

**STORYTELLING**

Storytellers may choose a story from any source, published or unpublished. **The story must be told without any manuscript or notes. Paraphrasing and improvisation are allowed.** The story must have literary or historical value and it must be appropriate for an adult audience. Storytellers should provide a brief, well crafted, rehearsed, and creative introduction that includes the title & author (*if known*) theme or moral, and origin of the story. While stories may come from any source, storytellers are encouraged to choose stories such as cultural tales, Jack tales, fairy tales, oral histories, Native American tales, fables, Biblical stories, etc. Storytelling is designed to entertain the audience and combines elements of acting, public speaking, AND oral interpretation to communicate the story. Storytellers must rely on their voices, facial expressions, gestures, and movements to create the story in the minds of the audience. There are NO restrictions on movements within the space, however storyteller must remain in view of camera at all times. The storyteller may use a small table and one chair, and storytellers MAY choose to use a maximum of one (1) hand prop. Makeup and costumes are not permitted. No sets or furniture other than the table and chair mentioned will be allowed. No special sound effects, lighting, or off-stage voices will be allowed. TIME LIMIT: 4 - 6 minutes including introduction.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_  
 Excellent = 10                  Poor = 1                  (10 possible points per section)                  Comments

\_\_\_\_\_ **Story Selection and Introduction**

- Did story have literary or historical value?
- Was story suitable for an adult audience?
- Challenging choice for the storyteller?
- Intro stated title and origin of the story?
- Intro brief, well crafted, rehearsed, and creative?
- Did introduction establish the theme or moral without summarizing story?

\_\_\_\_\_ **Communication of Story**

- Theme or moral of the story consistent with introduction?
- Performance of the story consistent with intent of the story?
- Did the storyteller communicate the emotional and intellectual levels of the story?
- Characterization(s) created through effective vocal and/or physical variations?
- Character relationships clear (*if applicable*)?
- Was the story clear, coherent, and easy to follow?

\_\_\_\_\_ **Vocal Technique**

- Volume & diction appropriate and varied?
- Voice appropriate for the emotional & intellectual levels of the story?
- Articulation clear & pronunciation accurate?
- Suitable to basic mood of story and personality of character(s)?
- Dialect or accent appropriate to the piece?

\_\_\_\_\_ **Delivery**

- Posture, gestures, & facial expressions appropriate?
- Sufficient eye contact with audience / NO manuscript used?
- Body and voice engaged to create the story?
- Appearance appropriate / no use of costume or makeup?

\_\_\_\_\_ **Overall Effectiveness**

- Poised and well rehearsed?
- Professionalism and confidence displayed?
- Rapport with audience?
- Climax of the story clear?
- Innovative and entertaining?

\_\_\_\_\_ **Total points (50 possible)**                  Judge's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Minutes (*Limit: 4-6 minutes*)                  Judge's Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

**Tally Room Use Only**

-5 Deduction for Over or Under time in Preliminary rounds; *DISQUALIFIED* for Over or Under time in *FINALS*

\_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL ADJUSTED POINTS**