Once upon a time...  Well, none of our stories actually begin that way.  But, once upon a time, ten years ago, we decided to bring storytellers from all across the country to Chillicothe to share their stories with an Ohio audience.  We'd like to give you a couple of tickets to be a part of that audience again this year.

On the weekend after Labor Day, September 4-6, several nationally known storytellers will be joining regional and local storytellers here in Chillicothe, Ohio to help us celebrate the 11th annual Southern Ohio Storytelling Festival.  The festival starts on Thursday evening with a special "meet the tellers" concert.

Several tellers this year are back by popular demand.  Lyn Ford, who has told her wonderful "home fried" stories at our festival since the very beginning, has become one of America's favorites.  Suzi Whaples is a nationally renowned teller from West Virginia who got her introduction at our festival several years ago and is now one of the country's favorites.  Geraldine Buckley also returns to our festival after getting her start here with her humorous and insightful stories about such things as growing up in Europe and serving as a prison chaplain.  With tellers like Suzi and Geraldine, our festival maintains the reputation as a "launching pad" for national talent, featuring excellent tellers before their excellence has become nationally recognized.  We anticipate that to continue this year as we get to hear the amazing stories of regional teller, Oba William King.  Local teller, Pam Pauley, will be sharing her delightful stories, as well.

Concert performances featuring all of the tellers will be held on Friday and Saturday evenings "under the stars" in a tent at the Pump House Center for the Arts. Performances by individual tellers will be held throughout the day with students on Friday at the Pump House.  Saturday the fun continues all day at the tent at the Pump House. Many people attend the Thursday or Friday evening performances for an excellent overview of each teller so they can decide which tellers they would like to see during the day on Saturday. The Saturday evening concert features a wonderful encore performance by each of the tellers. We also plan to have ghost stories at the Majestic Theatre on Friday night.   The complete schedule for the weekend is available at [www.sostoryfest.com](http://www.sostoryfest.com/) in addition to other useful information about the festival.

Come see why this has become one of the most enjoyable festivals in the country.  We hope to see you there!

Respectfully,

Bill McKell

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