



Geeta Ramanujam

Storyteller | Academician | Trainer

Director - Kathalaya Trust and the Academy of Storytelling

Education

Masters in Education and Masters in Economics, Chennai

Awards & Recognitions

- Ashoka foundation, USA
- Fellowship granted to replicate storytelling in all spheres of life & education.
- Kalasha award from Karnataka
- Affiliations and recognition from int'l. storytelling centres
- Scottish Storytelling Centre, Edinburgh
- International Storytelling Centre, USA
- University of Gothenberg and Skovda , Western Sweden
- Coordinator of the Indian Storytelling Network
- Indian coordinator of the International Storytellers Network- RIC
- Azim Premji University, Bangalore, India
- On board of the Cambridge public school, Bangalore and the Mahatma Montessori school, Madurai, India
- Founder / Director of Kathalaya Trust and the Academy of Storytelling, Bangalore & Ahmedabad, India.

Geeta Ramanujam, besides being an internationally renowned Storyteller, is an educator, academician and administrator. She is an “Ashoka Fellow”- an internationally acclaimed fellowship given for outstanding work in the social service field.

She is the Executive Director of Kathalaya Trust established in 1998 -which is the culmination of her vision and wisdom. She uses storytelling as an effective educational and cultural tool in many leading educational institutions in India and abroad. Her experience in this area spans over quarter of a century.

In 2006, she set up the Academy of Storytelling – the only global academy in the World which regularly runs certificate courses for professionals in any field, parents and school teachers. About 60,240 people have undergone these training programs. She is an Ashoka fellow and the Indian coordinator of the International Storytelling Network around the world.

Geeta has had performances of storytelling at the Scottish Storytelling Centre, UK, International festival at Brazil, Storywood festival at Sweden, World Tales festival Poland, the International Storytelling Center, USA and many other festivals. She is also the Indian Coordinator for the International Storytelling Network – RIC and the Indian coordinator of the Indian Storytelling Network.

Geeta has a lot of firsts to her credit besides organizing the First International Storytelling Festival in India and Sweden.



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Achievements

- Conceived, created and implemented curriculum for social sciences & language based on stories for the govt. model schools of the Primary State board curriculum, India
- Integration of storytelling with education for grades 1-7
- Introduced the subject “storytelling” into the curriculum of schools in Bangalore, India.
- Designed over 15 “Training though Storytelling” Modules and successfully trained teachers for the same.
- Designed a curriculum for the Azim Premji University for their M.A. Education courses on “Storytelling – an oral tradition”.
- Planned, designed and successfully continuing courses - both Intensive and Diploma courses - for professionals, teachers, parents and corporates for 200 hours at the Academy of Storytelling, Bangalore, India.
- Organized storytelling festivals & events across India.
- Participated in over 15-20 festivals in India and abroad.
- First Indian Storytellers to travel to more than 50 places around the world with the concept of storytelling and learning.
- Trained over 62,370 people in the last 20 years in the field of Storytelling.
- Started STORY SPACE- Story learning centres across India and devised a beginners kit for storytelling.

One hour / 60 to 80 minute presentations

- Story of the mountain & the bird from India
- Women from Indian myths & the *Navarasas* of life
- An autobiographical sketch along with my growth as a storyteller both personally & professionally
- Love stories from Greek myths and Indian myths drawing parallels to love, separation & philosophies from both regions
- *Story of the golden crane*
- and 5 touching tales like *tongue cut sparrow, moon fairy* and others from Japan
- Stories based on evolution from the western Darwinian view point & the oriental philosophy based on circular time
- Arabian tales

Favourite stories narrated for short presentations less than 30 minutes

- How & Why stories and associated tales from myths and folk tales from around the world - 15 tales
- Parallel myths & tales from the world
- Story of death, life and living from different philosophies
- Theme-based stories like crow tales from around the world with different historical settings
- Humorous tales
- Ten tales from the *Panchatantra* and *Hitopadesha*
- Tales from the *Jataka* stories
- Creation myths from different parts of the world
- Aesop’s fables
- Folk tales from around the world
- Traditional tales from India
- Spiritual tales from India
- Real life stories and anecdotes from childhood

Kathalaya & The Academy of Storytelling

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