*The International Storytelling Center is a nonprofit educational, arts, and cultural institution dedicated to enriching lives and building a better world through the power of storytelling.*

**International Storytelling Center Resources**

[**2022 Virtual National Storytelling Festival October 28 - November 27**](https://www.storytellingcenter.net/festival/main/)

**Telling Stories that Matter:** The [**Telling Stories that Matter**](https://www.storytellingcenter.net/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/StoryTelling_Toolkit_Letter_Size.pdf?x28665&x61774) toolkit is available for free, non-commercial use by educators, peace builders, students, volunteers, community activists, teachers, and other individuals. Designed to help a wide variety of people and organizations explore storytelling as a way to build community, the toolkit offers strategies for eliciting, collecting, sharing, and presenting stories and other meaningful conversations in an ethical way.

I offer this 10 minute intro video on why stories matter. There is a longer version of this talk in my TEDx talk; Storytelling: A Peaceful Power, available in my email signature below.

[Kiran's brief intro to why stories matter](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1bPbflwIN3Y)

**Story Guides:** [**Story Guides**](https://www.storytellingcenter.net/initiatives/classroom/) are all created from live footage filmed at the National Storytelling Festival, and are ideal for grades 3-8, but great for learners of all ages. Each Story Guide includes access to the accompanying video and a printable PDF.

**Freedom Stories Toolkit:** This multimedia [**Freedom Stories Toolkit**](https://www.storytellingcenter.net/freedomstories/) is a living compendium of information pertaining to the initiative, *Freedom Stories: Unearthing the Black Heritage of Appalachia*, which aims to offer a deeper public appreciation of the roles that African American stories have played in struggles for freedom, equality, and justice in the Central Appalachian region and the wider narrative of the US. The toolkit is free to access and includes public discussions led by African American scholars, artists, musicians, storytellers, and activists. The interactive [**Story Map**](https://www.storytellingcenter.net/freedom-stories/story-map/) presents Freedom Stories information in a geographical format.

Culminating [Freedom Stories Congressional briefing, 1 hour video.](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wCuWSjEZjUE) The opening panel, “[Do Black Lives matter in Appalachia?”](https://www.storytellingcenter.net/freedom-stories/do-black-lives-matter-in-appalachia/)  and [Storytelling for Racial Justice.](https://www.storytellingcenter.net/freedom-stories/how-do-we-talk-to-each-other-storytelling-for-racial-justice/) And [Freedom Stories Toolkit: Freedom Stories Curriculum Guides](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__www.storytellingcenter.net_freedom-2Dstories_curriculum-2Dguides_&d=DwMFAg&c=euGZstcaTDllvimEN8b7jXrwqOf-v5A_CdpgnVfiiMM&r=B5A0o2r2MMZyvKF_45zNtVaLQ0jiTnZJWi9TTwHNzIg&m=qSsbTxuZzZAO3ZEdo6zT6ThTFuEgos-zpMc7Js_LhMM&s=Pcav2DGc1WdhkRh3mxLgE_H52wNVapcj-dgpkFIor2w&e=)  augment existing curriculum in classrooms, as guides for further independent study, or simply for fostering important community conversations.

Other resources include the [**Learning Library**](https://www.storytellingcenter.net/initiatives/learning-library/), our [**President’s Blog**](https://www.storytellingcenter.net/our-stories/blog/), and the [**Stories in Motion**](https://www.storytellingcenter.net/our-stories/stories-in-motion/) news feature. We also invite you to explore our [**National Storytelling Festival**](https://www.storytellingcenter.net/the-festival/) and our [**Storytelling Online**](https://www.storytellingcenter.net/storytelling-online/) series, both of which periodically host story-based workshops by master storytelling artists along with world-class performances.

ISC [Blogs and Stories](https://www.storytellingcenter.net/our-stories/blog/) section. Here are a few select ones that may be of interest:

[Stone in the Brook,](https://www.storytellingcenter.net/blog/how-to-be-a-stone-in-the-brook/)

[Keeping Things Whole](https://www.storytellingcenter.net/blog/keeping-things-whole/)

[Stories as Living Political Movements](https://www.storytellingcenter.net/blog/stories-as-living-political-movements/)

[Finding Art in Everyday life](https://www.storytellingcenter.net/blog/finding-art-in-everyday-life/)