



DISTRICT ONE StoryMasters

StoryMasters had such a **WONDERful** meeting with Area F5 Director **Elizabeth Smith's** lead on September 9.

The first speaker was yours truly, **Miyo Yamauchi**, who shared her "impostorism" and unique work history.

The next story was about Prochlorococcus. Pro...what? You asked? So did I! **Pieter Severynen** is the only one who can make bacteria sound so exciting and attractive. I surely googled about it.

Debbie Kenneybrew's impersonation of Louie Armstrong threw Tina's house into convulsions of laughter. That was definitely a contender for the next humorous speech contest!

Speaking of contests, let's talk about competition. In "The Killer," **Catherine Magruder** explained why and how some people get so competitive. It was a hilarious yet informative speech -- her facial expression and body language were something that you have to see yourself!

Jacki Williams-Jones shared childhood road trips and ones that she has taken later. Her story made me feel like taking a road trip, which will be my first unless I can call commuting a road trip!

At the end of the meeting, we were treated by our Division Director, **Janet Kemp**, with acknowledgement of our educational award recipients. Janet presented the lovely District One Team pin. Special thanks to:

Antoinette Byron / Jorge Sciupac

Mallery McMurtrey / Tina Tomiyama

If you want to hear good stories, please join us for our 10/14 meeting. Don't forget to RSVP to [Tina Tomiyama at tomiyama2@mac.com!](mailto:Tina.Tomiyama@mac.com)

Dues are due!



Don't forget to renew your membership by September 30! StoryMasters' due is \$45 for 10/1 – 3/31.

Contact: [Jacki Williams-Jones at jackiwjones@gmail.com](mailto:Jacki.Williams-Jones@gmail.com)

Upcoming District 1 Events

Division F Speech-A-Thon

Do you have a story to tell? Are you looking for an opportunity to speak? Look no more! Division F would love to hear your speeches!

September 21st @ 6pm – 9pm

LAPD Ahmanson Training Center

RSVP: Janet Kemp at

janetkempd1toastmasters@gmail.com

District 1 Business Meeting

Attention club Presidents and VPEs! Our District will have our first virtual Business Meeting. No proxy is accepted. Your votes count!

September 29th @ 9am

Keep an eye on the [District website](#) for more details and updates! If you're not familiar with virtual meetings, please attend one of the Zoom trainings.

StoryMasters Upcoming Meeting

Join us for the fine stories and evaluations on the second Sunday of each month.

StoryMasters

October 14th @ 3pm – 5pm

3720 Monteith Dr, View Park

Upcoming Storytelling Events/Workshops

Tales by the Sea

Date: September 16th

Time: 4pm

Theme: What Will People Think?

Venue: Malibu West Swimming Club
30756 Pacific Coast Highway, Malibu 90265

Cost: Free

RSVP: [Ann Buxie \(ann.buxie1@verizon.net\)](mailto:ann.buxie1@verizon.net)

This is one of my most favorite storytelling concerts. Amazing stories, beautiful music, yummy vegetable soups, and gorgeous view. And it's free! What more could one ask for?

Shoot 'Em Up

Date: Tuesday, September 25th

Time: 8pm

Venue: Dynasty Typewriter
2511 Wilshire Blvd, Los Angeles 90057

Cost: \$10 advance / \$15 at the door

RSVP: [Get a ticket here](#)

This is an event that I started following from July which is a set of 3 events that you can see how true stories will be transformed to screenplays, and then to films.

“Powerful Presentation” Workshop with Antoinette Byron

Date: October 17th

Time: 7pm – 10pm

Venue: ArtCenter College of Design
1700 Lida St, Pasadena, CA 91103

Cost: \$135

RSVP: 629-396-2319

Course ID: ACN-589W



How to tell it so can you sell it. Whether you are a creative or business professional, you must learn to connect effectively with your audience and communicate your ideas in a compelling way. Let's learn the secrets and techniques from our own Antoinette Byron!

“Tell Me a Story” Workshop with Barbara Clark

Several participants in our “Storytelling Professionally” workshops have enrolled in Barbara Clark’s storytelling class, “Tell Me a Story,” starting 9/13, including StoryMasters members **Liz Smith**, **Margaret Mitchell**, **Tina Tomiyama** and our newest StoryMaster **Kathy Falco**.

Past event ~ Special thanks to StoryMasters!

Right after the 9/9 StoryMasters meeting, I performed at Fanatic Salon. Every show is important, but StoryMasters, your cheers and smiles in the audience made it even more special. Thank you for your continuous support, wisdom, encouragement, and love! I'm grateful to have found StoryMasters.



Storytelling Stub ~ Dan Harmon's Story Circle

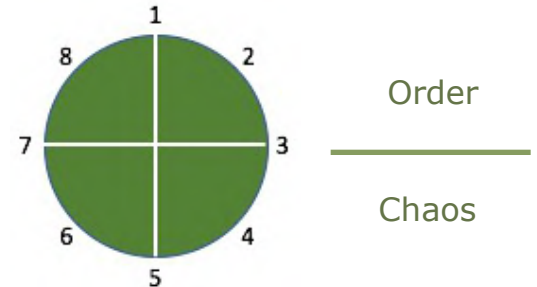
Which book or website do you use to learn storytelling skills?

People often ask me the question. Honestly, I don't have a particular preference, but since you asked, I'll start introducing some resources one by one. I don't encourage or discourage its use. Please try for yourself and see if it works for you or not.

The first one is Dan Harmon's Story Circle.

It's quite simple. Your story starts from 12 o'clock position, going clockwise.

1. You (a character is in a zone of comfort)
2. Need (but they want something)
3. Go (they enter an unfamiliar situation)
4. Search (adapt to it)
5. Find (find what they wanted)
6. Take (pay its price)
7. Return (and go back to where they started)
8. Change (now capable of change)



Try to see if your favorite movie or book applies to this pattern!

If you would like to share your wisdom about storytelling, please send it to Miyo Yamauchi at miyoccino@gmail.com.

Editor's Note

Last month, I tried a new method to craft a story. The feedback for my first draft was "The order is not quite right. The audience doesn't know you yet. You need to tell us who you are in the beginning." Oh, that totally makes sense, I thought and simply re-ordered some paragraphs. Then, I received another feedback for my second draft. "The order is not still working. The revelation came too early. It needs to stay at where it was. You really need to pull everything apart." Uh-oh! This is a spaghetti code symptom!

The spaghetti code is a tangled and arbitrary type of program flow. I often think that crafting a story is similar to programming. Let me explain how.

When you create a system, you set a goal and navigate your system to reach the goal. The tricky part is how to get there. There are many routes you can take. If your mind takes the "scenic route," the system will end up with spaghetti code. When I see spaghetti code, I feel dizzy and my brain freezes. I try to understand what the system tries to tell me, but the flow is hard to comprehend and follow.

Now, replace "system" with "story" and "I" with "audience." See? It still makes sense, doesn't it? Then, how do you untangle the spaghetti code? The best way for me is to deconstruct it and rebuild from scratch. It's easy to say, but difficult to execute because it requires lots of courage to destroy what you already built as well as free spirits to start with a clean slate without clinging to the original code.

Do you have any spaghetti stories?

Miyo Yamauchi

