

David Novak

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Actors Equity Association • AFTRA • National Storytelling Network

Professional Profile

Award-Winning Storyteller with a national following. Creative professional and educator with extensive project experience from concept to development. Skilled in Storytelling, Acting, Public Speaking, Creative Writing, Stage Direction, and Arts-Integrated Education.

Education

- 1986 University of California at San Diego, Master of Fine Arts in Performance for the Stage
- 1976 Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX, Bachelor of Fine Arts, Theater Arts / Directing for the Stage

Recent Appearances

- 2018 Black Mountain College Museum, Asheville, NC. R. Buckminster Fuller.
- 2018 Glenaeon Rudolph Steiner School, Sydney, NSW. Gilgamesh.
- 2018 Sydney International Storytelling Institute. NSW. Master Class & Concert.
- 2018 UNC-Asheville, NC, Arts & Ideas Festival. “Down By The Water.”
- 2018 Arts For Learning, San Diego, CA. Master Class & Family Concert.
- 2017 International Storytelling Center, Jonesborough, TN. Teller In Residence.
- 2017 Eliot Institute, Seabeck, WA. The Storytellers’ Compass.
- 2016 Orem, UT, Timpanogos Festival. Featured Teller.
- 2016 Shanghai, Beijing, Hong Kong, Macao. Tour of International Schools.
- 2016 North Carolina Storyteller’s Guild Winter Retreat. Master Class.
- 2016 Sydney International Storytelling Conference, Australia. Keynote and Master Classes.
- 2016 National Storytelling Festival, Jonesborough, TN. Featured Teller.

Original Stage Works

“Down By The Water”

Multi-media exploration of folklore and environment.
Commissioned by UNC-Asheville, Arts & Ideas Festival.

“The Separation of Heaven & Earth”

Creation Stories, Contemporary, and Personal Stories explore our alienation from the natural world.
NC Stage Company, Asheville. The Open Hand Theater, Syracuse, NY

“Gilgamesh”

Two Acts. Theatrical retelling of Sumerian Epic.
Provincetown Playhouse, NY, NY. Going Deep Storytelling Retreat, Bethlehem, IN.
Houselights Storytelling Theatre, Atlanta, GA. NC Stage Company, Asheville, NC.

“Chaste White & Blush Red”

Two Acts. The transformative power of passion, drawing from Grimms, Myth, and Memoir.
The Magnetic Theatre, Asheville, NC. NC Stage Company, Asheville, NC. Piedmont College, Demorest, GA.
Kitchen Theatre, Ithaca, NY. National Storytelling Festival, Jonesborough, TN. Stories, Inc. Indianapolis, IN. Art-Serve Theatre, Ft. Lauderdale, FL.

“Hounded: don’t be afraid, be disturbed”

Two Acts. Stories of spectral dogs, the underworld, and family phantoms.
Anam Cara Theatre, Asheville, NC. National Storytelling Festival, Jonesborough, TN. ArtServe Theatre, Ft. Lauderdale, FL.

“Smoke From the Everglades: stories from the tropics of boyhood”

Two Act memoir of boyhood in South Florida.

Children’s Literature Festival, Ft. Lauderdale, FL. Caldwell Playhouse, Boca Raton, FL. NC Stage Company, Asheville, NC. National Storytelling Festival, Jonesborough, TN. ArtServe Theatre, Ft. Lauderdale, FL.

Teaching Experience

East Tennessee State University

Advanced Storytelling

Languages of Storytelling

Storytelling for Actors/Acting for Storytellers

Storytellers’ Gym

Oral Traditional Storytelling

Telling Personal Stories

University of North Carolina at Asheville

Storytelling and Performance

Acting II

Related Experience

2016 Director & Dramaturg, “Does It Show?” Solo performance ethnography by D.K. Reed.

2014 – International touring of one-man play: R. Buckminster Fuller: The History (& Mystery) of the Universe.

2013- 18 Performance Review editor, *Storytelling, Self, Society: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Storytelling Studies*

2012 Director & Dramaturg, “Old Woman In the Basement” Solo performance by Gwenda LedBetter.

2010-12 Consultant for Antler Hill Village, Farm, and Horse Barn, Biltmore Estate, Asheville, NC

2003-16 Actor, North Carolina Stage Company:

R. Buckminster Fuller, All My Sons, 12th Night, Stalking the Bogeyman

2010 Actor, Flat Rock Playhouse: 12 Angry Men

2008 Director & Dramaturg, “Friday’s Father” Solo performance by Gwenda LedBetter

1995-96 Managing Instructor of Story Arts, Disney Institute, Walt Disney World, Orlando, FL

1990-98 Guest lecturer, Walt Disney Imagineering, Burbank, CA.

Publications

Storytelling, Self, Society

Going Long: Telling Gilgamesh

Gilgamesh

Toward a Methodology of Storytelling Performance Criticism (with Caren Niele, Ph.D.)

The Matriculation of Gwenda LedBetter

Visions For Storytelling Studies

Riverbank Press

The Little Ant (picture book)

Johnny Appleseed & The Bears (picture book)

August House Publishing

3 Dolls (Ready-To- Tell Tales)

Cobblestone Magazine for Children

Is The World Telling You Stories?

Recipe For Storytelling

Storytelling World Magazine

String Figure Jack & The Beanstalk

Stories on a Shoestring

Word Choices: the Icing on the Cake

The Scattered Brain

Audio Recordings

A Telling Experience

Chaste White & Blush Red

More Rhyme Than Reason

Sterling

Hounded

Smoke From the Everglades

Notes On the Art Of Storytelling

August House Publishing

Itsy Bitsy Spider's Heroic Climb

The Cookie Girl

Awards

2016 *Aurand Harris Memorial Playwriting Award for “Journeying Jack”*

2002 *National Storytelling Network Circle of Excellence*

Referees

Joseph Sobol, Ph.D.
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University of South Wales
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Laura Bond
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