

# *OurStoryBridge: Your Stories in Your Voices*

Jery Y. Huntley, MLS  
Founder & President OurStoryBridge

NATHPO  
July 10, 2023



# Presentation Objectives

*Create your stories in your voices!*

1. Recognize the uniqueness of OurStoryBridge online oral history projects, understand what you need to do to start them in your communities, and become aware of the free resources available to plan, implement, and sustain your story projects.
2. Hear brief oral histories to exemplify those you can collect in your communities, in order to envision the impact an OurStoryBridge story project can make in your educational programs, community outreach, and collection development.
3. Learn about an opportunity to partner with OurStoryBridge on an IMLS grant to fund your OurStoryBridge projects.

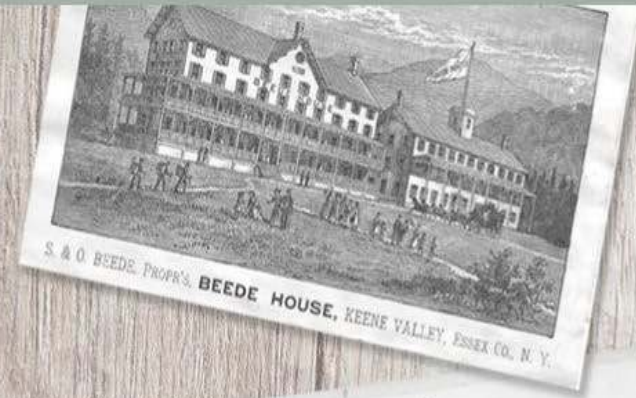
# Think About...

- How could an OurStoryBridge project in your museum or cultural center increase community involvement? Enhance the visitor experience? Preserve your stories in today's media?
- What could the stories bring to your collection?
- What special artifacts and exhibits would be enhanced by brief oral histories?
- Do you want to use stories from around the country in your educational programs?



# Adirondack Community

Capturing, Retaining, and Communicating the Stories  
of Who We Are. Tell Us Your Story!



Go to [www.myadirondackstory.org](http://www.myadirondackstory.org)

## WHAT IS ADIRONDACK COMMUNITY?

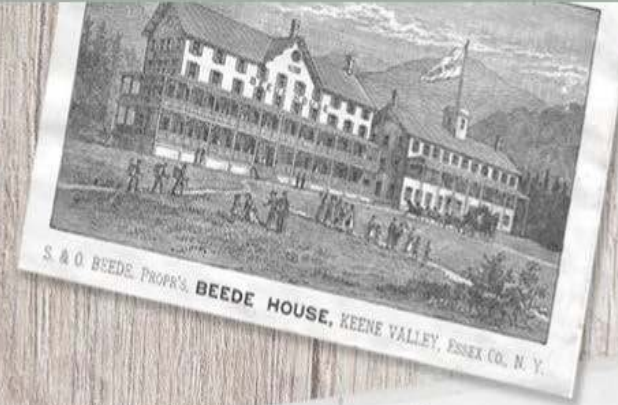
- *Adirondack Community: Capturing, Retaining, and Communicating the Stories of Who We Are* is a multi-year local history project that collects and organizes audio stories and related photographs from Town of Keene community members through an online platform to share the rich social and cultural history of this community located in New York State's Adirondack Mountains.
- A “story” is a first-person three- to five-minute unedited account by a “storyteller” in their own voice about their own experience and and/or those that came before them, accompanied by up to five photos usually from the library’s archives and posted on [www.myadirondackstory.org](http://www.myadirondackstory.org) in one - three of the eight categories selected by the community.





# Adirondack Community

Capturing, Retaining, and Communicating the Stories  
of Who We Are. Tell Us Your Story!



Go to [www.myadirondackstory.org](http://www.myadirondackstory.org)

# Hear the Stories Now!

Click the categories below to hear some exciting stories from *Adirondack Community*. You can also go to the Public Stories Page for Adirondack Community found at <https://app.memria.org/adirondackcommunity>. Use the search box to find a story that you want to listen to. We would love for you to share your story too.

You can also listen to stories from other *OurStoryBridge* projects across the country as they are continually added [here](#).



Arts and Culture



Catastrophes



Work



People



Outdoor Activities



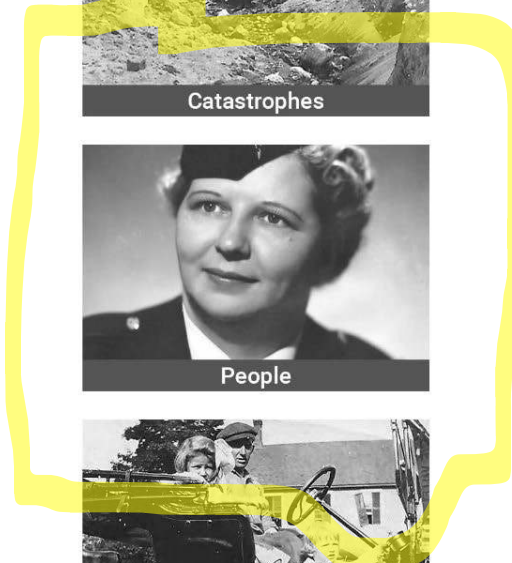
Daily Life



Community



Natural and Man-made Environments





 Jery Huntley  
**Thank you, Phebe Thorne!**  
00:00 00:00  
*powered by Memria.org*




 Lynn Edmonds  
**Doctor Alphonso Goff**  
00:00 00:00  
*powered by Memria.org*



 Lorraine Duvall  
**Finding a Woman's Place: The Story of a 1970's Feminist Collective in the Adirondacks**  
00:00 00:00  
*powered by Memria.org*



 Alice Lowenthal  
**Chasing the Trout**  
00:00 00:00  
*powered by Memria.org*



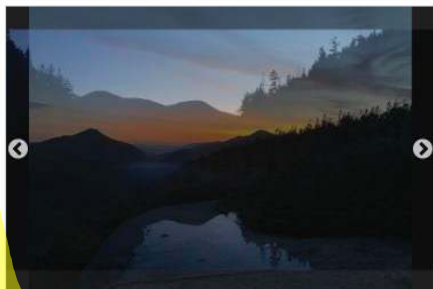
 CorrieAnne Stoner  
**Even Here: A Discussion of Race in the ADK's**  
00:00 00:00  
*powered by Memria.org*



 Jerilea Zempel  
**The Story of the Great Adirondack T-Shirt Museum**  
00:00 00:00  
*powered by Memria.org*



 Monique Weston Clague  
**Black Lives Matter in Keene**  
00:00 00:00  
*powered by Memria.org*



 Bethany Garretson  
**The 46 Unsupported Thru-Hike Part One**  
00:00 00:00  
*powered by Memria.org*



 Bethany Garretson  
**The 46 Unsupported Thru-Hike Part Two**  
00:00 00:00  
*powered by Memria.org*



- Social Justice & Social Change
- Catastrophes & Community Reaction: Part I, Water
- Catastrophes & Community Reaction: Part II, Fire & Mountains
- Work, Part I
- Famous People Here in the Town of Keene, Part I, Part II
- Unique Outdoor Experiences
- Legacy
- Adirondack Hiking Stories
- Black Lives Matter
- Adirondack 46ers
- Adirondack Women
- The Pandemic: COVID-19
- Keene Central School 8th Graders (2021, 2022 & 2023)
- Tropical Storm Irene: Memories After Ten Years, Part I, Part 2
- Local Adirondack Businesses
- Keene School Stories
- Music in the Mountains
- My Start in Keene
- Keene Central School 12 Graders (2022)





# BEAR RIVER VALLEY STORIES: OUR HERITAGE IN STORY AT WWW.OURBRVSTORIES.ORG



Bear River Valley Community

[Home](#) [About Us](#) [Our Stories](#) [Share Your Story](#)



Debbly Carter

Tremonton Library introduces Bear River

Bear River Valley Community

Sponsored by the Tremonton City Library, The Bear River Valley Community is a multi-year local history project for collecting local audio stories with associated pictures. The Bear River Valley is rich in local history and we feel these stories deserve to be told. Come and listen as we bridge the old and new, past and present.

[Share Your Story](#)

# Who Is Telling Your Stories?

- History and Perspective by Darren Parry



## THE NUMBERS TODAY



4 2018 focus groups with 31 participants created the categories, 150 names of storytellers in initial worksheet



8,600+ people have gone to the website, 335+ in storyteller worksheet



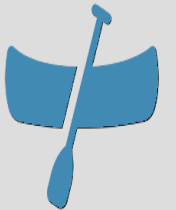
300+ stories in the eight categories, posted once, twice, or three times



23 podcasts listened to over 3,000 times, 600+ follow the Facebook page



At first, almost all came directly to [myadironackstory.org](http://myadironackstory.org), but after beginning a Facebook page, boosting it regionally, and starting *OurStoryBridge*, new users grew from it



Most viewed categories are People, Outdoor Activities, and Catastrophes (inspired by the pandemic)

# MARKETING

Press Releases &  
Media Relations

Boilerplate  
Document

Posters & Banner



QR Code



Placement of  
Articles

Business Cards

Posted on e-  
Newsletters and  
Listservs

Emails to  
Storytellers and  
Potential  
Storytellers



Instagram

Community Events



Adirondack Community  
Story Project

# North Count preserve the

## Keene Valley story project captures life in the Adirondacks in hundreds of stories

BY AMY FEIERSEL (NORTH COUNTRY AT WORK CORRESPONDENT), IN KEENE VALLEY, NY

Jul 21, 2022 —

to

<https://www.northcountrypublicradio.org/news/story/46261/2022721/keene-valley-story-project-captures-life-in-the-adirondacks-in-hundreds-of-stories>



<https://www.mountainlake.org/adirondack-family-book-festival-mlj-interview/>

<https://mountainlake.org/my-adirondack-story/>

<https://www.wcax.com/2022/07/14/north-country-community-finds-modern-way-preserve-past/>



By Kelly O'Brien

Published: Jul. 14, 2022 at 5:10 PM

Karen ...



Photo courtesy of Amy Stanley. Stanley is in the center.



## WHAT'S EXCITING ABOUT ADIRONDACK COMMUNITY?

- 300+ stories (website released June 15, 2019), including 8<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade story projects!
- Storytellers were hard to recruit at first; telling a story starts with nervousness, then leads to joy and more stories from the storytellers, then sharing that enthusiasm with neighbors so they tell their stories.
- The whole town is talking (as is the media): school, family dinner tables, on the street, events, etc.
- In the pandemic, listeners grew, hopefully finding comfort in the continued resilience of the community; we have also created a record of life during this crisis.
- Themes like social justice and social change, the community working together in crisis, aging (especially women), the legacies that have been left, and the uniqueness of the area keep reappearing. Black Lives Matter stories, in a very White population, have been especially popular

**It's clear that young and old don't know who lives here, have lived here, and have been here!**

# MEASUREMENT AGAINST GOALS



Posted on a website that appeals to young and old!

- **Goal #1:** Capture stories before the storytellers are gone
  - About half of storytellers are over 65
  - The most elderly living here now and those who have come back to tell stories are involved, with plans for others we have identified
- **Goal #2:** Get students involved and proud of their community, helping to prepare them whether they move away or stay in the community
  - Grades 8-12 have had school lessons on the project, check the website, and are genuinely surprised about what they are hearing, the first step!
  - The pandemic reduced ability to get stories from students, but we now have 8<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade storytelling programs



# OurStoryBridge:

## Connecting the Past and the Present

*OurStoryBridge* is your resource and tool kit for producing a crowdsourced, community story project emphasizing audio history collecting and sharing.

The Tool Kit consists of the *OurStoryBridge User Guide*, *How-To Videos*, *Sample Documents*, and *Teacher's Guide*.

[Get Your Tool Kit Here!](#)



Zoom Testimonial Video #1

Watch later Share

What Has the Story Project Meant to Our Community?

Watch on  YouTube



# What Is *OurStoryBridge*?

- Free resource and tool kit for producing a crowdsourced, community, online story project emphasizing audio history collecting and sharing
  - Based on the Keene Valley Library's *Adirondack Community* model, but adaptable for any community or topics
  - With a commitment to help each community one-on-one!
  - The pandemic taught us that free online resources of interest to all generations is important, as is building community and recognizing our history and humanity
- OurStoryBridge Inc. is a new a 501(c)(3) charitable nonprofit with volunteer staff



# OurStoryBridge Mission

- To serve as a free resource and tool kit to preserve and circulate local audio stories past and present through accessible online media;
- Promote, build, and assist with the deployment of these resources in communities across geographic, cultural, socioeconomic, racial, and organizational strata; and
- Help strengthen these communities through the sharing of their stories, including preserving the stories of older generations before they are lost and encouraging younger generations to become engaged community members.

Our Vision: OurStoryBridge empowers every community to cultivate connection across the generations, encourage civic engagement, celebrate diversity, and engender shared and durable kindness.

# The Tool Kit

Review the Tool Kit, list your questions, then we will provide technical assistance so you can begin!

1. User Guide

2. How-To Videos

3. Sample Documents

4. Teacher's Guide

Download  
Your User Guide  
Today!

# OurStoryBridge: Connecting the Past and the Present

User Guide to Plan, Implement, and Sustain  
a Digital Story Project in Your Community

2<sup>nd</sup> Edition released to answer questions we were asked!



Jery Y. Huntley, MLS  
September 2020/Edition #1

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## OurStoryBridge: Connecting the Past and the Present

### User Guide to Plan, Implement, and Sustain a Digital Story Project in Your Community

This User Guide, which can be printed, is intended to serve as an instructional reference as you consider launching and realizing an *OurStoryBridge* project for your community. Its copious detail will help you to capture, retain, communicate and publicize the unique stories that make your community yours—in a manner fitting the 21st century.

Be sure to visit [www.ourstorybridge.org](http://www.ourstorybridge.org) for User Guide updates and supplementary training materials, such as Sample Documents and How-To Videos. Together, these will help you to facilitate the creation of your own *OurStoryBridge* project.

### Table of Contents

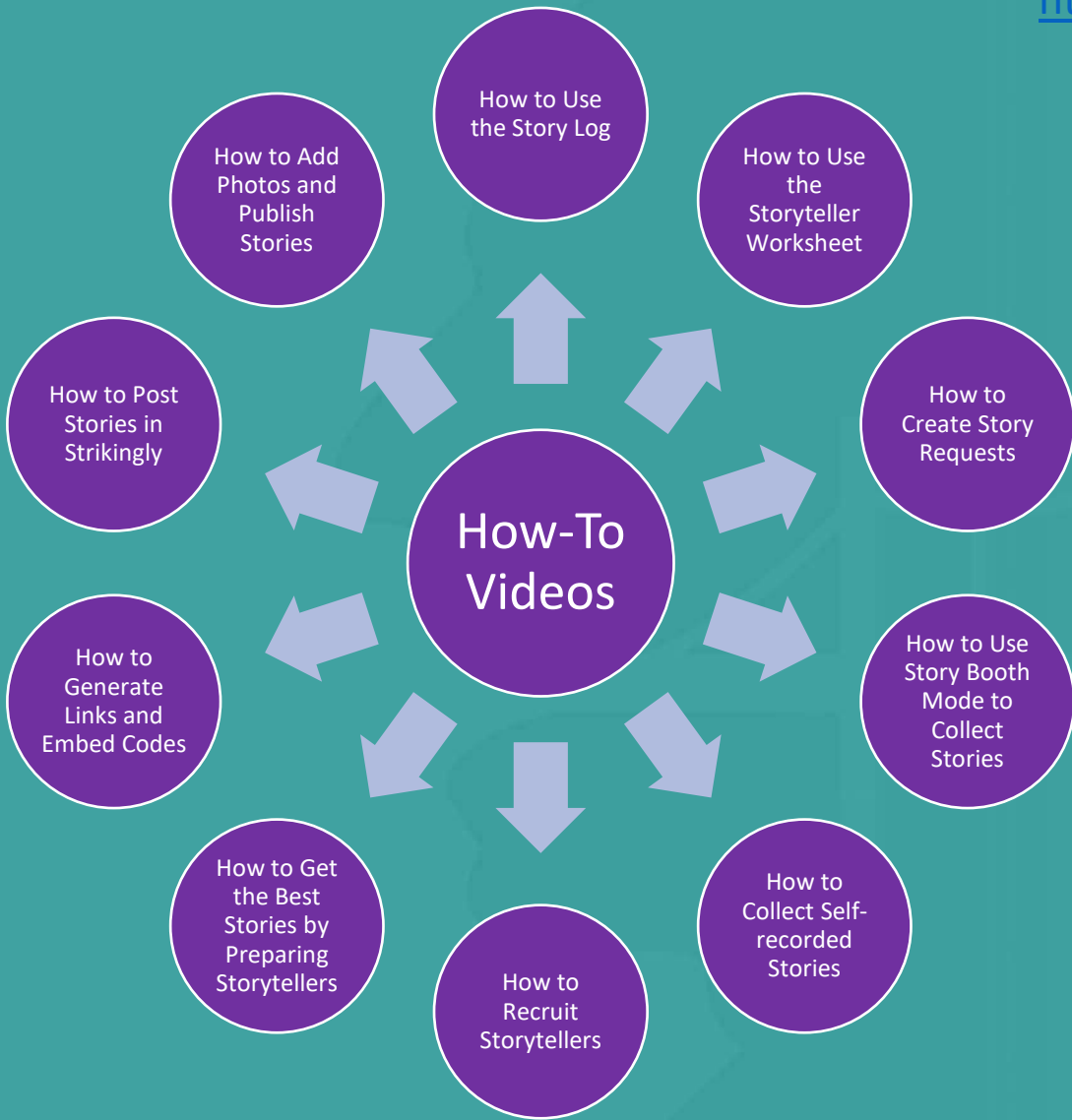
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### Disclaimer:

The information in this User Guide is offered in good faith and believed to be reliable. It is provided for informational purposes only and not intended to provide specific advice.

*OurStoryBridge* User Guide to Plan, Implement, and Sustain a Digital Story Project in Your Community





The *OurStoryBridge User Guide* links to How-To Videos that provide examples and templates to design your story project and are also posted on the website



# Sample Documents

- The *OurStoryBridge User Guide* links to Sample Documents that provide examples and templates to design your story project
- They are also posted on the website

Sample Documents

These downloadable documents are linked to the User Guide to provide examples of tools you can use.

**Communications**

- Sample Pocol Group Agenda
- Sample Pocol Group RFP
- Sample Pocol Group Email
- Sample Pocol Group Summary
- Sample Story Categories
- Sample Biographies and Greater Information
- Sample Logos
- Sample Planning Group RFP
- Sample 1st Story Release Celebration RFP
- Sample 100 Story Celebration RFP

**Marketing**

- Sample Marketing Plan
- Sample Social Media and Digital Community Platforms
- OurStoryBridge Logo
- Sample Posters including Events
- Sample Business Appointment Card
- Sample Banner
- Sample Affordable Community Website
- Sample Facebook Marketing Plan
- Sample Facebook Page

**Public Relations**

- Sample Media Report
- Sample Press Release

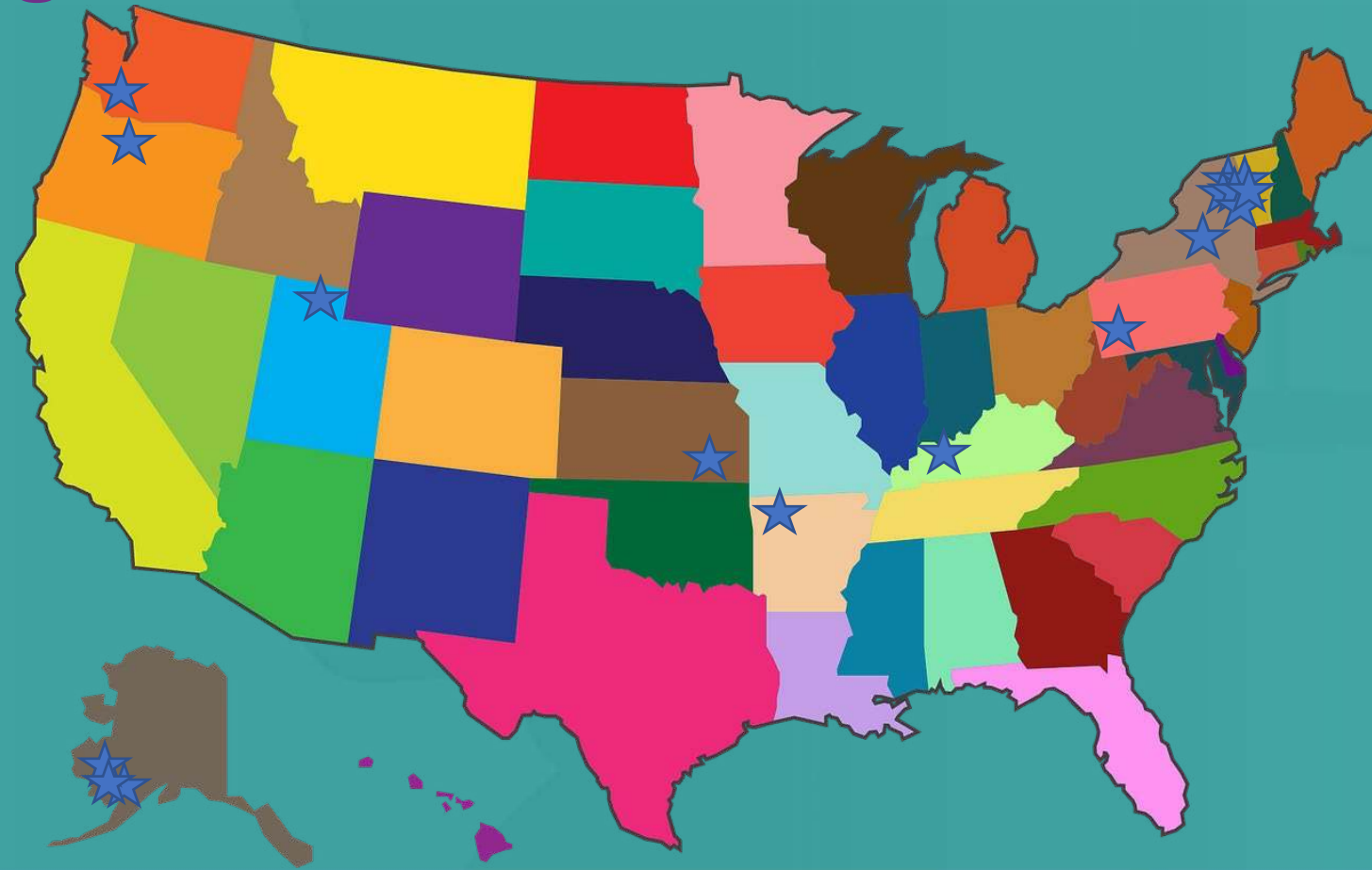
**Collecting, Processing, and Posting Stories**

Sample Templates

**Partnerships**

- Sample School Introduction for Administration RFP
- Sample School Introduction for Students RFP
- Sample School Assignments
- Sample Library Website

# More Projects Across the Country Coming Online!





# Current Metrics

- 18 projects online in 10 states
- 700+ stories already!
- 6,700+ Unique Users on the website
- Almost 600 downloads of the User Guide
- 27 podcasts
- 4 Indigenous communities and more in progress
- 4 languages (English, Spanish, Yup'ik, Abenaki)
- 130 DEI stories



# OurStoryBridge: Why?

- Appreciate the history that shaped your community, that helps make it what it is today and what it can become tomorrow.
- Create closer bonds between residents and promote connections that lead to neighborly acts of kindness, assistance and support in times of need.
- Preserve stories that may be lost if not recorded soon and honor the legacies of your older generations by capturing their stories in their own words.
- Engage the younger generations and encourage them to remain in or return to their home community after high school, college, trade school, or any number of life's adventures.
- Educate residents and visitors of all ages and inspire them to become contributing members of your community.
- Celebrate what makes your community unique, perhaps even famous.

*"I love this project and think of it as a balm and a community builder for our times, an amazing educational resource, carrying rich historical value."*

— Janelle



Monique Weston



# OurStoryBridge: Why?

- Attract new residents and visitors.
- Reveal pockets of rich histories and connections heretofore unknown or not widely known.
- Acknowledge the catastrophes, tragedies, or difficult challenges that shape your community.
- Appreciate how the geography and the economics of your area impact how your community members live.
- Unravel the puzzle of how and why street or place names, stores, clubs, and other institutions came to be.
- Re-ignite a passion for your community archives and/or previously recorded oral histories by translating some onto this new digital platform.
- Use the stories for fundraising.
- Meet your audience where they are: online!

*“The story project keeps the history of our small town alive and accessible. The older residents of the town have recorded eyewitness accounts of important events that happened 60, 70 years ago, and memories of the people who were born in the 1800s. The younger ones have memorialized more recent ones, knowing themselves to be links in the chain of generations that bind this community together.” — Henrietta*

# Debby Rice, Keene NY

- “On cold winter evenings in our harsh Adirondack climate, I often felt very sad about COVID, so I’d listen to stories on *Adirondack Community* and hear about people in this community helping each other through multiple disasters and challenges. The stories warmed my heart and helped me get through COVID winter.”



# Niraqutaq Qallemcinek Released by the Igiugig Tribal Library



#DesignedBy: SamMajors.com



We live in stories the way fish live in water.

-Daniel Taylor

[www.igiugigstorybridge.org](http://www.igiugigstorybridge.org)

# Why *OurStoryBridge*?



“We grow stronger when we share our stories.”

-AlexAnna Salmon, Igiugig Village Tribal Council President

- Preserve local knowledge and stories
- Strengthen community as it connects residents of all ages
- Highlight the value of small and rural places
- Create opportunity for increased understanding across cultures and communities





# John Brown LIVES!

**for freedom, human rights and climate justice**

*Inspiring younger generations to tell their stories  
and connect to their communities.*



# Hidden Roots: The Western Abenaki Nation by Joseph Bruchac

Can you use the  
OurStoryBridge  
stories?



Photo by Trish Miller

<https://app.memria.org/stories/public-story-view/2756faab2ab74233a8ed15903a3d6608/>



# Use *OurStoryBridge* Resources in Your Museums & Cultural Centers

Learn about these ideas and  
examples!



# OurStoryBridge:

## Connecting the Past and the Present

*OurStoryBridge* is your resource and tool kit for producing a crowdsourced, community story project emphasizing audio history collecting and sharing.

The Tool Kit consists of the *OurStoryBridge User Guide*, *How-To Videos*, *Sample Documents*, and *Teacher's Guide*.

[Get Your Tool Kit Here!](#)



Zoom Testimonial Video #1

Watch later Share

What Has the Story Project Meant to Our Community?

Watch on YouTube



# Teacher's Guide

This *Teacher's Guide* can help you use stories from *OurStoryBridge* projects across the country in your classrooms. These downloadable resources, starting with *How to Use the Teacher's Guide*, then *Story Summaries*, *Story Selection Chart*, and *Sample School Assignment*, will get you started.

The stories hold lessons for your students no matter where they are. As new *OurStoryBridge* projects come online and stories are added to each, the resources are updated, so check often for stories that can bring your lessons to life!

**READ FIRST**

[How to Use the Teacher's Guide](#)

[Story Summaries](#)

[Story Selection Chart](#)

[School Story Projects Protocol](#)

[DEI Stories](#)

[Sample School Assignment](#)

# Story Summaries

- Brief synopsis of each story with the story number by project, title, storyteller, and clickable link
- Includes new story projects and stories, updated as they come online
- Almost all stories are relevant for middle and high school classes and higher education
- Codes for elementary school, college classes, and additional categories are included
- New DEI category added

### Story Summaries

Story Summaries includes a story number, brief synopsis of each story, and key for suggested stories for elementary school, higher education, and special topics. All stories are appropriate for middle and high schools and higher education; teachers should click on the [Story Selection Chart](#) which specifies stories for 27 subjects often taught at these levels. **To listen to the stories, click on the underlined link**

<b>EL</b> Elementary School	<b>O</b> Olympics
<b>A</b> Animals	<b>RS</b> Religious and Spiritual
<b>CO</b> Community Organization and Outreach	<b>SO</b> Social Justice and Social Change
<b>HCR</b> Human and Community Resilience	<b>WO</b> Women Empowerment
<b>HP</b> High Peaks	<b>WW</b> World War History
<b>OL</b> Other Language	<b>DEI</b> Diversity, Equity, Inclusion

The following OurStoryBridge projects are included in this update (more will be added as released):

- [www.myadirondackstory.org](http://www.myadirondackstory.org) (Adirondack Community, Town of Keene, NY)
- [www.ourstory.org](http://www.ourstory.org) (Our Bear River Valley Stories, Tremonton City, UT)
- [www.igluqstorybridge.org](http://www.igluqstorybridge.org) (Niraqutaq Qallermeq, Igluq, AK)
- [www.northelbanarratives.com](http://www.northelbanarratives.com) (North Elba Narratives, Lake Placid, NY)
- [www.icld.org/ias-stories](http://www.icld.org/ias-stories) (I AM A STORY, Madras, OR)
- [www.northherolib.org/life-in-the-islands](http://www.northherolib.org/life-in-the-islands) (Life In The Islands, North Hero, VT)
- [www.chenangohistorical.org/chenango-stories](http://www.chenangohistorical.org/chenango-stories) (Chenango Stories, Norwich, NY)
- [www.freedomstoryproject.org](http://www.freedomstoryproject.org) (Freedom Story Project, Lake Placid, NY)
- [www.ourcommunitystories.org](http://www.ourcommunitystories.org) (Our Community Stories, Pittsburgh, PA)
- [www.adlvoices.org](http://www.adlvoices.org) (Adirondack Voices, Keene, Lake George, NY)

### Story Summaries

Story #	Adirondack Community <a href="http://www.myadirondackstory.org">www.myadirondackstory.org</a> Town of Keene, NY	Category
A1	Winning the Olympic Gold Medal (W1) by Charity Martatt is the story of her father, Alan Washbond, who won a Gold Medal in bobbed in the 1936 Olympics and was part of the American team who would not honor Adolf Hitler, right before WWII. <a href="#">Link To Story: Win the Olympic Gold Medal</a>	O, WW
A2	From Brooklyn Girl to Adk Outdoorswoman (W2) by Ellen DuBuis is the story of a woman who wanted to live in a place where she could hike every weekend and found Keene. <a href="#">Link To Story: From Brooklyn Girl to Adk Outdoorswoman</a>	HF, WD
A3	The Morning Routine at 9th Bus Stop (W3) by Olivia Dwyer is the recollection of a woman of when she was a young girl waiting for the school bus with her siblings. <a href="#">Link To Story: The Morning Routine at Route 9th Bus Stop</a>	EL
A4	Why Advocacy is Important for the Adirondack Park (W4) by Diane Felt is about being an advocate for protected areas that are a blend of people and wilderness. <a href="#">Link To Story: Why Advocacy is Important for the Adirondack Park</a>	ED
A5	Falling in Love with the Adk and Finding New Loves (W5) by Pete Biesmeyer is the story of a local man who was inspired by a few of the first Adks to become one himself. <a href="#">Link To Story: Falling in Love with the Adk and Finding New Loves</a>	HF
A6	From the Old World to the New World (W6) by Pete Biesmeyer is the story of a man's family and how they arrived in the United States before the start of WWII. <a href="#">Link To Story: From the Old World to the New World</a>	WW
A7	The River House (W7) by Jim Herrman is the story of building a house and establishing roots in a new community. <a href="#">Link To Story: The River House</a>	HS, WD
A8	Nourished by the Arts (W8) by Susan Coit Doolittle is told by a woman who found acting in the later decades of her life. As a child, in the 1950s, she had bonded with her father over musicals in NYC. The arts also helped Susan grapple with the tragic death of her daughter. <a href="#">Link To Story: Nourished by the Arts</a>	WO HCR

# Story Selection Chart

Story #	Story Title	Literature	Journalism	World History	US History	Local History	Geography	Psychology	Philosophy	Sociology	Religion	Economics	Law	Business	Biology	Agriculture	Env. Ed.	Medical	Sports	Health	Art	Music	Comp. Sci & Tech.	Engineering	Architecture	Career Planning	Shop	Home Ec./FACS	
Adirondack Community <a href="http://www.myadirondackstory.org">www.myadirondackstory.org</a> Town of Keene, NY																													
A1	<a href="#">Winning the Olympic Gold Medal</a>			1	1														1										
A2	<a href="#">From Brooklyn Girl to Adk Outdoorswoman</a>					1			1							1													
A3	<a href="#">The Morning Routine at Route 9N Bus Stop</a>					1																							
A4	<a href="#">Why Advocacy is Important in the Adirondack Park</a>										1	1	1																
A5	<a href="#">Falling in Love with the 46 and Finding New Loves</a>					1										1													
A6	<a href="#">From the Old World to the New</a>			1	1				1							1													
A7	<a href="#">The River House</a>					1																	1	1					
A8	<a href="#">Nourished by the Arts</a>				1			1													1								
A9	<a href="#">75 Years of History on the Little Porter Trail</a>					1	1					1																	
A10	<a href="#">The Largest Landslide in NYS</a>					1	1									1								1	1				
A11	<a href="#">Adrian Edmonds &amp; the Storytelling Culture</a>	1				1			1																		1		
A12	<a href="#">Adrian Goes to College</a>				1	1			1			1																	
A13	<a href="#">Glenmore School of Cultural Sciences</a>					1			1	1																			
A14	<a href="#">A Tax Collector. "Sworn In and Then Sworn At"</a>											1	1																
A15	<a href="#">Sunday Nights Singx</a>					1																1							
A16	<a href="#">Family Homes on Beede Road</a>					1										1										1			
A17	<a href="#">Music As a Thread in My Life</a>								1													1							
A18	<a href="#">Brother Bud Goes to War</a>	1	1	1	1														1										
A19	<a href="#">Who is the Newcomer?</a>	1				1										1										1			

Chart focuses on middle and high school courses, but other levels can be found in the *Story Summaries*; both have clickable links.



# Keene Central School 8<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Storytelling Project

- Each 8th and 12th grader learns about storytelling and the *Adirondack Community* story project, then creates and records a one-to three-minute (8th graders) or three- to five-minute (12th graders) story, and have stories posted on [www.myadirondackstory.org](http://www.myadirondackstory.org)





## ADIRONDACK EXPERIENCE™

*The Museum on Blue Mountain Lake*

## FROM WILDERNESS TO WARFRONT THE ADIRONDACKS AND WORLD WAR II

From 1939 until 1945, all eyes were on the events of World War II. While the battles were fought far from New York, the impact upon Adirondack communities during those years was profound. As in most small towns in America, young men and women left villages and hamlets by the hundreds and thousands to serve. At the same time regional industries were transformed—both in the materials that were produced as well as the workforce upon which they depended. Communities came together to support the cause, but individuals still struggled to get through Adirondack winters, go to school, and manage their daily work during a time of global uncertainty.



# Collaboration: Museums & *OurStoryBridge*

- Create closer bonds with your community by starting your own *OurStoryBridge* projects, while adding stories to your collections
- Supplement your exhibits with these new resources, from across the country
- Use the stories to guide you to new resources
- Add stories to your webinars: Introduce a topic, make a concept memorable, or stimulate discussion
- Do museum “walkthroughs”, with relevant stories
- Provide local stories as research materials
- Introduce your visitors to the Teacher’s Guide and use it to select stories



*What is your museum doing to  
commemorate the  
Semiquincentennial in 2026?*

Think about an OurStoryBridge project  
and we will help you!



# Think About...

- Telling your stories in your own words!
- How could an OurStoryBridge project in your museum or cultural center increase community involvement? Enhance the visitor experience? Preserve your stories in today's media?
- What could the stories bring to your collection?
- What special artifacts and exhibits would be enhanced by brief oral histories?
- Do you want to use stories from around the country in your educational programs?

# If You or Someone You Know is Interested in a Local Story Project...



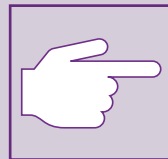
**Check out** the websites



**Listen** to a few stories



**Review** the Tool Kit and other resources



**Fill out** the form on the *OurStoryBridge* website or email [createyourstoryproject@gmail.com](mailto:createyourstoryproject@gmail.com)



# IMLS Opportunity: Museum Grants for Native American History and Culture

- OurStoryBridge wants to partner with five museums focused on Native American life and history
- OurStoryBridge, as a contractor, will draft the grant proposal with the help of partners and lead efforts to create and market story projects at the museums
- Museums will receive funding, approximately \$10,000 each over a two-year period for the story platform (Memria), website to host the stories, staff time for taking and processing stories, translation into Native languages, administrative costs, etc.
- One museum will receive additional funding as the applicant

# Contact OurStoryBridge If Interested

- [createyourstoryproject@gmail.com](mailto:createyourstoryproject@gmail.com) and I'll send this link for the quick application:  
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/18xsKGyZSjqLBPfivqrmchAAI2r5gNjnrxoH8wXCOpUE/edit?ts=649b3c48>
- Deadline: August 15, 2023



# Be Our Voice!

- **Start** a story project in your museum
  - **Useful for development too!**
- **Use** the stories in your exhibits and presentations!
- **Introduce** the *Teacher's Guide*
- **Share** the *OurStoryBridge* project websites so they can hear the stories and podcasts
- **Guide** others to *OurStoryBridge* if you think they are interested in starting a story project
- **Put** links to *OurStoryBridge* on websites
- **Volunteer** to review the resources or help us grow *OurStoryBridge*
- **Follow and Like** the *Adirondack Community Story Project* and *OurStoryBridge* Facebook and Instagram pages
- **Send** names and email addresses for the e-newsletter
- **Suggest** grant and other funding sources

*Send your name, affiliation, and email address to [createyourstoryproject@gmail.com](mailto:createyourstoryproject@gmail.com) to be in the loop!*

# Questions?



**OURSTORYBRIDGE**

Connecting the Past and the Present

**Contact OurStoryBridge:**  
**createyourstoryproject@gmail.com**  
**[www.ourstorybridge.org](http://www.ourstorybridge.org)**

