

David Novak

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Professional Profile

Creative professional with extensive project experience from concept to development. Skilled in Storytelling, Public Speaking, Creative Writing, Stage Direction and Design, and Education for Grade School through University. Award-Winning Author and Storyteller with a national following.

Education

Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX

Bachelor of Fine Arts 1976

Theater Arts with emphasis in Directing for the Stage.

University of California at San Diego

Master of Fine Arts 1986

Performance for the stage included extensive physical training, voice & speech, creative writing, as well as undergraduate instruction as a Teaching Assistant.

Recent Appearances

- Tour of International Schools in Shanghai, Beijing, Hong Kong, Macao
- Charleston Tells Festival, SC
- National Storytelling Festival, Jonesborough, TN
- Teller In Residence at International Storytelling Center
- Sounds of the Mountains Storytelling Festival, VA
- The Biltmore Company, Asheville, NC
- Greensboro Schools, NC
- Del Mar Schools, CA
- Marion Schools, IA
- Santa Barbara Schools, CA
- Buncombe County Schools, Asheville, NC

Relevant Experience

Educator

- Instructor of Storytelling and Linguistics for Masters Degree program at East Tenn. State U.
- Teaching Artist for Asheville City Schools
- A+ Fellow, NC Arts Council
- Designed curriculum, trained staff, and delivered educational programs for Disney Institute.

Writer

- Published author of stories, picture books, scholarly articles, essays.
- Playwright and Poet.
- Performance Review Editor for the academic journal Storytelling, Self, and Society

Creative Problem Solving & Team Building:

- Consultant/Adviser for Biltmore Estate Antler Hill Village, Farm, and Horse Barn.
Trained team members in writing and presenting programs.

Work History

dba A Telling Experience

June 1987 to Present

Author, Educator, Storyteller

Free-Lance author, educator, and entertainer celebrating 20+ years of education, innovation, and entertainment in Story Arts.

Independent creative artist who writes, designs, produces, and performs a variety of original cultural and educational programs for schools, libraries, theaters, and festivals.

Asheville City Schools Foundation

June 2011 to Present

Teaching Artist for TAPAS (Teaching Artists Presenting in Asheville Schools) involves writing and presenting standards related arts lesson plans in collaboration with school faculty.

East Tennessee State University

June 2000 to Present

Adjunct Instructor

Instructor of graduate level courses for Masters Degree candidates in Storytelling. Courses taught:

- Advanced Storytelling, interpretation, composition, and performance
- Languages of Storytelling, a linguistic study of narrative and discourse

Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College

August 2009 to May 2013

Adjunct Instructor

Popular instructor of undergraduate Basic Storytelling course, DRA126, for mixed-age community college classes. Involved study of oral traditions, creative writing, and public speaking.

University of North Carolina at Asheville

January 2008 to May 2008

Adjunct Instructor

Instructor of undergraduates in

- Special Topic: Storytelling. Studies in oral tradition & spoken word performance
- Acting II. Advanced level acting for the stage.

Walt Disney World, Orlando, FL

September 1995 to September 1996

Managing Instructor of Story Arts

One year contract to create and implement guest programs in Story Arts for the opening season of The Disney Institute. Trained and managed a team of 6 creative artists and educators. Designed and implemented programs in Imagineering, Family Storytelling, Disney History, Journal Writing, Book Crafts, Comic Strip Art, and Corporate Team-Building.

Awards

National Storytelling Network Circle of Excellence Award, 2002. The Circle of Excellence is presented to artists who are recognized by their peers to be master storytellers who set the standards for excellence and have demonstrated, over a significant period of time, a commitment and dedication to the art of storytelling.

Affiliations

Member, Actors Equity Association

Member, National Storytelling Network

Performance Review Editor for academic journal, *Storytelling, Self, and Society*.

Published Works

Storytelling, Self & Society
An Interdisciplinary Journal of Storytelling Studies
Visions For Storytelling Studies
The Matriculation of Gwenda LedBetter

Xlibris Publishing
String Figure Jack (picture book)

A Telling Experience
Hounded (audio)
Chaste White & Blush Red (audio)
More Rhyme Than Reason (Parents' Choice) (audio)
Sterling (audio)
Smoke From the Everglades (audio)
Notes On the Art Of Storytelling (audio)

August House Publishing
Itsy Bitsy Spider's Heroic Climb (audio)
The Cookie Girl (audio)
3 Dolls (inclusion in anthology *Ready-To-Tell Tales*)

Riverbank Press
The Little Ant (picture book)
Johnny Appleseed & The Bears (picture book)

Cobblestone Magazine for Children
Is The World Telling You Stories?
Recipe For Storytelling

Storytelling World Magazine
Stories on a Shoestring
Word Choices: the Icing on the Cake
The Scattered Brain