**DRAGONS AND HEROINES: MAKING FAIRY TALES AND MYTHS COME ALIVE**

**A Workshop Proposal**

**by**

**Alton Takiyama-Chung**

**Biography:**

Japanese-Korean storyteller Alton Takiyama-Chung, grew up with the stories, superstitions, and the magic of the Hawaiian Islands. This gives him a unique perspective when telling stories from Hawaii, of WWII Japanese-Americans, and Asian folktales.  His secret passion, however, is telling ghost stories.  He has been a featured teller at the Timpanogas Storytelling Festival, the National Storytelling Festival, and international storytelling festivals in the Cayman Islands, Singapore, India, Indonesia, Vietnam, and Thailand.  He has created and led many custom storytelling workshops for a variety of professional and academic groups, schools, universities, and library systems.  He has also lead a teacher training workshop for the Seattle Art Museum, and has been a guest lecturer on storytelling at the University of Hawaii and the University of Washington.  He also is a former Chairman of the Board of Directors for National Storytelling Network, the national organization for storytellers in the USA.

**Workshop Description:**

Make fairy tales, myths, and fantasies come alive!  Through a series of discussions and small group exercises, participants will experiment with tools and techniques to breathe life into the characters of a story.  Using facial expressions, voice, gestures, and body movements, participants will learn ways to become the dragon or the heroine. Becoming the characters, allows the teller and the audience to visualize them more clearly.  It is this clarity, which brings the characters and the story to life.  This is a hands-on, experiential workshop and focuses on experimenting with the techniques and theories discussed.  It can be broadcast as a webinar, although interactions with other participants will be reduced.  A narrator can tell you what happened, but only a dragon can truly demonstrate.

**Website:**

[www.altonchung.com](http://www.altonchung.com/)

**Recordings:**

Obake!  Lafcadio Hearn’s Strange Tales from Japan (CD)

The Spiderweaver and Other Tales from Asia (CD)

Heroes (The Story of the 100th Battalion/442nd Regimental Combat Team) (DVD)

Okage Sama De (Japanese American WWII Stories) (DVD)

Life Is the Treasure (Okinawan Memories of WWII Stories) (DVD)

Tales from the Lanai (Legends and Stories from Hawaii (CD)

Coming to Gold Mountain (Chinese Immigration to the US) (CD)

Spark Matsunaga: Warrior Poet (A Plantation Boy Who Became a US Senator) (CD)

Spark Matsunaga: Warrior Poet (DVD) (To Be Released August 2019)

**Fees and Scheduling Information:**

4 Hour Workshop

$500 for a single workshop + travel expenses

$400 for multiple workshops within a library system + travel expenses

8 Hour Workshop

$900 for a single workshop + travel expenses

$700 for multiple workshops within a library system + travel expenses

Willing to travel wherever needed to lead workshops.

**Contact Information:**

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