**Professional Bio**

In **Katie Knutson’s** 25 years as a Storyteller and 18 years as Teaching Artist, she has delivered residencies, performances, and classes to well over 38,000 children and adults. She has been called an "enchanting and magical" performer and an "articulate, fun and inviting" workshop leader. Katie travels around the world to perform and present workshops on the Art of Storytelling, Physicalizing Stories, Theater Games, Vocal Warm-ups, Character Voices, and Arts Integration. In these workshops, she has trained hundreds of teachers (PreK-college), librarians, parents, business professionals, and budding tellers to craft, hone, and perform their stories. In addition to writing the New Voices column in *Storytelling Magazine*, Knutson mentors new Storytellers and Teaching Artists, and has performed in Canada, Chile, Italy and the United Arab Emirates.

**Workshop Descriptions**

**Imagine your Summer Reading Programs - with Storytelling!**

Learn to tell stories to engage children and adults. In this hands-on intensive, you will learn the basics, from choosing and practicing a story, to making strong character choices and creating a Storytime Program around that story. Bring a fairytale you love and wear comfortable clothing.

Outline

What makes a good storyteller?

Example Story

Choosing & Learning a story

Adding Character Voices and Movements

Performing your story

Giving and Receiving Feedback

Adding to the story (Make-and-take, puppets, music)

Creating a program

Q&A

Class includes brainstorming, lecture, group discussions, demonstrations, active instruction, and lots of practice time.

5 – 12 hours workshop time (not including breaks).

This workshop is best in-person, but can be delivered over 2-4 webinar sessions.

**Additional workshops available**

**Storytime Strategies**

Your job is to promote books and reading, but reading books to children is not the only way to do that. In this workshop, you will learn games, activities, and techniques to bring stories off the page in your regular story times. You will leave with drama techniques to engage your listeners, play with themes, and spice up your readings.

90 minutes to 3 hours

**Storytelling 101**

In this hands-on workshop, we will explore the basics of storytelling, from inspiration through performance. Topics include: story craft, focus, sensory details, character choices, movement, vocal warm-ups and care, performance techniques, and feedback. Whether you want to tell a personal story or a traditional tale, Katie will teach you techniques to stand up at your library and make your voice heard!

90 minutes to 3 hours

Customizable for Adult or Children's Librarians

**Stunning Stage Pictures: Adding Movement to Your Stories and Characters**

Learn some basic techniques for bringing your stories to life through movement. Whether you want to learn about a specific character, or just learn how to move on stage, this workshop will integrate physical exploration and reflection time to make your characters and stories dynamic. Wear comfortable clothing. Come well-hydrated and prepared to move.

90 minutes to 3 hours

**Custom Workshops Available.** Customizable for any group needs and length of time. Inquire with Katie for more details.

**Learn More**

Website: [www.ripplingstories.com](http://www.ripplingstories.com)

Publications

* Author & Curator: New Voices Column, *Storytelling Magazine*, 2011-present
* Contributing Author: *Science with Storytelling: Strategies for the K-5 Classroom*, Edited by Jane Stenson, Sherry Norfolk, & Lyn Ford; McFarland & Company, 2016
* Contributing Author: *Storytelling Strategies for Reaching and Teaching Children with Special Needs*, Edited by Sherry Norfolk & Lyn Ford; Libraries Unlimited, 2017
* Contributing Author: *Tomorrow’s Storytellers* Today, Edited by Kevin Cordi; Parkhurst Brothers, expected 2019

Video Samples

* Why Bear Has a Stumpy Tail: <https://vimeo.com/149922151>
* Baba Yaga: <https://vimeo.com/149922126>
* Excerpts from Anansi & His Children: <https://vimeo.com/64868843>
* The Driving Fire: <https://vimeo.com/150187991>
* Videos of School Residencies:
  + Folwell School: <https://vimeo.com/94237695>,
  + Neill Elementary: <https://vimeo.com/165954655>
* Selkie Story – for adults & teens only: <https://vimeo.com/274269562>

Fees

* $200/hour of workshop time
  + Discounts are given for multiple days and for booking other gigs near your location.
* If your location is less than 50 miles from Bloomington, MN, add mileage at the national rate.
* If your location is more than 50 miles from Bloomington, MN, add mileage, lodging and per diem.
* If your location is more than 150 miles, add airfare, local transportation, lodging, and per diem.

Scheduling Information

* Willing to travel anywhere.
* Discounts given for multiple bookings in the same location.
* Minimum 2 nights of lodging for gigs over 150 miles from Bloomington, MN

Contact Information

Katie Knutson

Cell: 651-246-7168 (call, text, or WhatsApp)   
Email: stories2teach@gmail.com

Website: www. ripplingstories.com