

Mohegan Colony Storytelling Festival Event

99 Baron de Hirsch Road

Crompond, NY 10517

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Family Entertainment, Music, Festivals

Mohegan Colony's 13th Annual Storytelling & Music Festival

Rain or Shine! All venues covered

Saturday, August 10th, 1:00 – 10:30PM

10 am - Noon ~ Storytelling Workshop with Christopher Agostino

Featured Storytellers and Musicians:

Christopher Agostino, The Storycrafters, Thelma Ruffin Thomas, Robin Bady,

Bob Reiser, Julie Moss Herrera, Judith Heineman and Sheila Harris &

Musicians Ellen and John Monten's musical duo "No Soap"

Mohegan, NY: Everybody loves a good story! And kids and adults of every age will be enchanted and entertained by traditional and original stories related by a host of nationally acclaimed storytellers at the 13th Annual Mohegan Colony Storytelling and Music Festival on Saturday, August 10, 2013, 1 – 10:30 pm! Beginning with a full afternoon of professional storytelling, on two stages simultaneously – Stories for Grown-ups under the huge outdoor Pavilion and Stories for Families and Children in the Stone Schoolhouse adjacent, from 1-5:30pm, the event extends into the evening with Twilight Tales (aka/Ghost Stories) around flickering candle lights beginning at 7:30 pm, at Mohegan Colony's country setting.

The festival is located at 99 Baron de Hirsch Road, in Crompond, New York, 10517 – outdoor picnic areas available on the pastoral grounds. For Information, reservations or to volunteer, contact Ellen Monten: 914-528-5830; jmonten@optonline.net or Judith Heineman: 312-925-0439; juhestories@aol.com; Website: www.hvstoryall.org/mohegan
Ticket price including Free Parking: for Adults is \$20 for all day and night; children \$5; Adults \$15 for just day, child \$3.00; Adults: \$10 for "Twilight Tales/Ghost Stories," Child. \$3. Twenty (\$20) for morning workshop. Reservations for all segments of the festival are recommended. Family and Home School rates.

Oracle Award winning Storycrafters, Barry Marshall and Jeri Burns, PhD, will present their acclaimed one-hour Snow Queen with music; Christopher Agostino, fascinating artist, author, storyteller will transform volunteer audience members' faces into exotic canvases while his unique telling of world and original tales unfold. Bob Reiser will share the secret of the Egg Cream! Thelma Ruffin Thomas, a stunning and riveting teller known for her repertoire of Biblical Tales, will share some. Robin Bady, JJ Reneaux NSN Emerging Artist Award winner will tell a true cautionary tale on bullying called "Every Day is Basil Houpis Day," Julie Moss Herrera, author of the new anthology *Old China Through the Eyes of a Storyteller*, comes from Colorado and will be available to sign books. Judith Heineman, Illinois Humanities Council "Road" Scholar who has a story in that book and Sheila Harris from Remsen, NY, will do a medley with Julie of Chinese stories they collected while on the same NSN Storytelling Delegation trip to China in 2008. In addition, Sheila will serve up a Teddy Bear's picnic – for boys as well as girls, and present a charming tabletop puppet theatre and piggy back songs. There are always surprise guests! Music performances feature Mohegan Colony's John and Ellen Monten's fun jazzy swingin' duo "No Soap."

Additionally, Christopher Agostino, artist, author, storyteller, will offer a workshop 10am – noon for storytellers of all levels, educators, librarians and the general public. It is called, "Before Cave Walls" – the story on our skin. A dynamic interactive presentation of a primal art, the art of transformation – exploring the origins and cultural significance of masks and body art, and how he uses these arts to bring to life stories in a unique performance style. Before we painted a cave wall we painted ourselves. We are a symbolic species – defined by our use of art and language. Our skin is our edge, where we touch the world, and when we mark our skin with our art we are taking control of our identity to proclaim our humanity and aspirations.

Christopher says: "I believe that more important than the design you get painted with is the experience of being painted, the experience of seeing a new identity when you look in the mirror, and how that identity is perceived when others look at you. A face painter, by changing how the world perceives the person they have painted, alters that person's perception of the world and of themselves."

Experience all this in Christopher's compelling workshop. Pre-registration requested: \$20 per person.

According to Judith Heineman, Founder and Co-Organizer of the Festival along with Ellen Monten, “There is no better place to celebrate the oral tradition of storytelling than at the historical venue of Mohegan Colony’s Martha Guinsberg Pavilion where once upon a time Pete Seeger, Paul Robeson, Isadora Duncan, Ruby Dee, Ossie Davis and other icons entertained a cultural centered community. The Mohegan Colony is also celebrating its 90th Anniversary this year! Memorabilia from its long history will be on view. The festival brings together people of all backgrounds and all ages to celebrate and appreciate, through storytelling, our similarities as well as our differences.”

Location: 99 Baron de Hirsch Rd, Crompond, New York, 10517, three miles east of Peekskill. Follow signs from the intersection of Lexington Avenue and Townsend Road. The Metro-North stop is Peekskill. The venue is 10 minutes from the train station and taxis are available. For directions, log onto www.hvstoryall.org/mohegan.

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