

GUIDELINES FOR STORYTELLERS

Oral storytelling is an ancient tradition between the storyteller and their audience. It is not reading a story to them but the speaking aloud of a story to engage and inform an audience. The storyteller may tell folktales, fables, creative stories, true stories and personal stories from their own experience, imparting wisdom, knowledge and values.

To help tellers within the Singapore community to work together for the development and appreciation of storytelling, we have developed these guidelines:

1. **We are committed to communicating honestly and accurately** who we are and in all our interactions and dealings.

- **We conduct ourselves with honesty and integrity** in the way we present ourselves in publicity materials, in front of the audience, or on social media.
- **Using literary works:** we respect the copyright-protected property of the works of authors, publishers and editors and will seek permission from the author, publisher, editor or other holder of rights to material where necessary. Even where the work is in public domain, we acknowledge the creator where appropriate.
- **Using personal narratives:** We should not adopt another storyteller's personal narrative as our own. Telling someone's personal story as if it is one's own, crosses the boundaries of integrity and ethics, and in many ways deceives the audience.

2. **We act honourably** toward other members of the profession and the field as a whole.

- We will seek permission to tell and give due credit to others for their original stories or own crafted versions of stories from the oral tradition.
- We work as a proactive and respectful team member with other tellers in a programme, being on time for rehearsals, being an active listener and contributor, giving positive suggestions to strengthen the team.
- In a performance, we keep to the allotted time in order to respect the next storyteller, as well as the needs of our client and audience.

(Having an accurate sense of how long it takes us to tell a particular story is important. Schools, Conferences, and online broadcasts, for example, are often highly time-sensitive, and exceeding your time has serious consequences for subsequent tellers and/or the event organiser.)

3. **We respect** the tellers and the cultures that gave us the stories that we tell.

- We do our research well and approach these culturally-specific materials with caution and a heightened sense of responsibility.

EXPECTATIONS AND COMMITMENTS

1. We encourage tellers to use the Fringe and Festival to add SOME new material to their repertoire. This is another reason why we are keen on having the preview sessions , to give you a chance to tell it to fellow tellers before the public.
2. Storytellers are expected to be present the whole day (9:30 am to 6:15 pm) on December 1st 2019 for the festival.
3. Taking into account the month-long fringe and one-day festival we are hoping that each storyteller will tell 5 or more stories in different storytelling slots. Each story should be about 10 minutes.
4. We encourage collaboration among storytellers. Storytellers will form teams based on their time slots. Each team will be in a chat group for group discussions.
5. Please note that storytellers who choose to tell stories for adult audiences at the MPR should already have some experience telling stories to adults.
6. Please submit the title and a 50-100 word synopsis of each one of your stories by June 10. Each telling of a story is about 10 minutes. An email will be sent to you regarding the submission procedure.
7. If you wish to conduct a 45-minute workshop for adults at the Multi-Purpose Room, you will need to submit a workshop proposal. An email will be sent to you regarding the submission.