) displayed on our organization's website</li> <li>• Recognition in press releases and on social media</li> <li>• Sponsorship certificate to display at your business</li> <li>• Invitation for 4 to the "Taste of Home" dinner with the storytellers</li> <li>• 4 festival tickets with sponsor badges</li> </ul>
<b>Legend:</b> Sponsor a teller at the festival by donating at least \$1000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Name announced at all performances given by your storyteller</li> <li>• Full page in the event program in recognition of your business's sponsorship</li> <li>• Name on festival t-shirts</li> <li>• Logo (with clickable link) displayed on our organization's website</li> <li>• Recognition in press releases and on social media</li> <li>• Sponsorship certificate to display at your business</li> <li>• Invitation for 2 to the "Taste of Home" dinner with the storytellers</li> <li>• 2 festival tickets with sponsor badges</li> </ul>
<b>Myth:</b> Sponsor a storytelling session by donating at least \$500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Name announced at a storytelling session or workshop</li> <li>• Full page in the event program in recognition of your business's sponsorship</li> <li>• Name on festival t-shirts</li> <li>• Name (with clickable link) displayed on our organization's website</li> <li>• Recognition in press releases and on social media</li> <li>• Sponsorship certificate to display at your business</li> <li>• Invitation for 2 to the "Taste of Home" dinner with the storytellers</li> <li>• 2 festival tickets with sponsor badges</li> </ul>
<b>Tall Tale:</b> Sponsor the festival by donating at least \$200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ½ page in the event program in recognition of your business's sponsorship</li> <li>• Name on festival t-shirts</li> <li>• Name (with clickable link) displayed on our organization's website</li> <li>• Recognition on social media</li> <li>• 2 festival tickets with sponsor badge</li> <li>• Sponsorship certificate to display at your business</li> </ul>
<b>Folktale:</b> Sponsor the festival by donating at least \$100	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1/4 page in the event program in recognition of your business's sponsorship</li> <li>• Name (with clickable link) displayed on our organization's website</li> <li>• Recognition on social media</li> <li>• Sponsorship certificate to display at your business</li> </ul>
<b>Fable:</b> Sponsor the festival by donating anything up to \$99	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Donations of \$50 or more: 1/8 page in the event program in recognition of your business's sponsorship</li> <li>• Donations of up to \$49: Name in the event program in recognition of your business's sponsorship</li> </ul>