



DISTRICT ONE StoryMasters

Point: You should mark second Sunday on your calendar.

Reason: Because our meeting is filled with diverse stories. They're educational, entertaining, heartwarming, and all the above!

Examples: Our 10/14 meeting had two educational speeches. Our stories are an education in themselves, but it's a special treat when our polished storytellers share their storytelling tips with us. **Pieter Severynen** taught us how to begin a story and **Antoinette Byron** demonstrated how to craft a story with a technique called "PREP" which I'm using now. **Joyce Howard** brought back her fun childhood memory entitled "Shoo Do Be Do" which made us feel like kids and giggle like kids. **Judith Ferber** told us about a paddle sport called "Pickleball" which drew everybody's attention as soon as she said that it doesn't force us to move much in the court. **Debbie Kenneybrew** shared another hilarious speech entitled "Don't Believe Everything You Hear."

Point: Our meetings are always filled with wonderful stories. Therefore, you should definitely mark your calendar and join us for our 11/11 meeting.

Please do RSVP to Tina Tomiyama at tomiyama2@mac.com!

Upcoming District 1 Events

Division F Speech-A-Thon

The first Speech-A-Thon was such a hit! Do you have a story to tell? Are you looking for an opportunity to get a credit for a designation? Join the fun!

Friday, October 19th @ 6:00–9:00pm
LAPD Ahmanson Training Center

RSVP: Janet Kemp at

janetkempd1toastmasters@gmail.com

StoryMasters Upcoming Meeting

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

StoryMasters

November 11 @ 3:00–5:00pm

3720 Monteith Drive, View Park 90043

Upcoming Events/Workshops with StoryMasters

“Powerful Presentation” Workshop by Antoinette Byron

Date: Wednesday, October 17

Time: 7:00–10:00pm

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

Cost: \$135

RSVP: 629-396-2319 (**Course ID:** CAN-589W)

[Check out the Huffington Post article](#)

Comedy Night with Michael Cormier by Inglewood Community Toastmasters

Date: Wednesday, October 17th

Time: 6:30pm

Venue: Community Center District 2
1201 La Tijera Blvd. Inglewood, CA 90302

Cost: Free

RSVP: James Vaughan at (951) 537-4394

[Check out the flyer](#)

Upcoming Storytelling Events/Workshops

LA Made “It’s Just My Life” First-Person Storytelling by Women

Date: Sunday, October 21

Time: 2:00–3:30pm

Venue: Central Library – Mark Taper Auditorium
630 W. 5th St, Los Angeles, CA 90071

Cost: Free

It’s Just My Life is a collection of true, personally written and shared stories, chronicling profound and poignant moments that this group of women has faced in their lives.

RSVP: [Required](#)



Ethiopian Cultural Event



Date: Saturday, October 27

Time: 2:30–4:30pm

Venue: African American Resource Center

150 E. El Segundo Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90061

Cost: Free

Go deeper into Ethiopian culture at a book signing by Tsehail Essiebea Farrell, a tourism presentation by Ethiopian Tourism Ambassador, and a food tasting from Messob Restaurant.

“Lord Knows I’m a Country Girl” Storytelling by Barbara H. Clark

Date: Saturday, November 3

Time: 2:00–4:00pm

A catered reception will follow the performance.

Venue: Institute of Musical Arts,
3210 W 54th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90043

Cost: \$20 donation suggested

Additional information call: (310) 300-6578

RSVP: lordknowsimacountrygirl.eventbrite.com

"You can take the girl out of the country but you can't take the country out of the girl." It took a visit "back home" for Barbara to learn the truth of that saying.



Barbara H. Clark is back! This is her solo performance of original stories that many of us have been waiting a whole year for. Tickets won't last long. Don't delay — get your ticket now!

Storytelling Stub ~ Storytelling Groups

There are so many groups in the storytelling community. Once you start “dating,” you keep meeting “new matches.” If you know me, I’m not talkative, but all the storytelling events that I have attended encourage me to engage with strangers because we share the same interest. Stories! Everybody is generous to share what they know. It always reminds me of NOLA. When I asked locals in New Orleans about where to eat, they never stop talking. They’re passionate for food! And story lovers are passionate for stories! Dive into the storytelling community. Try to engage with people sitting next to you. You may be surprised to see how your world opens up to new possibilities! If you don’t know where to find out about storytelling events, these groups may be a good start:

- **Storytelling Association of California**: A voice for listeners and storytellers for California, reminding the community of the power and the joy of storytelling. *Check [their newsletter here!](#)*
- **National Storytelling Network**: Outside of CA? No problem! You can find all kinds of storytelling concerts and workshops in and out of California.

The following two groups are Facebook groups that require a registration. Performers and producers in LA share their upcoming shows, bits/clips, opportunities, and news through Facebook.

- **LA Storytelling**
- **Storytellers Los Angeles**

Editor’s Note

Is “how you say it” more important than “what you say”?

That’s what I’ve been wondering lately. The other day, I had the privilege of having actors work on my story. I was amused to see how the audience reacted differently when actors read it out loud. Some lines even drew laughter which didn’t happen when I told the story myself. The lines themselves weren’t funny; they were just research information. Then why did the audience laugh? That’s where “how to say it” comes in.

I used to say that what you say is much more important than how to say it. Non-verbal communication (body language, facial expression, and vocal variety) is important, of course. We learn its importance through Toastmasters, too, but when a story is captivating, these details seem trivial. Even filler words magically disappear while I’m taking a story journey. Then can we ignore the “how to say it” rules? We can’t. It’s impossible to separate these trivial elements from good storytelling because they can save or destroy what we say.

Non-verbal communication can be a huge obstacle to your story. When your facial expression or tone contradicts what you say, your audience get confused how to react. A beautiful piece of jewelry can be a distraction, too, if it dazzles or jingles every time you move. Any distraction can increase the time it takes for the audience to feel your story.

When “how you say it” and “what you say” complement each other, one plus one becomes larger than two. It will create a multiplier effect that engages your audience deeply without their even knowing it.

Miyo Yamauchi

