



Kudos for Kathy

FESTIVALS:

Kathy Jessup is a strong, clear, natural teller, with a rich hinterland of stories and experience of pioneering life in the north west. She opens up fresh territory for storytelling audiences with winning humour and gusto.

Donald Smith, Director

Scottish International Storytelling Festival

Kathy is just the kind of performer that I like to book for festivals and other events. Professional, organized, and dynamic - it was a pleasure to have her tell at the Ottawa Children's Storytelling Festival.

Caitlyn Paxson, Managing Artistic Director

Ottawa StoryTellers (ON)

Kathy was a featured performer at our Toronto Festival of Storytelling. She was a pleasure to work with and the audiences loved her!

Catherine Melville, Executive Director

2009 Toronto Festival of Storytelling (ON)

Kathy's abilities as a storyteller are impressive. She has it all: skill, enthusiasm, repertoire, organization and work ethic. Our festival and our art are enriched by her talent.

Marie Anne McLean, Former Artistic Director

TALES Storytelling Festival (AB)

During the weeklong festival Kathy shared her stories during 20 +hours of workshops to more than 350 people! It takes a rather special person who is prepared to work so hard for a minimal fee and give so much to a community. We loved having Kathy with us and gladly recommend her ...

Fiona Andersen, Coordinator

Labrador Creative Arts Festival (NL)

STORYTELLING CONCERTS:

Kathy delighted us with her stories and songs, bringing us all to live for a little while in the bear filled forests of Canada, and remember those who emigrated from our shores. Kathy has a lovely style which makes her stories a real pleasure to listen to. We hope to be able to welcome her back again some time.

Aideen McBride
Dublin Yarnspinners, Ireland

Kathy has...become one of our most popular presenters. Her versatile repertoire of original stories and traditional folktales creates a very multicultural experience for her audience.

Stephanie Gregorwich, Executive Director
Young Alberta Book Society

Kathy has performed twice at our county library...she proved herself to be a confident and polished storyteller whose original stories appealed to children and their parents. She keeps her audience enthralled.

Supervisor, Children's Services
Alberta Public Library

I have been fortunate to have shared storytelling programs with Kathy in various Canadian locations, and to have heard her on her own. She is an extremely engaging storyteller who quickly establishes a great rapport with her listeners. Her energy, enthusiasm, and love of storytelling are immediately apparent.

Lorne Brown,
Co-founder, the Storytellers School of Toronto
Vice President, the Canadian Society for Traditional music

Your stories are the absolute very best.

From Connor

I liked all the stories you told. I hope you can come again.

From your Great Friend Claire

WORKSHOPS:

Kathy lead a week-long workshop on Creating Original Stories, for our annual conference of Nordic Storytellers. Comments from participants included: "great teacher and very good course...positive support and encouragement...the course had a very good structure with great transitions and exercises...Kathy gave me the tools to work on my story...I gained so much knowledge in this course..."

Sigurbjorg Karlsdottir,
The Icelandic Association of Storytellers

Kathy ran a workshop on how to teach story writing to English second language children. Her methods were clever and thoughtful, and her delight in storytelling was so infectious that the whole group felt inspired. We don't often find people who understand the language barriers we face at work. Kathy's workshop covered many issues that confront us in the classroom and gave us many ways to solve them.

Leslie Hall
Midlands Meander Education Project
Howick, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

I thoroughly enjoyed Kathy's workshop on Creating Original Stories. She shared many user friendly tips and tools, demonstrated how to build stories using various formats, and gave us time to experiment on our own fiction and non-fiction stories. Kathy is a great storyteller with practical advice that she delivers with energy and enthusiasm!

Quebec Storyteller

Kathy's Performance Workshop was excellent---exactly what I needed. I appreciated the hands-on work with microphones and learned a lot.

Alberta Storyteller

As a workshop leader, Kathy is very competent, sensitive and supportive. I found her session to be most informative and useful. There was a good mix of participation and discussion, plenty of examples, and the mood was fun, positive and encouraging!

British Columbia Storyteller

The boys in my Behaviour Class often have such a negative view about writing. However, you not only taught them it is possible, but you also taught me how to become a more effective teacher when it comes to story writing.

Teacher, Public School

Thank you for the exceptional experience you have provided both our students and teachers. Your passion and commitment to students is evident in your planning and presentation. You have empowered them to believe in themselves.

Principal, Public School

My students received precise, easy to understand, exciting, and in the end, practical tools to help them become better writers and storytellers. Even the teacher had fun learning from Kathy, as her passion and charisma transferred to all of us during her sessions.

Teacher, Public School