

Urban Tellers

PORTLAND STORY THEATER

Personal Narrative Workshop

Produced by Portland Story Theater (email: tellers@portlandstorytheater.com)

Six Sessions 7-10:30 pm

- Wednesdays, November 3, 10, 17, and December 1 at 3333 NE 15th Avenue, Portland, Oregon
- Monday, December 6 (Tech Night / Dress Rehearsal) at 1847 East Burnside (NE 18th & E Burnside) at Hipbone Studio
- Friday night showcase, December 10 at Hipbone Studio

Instructors

- Lawrence Howard 503-793-5484 (email: lawrence@lawrencehoward.name)
- Lynne Duddy 503-284-2226 (email: lynne@lynneduddy.com)

Prerequisites

Participants must have:

- Passion for the spoken word
- Strong desire to tell stories
- Openness to accept coaching and suggestions from instructors
- Willingness to discover, craft, and share stories that have meaning for and resonate with the audience
- Dedication to creating a story line that the average audience member will readily grasp and follow
- Respect for the confidentiality of information shared during development sessions
- Enthusiasm for the performance showcase and dedication to building audience by inviting friends, family, colleagues

Description

Six evening sessions will cover the basic skills you need to tell your short personal story with confidence. You will experience the process PST uses to create our professional shows. Each of you will have the opportunity to perform your piece in front of a live audience at the sixth and final session on Friday evening, December 10th. We do personal narrative and this differs from traditional acting and from what has come to be known in storytelling circles as 'traditional' storytelling in a few critical ways:

- There are no barriers, no fourth wall
- Stories are not for children
- Each story is based on life experience
- The person speaking is always him or herself, even when portraying a character
- We never ask the listener to suspend disbelief; stories are true and authentic

Session 1 November 3rd (Wed) – Explore the concept of storytelling

Session 2 November 10th (Wed) – Share your story and build your voice

Session 3 November 17th (Wed) – Stage presence and delivery

Session 4 December 1st (Wed) – Craft and refine

Session 4 December 6th (Mon) – Stand and deliver (Tech / Dress Rehearsal)

Session 5 September 10th (Fri) – Showcase your work