



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLACK STORYTELLERS, INC.
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www.NABSinc.org

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THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLACK STORYTELLERS, INC.
presents
38th Annual National Black Storytelling Festival and Conference
"In the Tradition..."
VIRTUAL FESTIVAL & CONFERENCE

The National Association of Black Storytellers, Inc. (NABS) will present the "In the Tradition..." 38th Annual National Black Storytelling Festival and Conference! This year, NABS will be presented their unique gathering online as they celebrate the power of Blackstorytelling!

The first "In the Tradition..." Festival of Black Storytelling was held at Morgan State University in Baltimore in 1983. Since then they've traveled throughout the country and, now, their 38th celebration will be presented virtually. In honor of our Ancestors and in encouraging preservation of our traditions, this year's theme is **"In The Footsteps Of The Ancestors!"**

In 1982, nationally renowned storytellers, **Baltimore's first officially appointed Griot – the late, great Mary Carter Smith of Baltimore, Maryland, and esteemed Linda Goss of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and, now, residing in Baltimore**– founded "In the Tradition..." National Black Storytelling Festival. These visionaries then created the National Association of Black Storytellers, Inc., so that more opportunities would be afforded the African American storytellers to perpetuate the African oral tradition and preserve the folklore of African people.

Master Storytellers, as well as, beginners, storytellers with instruments and storytellers who dance, storytellers of all styles will entertain, inspire, educate and enliven the myths, recite the poems and recount the history of a people. **Featured Tellers this year are: April Armstrong (NY), Deborah Asante (IN), Len Cabral (RI), Chetter Galloway (GA), Toni Simmons (TX), Mitch Capel (NC), Nothando Zulu (MN) and Diane Ferlatte (CA).** Also, additional stories, music and dance will be performed by

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Esther Culver (GA), Gwendolyn Glenn (NY), TAHIRA (DE) and Denise Chapman-Acosta (NY). Added to all of this; a genealogy workshop lead by Sandra Williams-Bush & Sharon Holley (NY); a music/dance workshops lead by Cheryl Hinton & Deborah Pierce-Fakunle (MD); a Legacy Lecture honoring legendary Jackie Torrence presented by Beverly Cottman (MN)

The National Association of Black Storytellers, Inc. is proud to present this one-of-a-kind event for the community, country and the world! This is what to expect:

ADOPT-A-TELLER: Storytellers available to perform a 45-minute digital performance. There is a \$25 application fee but the performance is FREE! Limited availability. Contact Queen/Bunjo via: aatp@nabsinc.org for additional information and availability.

OPENING GALA, STORYTELLING CONCERT & MARY CARTER SMITH LOVE CIRCLE: Traditional opening with stories, pomp and circumstance!

VILLAGE STORYTELLING CONCERT: Our fifteen Affiliates from across the country will share their unique regional and cultural flare as they weave their stories. A crowd pleaser!!

ADULT JACKIE TORRENCE TALL TALES CONTEST: Festival Favorite!!!! Members and non-members can compete...sharing their fantastic fabrications.

ZORA NEALE HURSTON AWARD AND STORYTELLING CONCERT: An evening storytelling concert and awards recognizing excellence in the Blackstorytelling community!

MAMA LINDA GOSS CLOSING UNITY CIRCLE: Our traditional closing ceremony.

11 "FORMAL" STORYTELLING PERFORMANCES!

Since the first Festival and Conference in Baltimore, NABS has traveled around the nation; most recently, New Orleans ('04), Tampa ('05), San Diego ('06), Atlanta ('07), Cincinnati ('08), Little Rock ('09), Minneapolis ('10), Atlanta ('11), Baltimore ('12), Hampton ('13), Chicago ('14), Washington, D.C. ('15), Philadelphia ('16), Wichita, KS ('17), Cary, NC, ('18), Montgomery, AL ('19) and now our first **VIRTUAL FESTIVAL!...**and we're excited!!

COME JOIN US!!

"In The Footsteps Of The Ancestors"

FOR PROGRAM SCHEDULE & REGISTRATION INFORMATION VISIT

WWW.NABSINC.ORG

OR CONTACT

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