Cracker Storytelling Festival

P.O. Box 122

Homeland, Florida, 33847

Cracker Storytelling Festival was approved and placed on the “approved field trip list”. This event is recognized as a valued activity for Polk County Schools. We are pleased to be celebrating our 25th year and look forward to sharing this educational and entertaining time with you and your students. Storytelling is part of the curriculum for all grade levels and our tellers tell stories to all age groups. Friday, October 11, 2013 is the day we have set aside for the schools to come and partake in this wonderful learning opportunity. This event is local, instructional based as well as being very inexpensive. We have created study guides that will enhance this experience for both elementary and secondary level students. They will be sent to the schools upon registration, along with additional information.

We are seeking donations from local businesses to continue offering the bus money grants. We have a limited amount of donations at this time, but hope that we will receive additional funds in order to offer this assistance to schools. As you register, let us know if you are interested and need assistance with the bus fees. We will award the grants to as many schools as possible.

We are pleased to have a large number of Florida storytellers to bring you an exciting and entertaining day with your students: Hank Mattson dressed in his cowboy attire will bring back the days of cracking whips and rounding up cattle with his poetry; Carrie Sue Ayvar entertains listeners with her Spanglish style and tales from many cultures. Kim Rivers, a Cuban Cracker, accompanied by Nancy Crockford known as “StoryMusic”, mix music and folktales. Tamara Green uses vivid costumes and dramatic presentations to keep listeners on the edge of their seats. Mitchell O’Rear engages audiences with his dramatic storytelling while Katie Adams weaves stories with her voice and movements. Cheryl Floyd uses Cajun traditions to weave great stories that will conjure up images and sounds unlike any other; Pat Nease keeps listeners wide eyed with silly, willy, chilly stories. Mark Koruschak will be joined by Judge Nelson Bailey to take us into the past with their cow camp site demonstrations and tales of the past. Robin Schulte tells unique stories in a unique way that will keep you spellbound and hanging on every word; Frank Thomas, local folk singer, tells the stories of his songs while painting a picture of life In Florida. Jim Mittelstadt a professor at **the** [**University of North Florida**](http://www.unf.edu/) teaches classes in Curriculum and Instruction, specifically in the area of storytelling. He will delight you with his warm and humorous stories. Linda Chancey along with Connie Trama known as “Sing N Tell and Melissa Causey are all three from Polk County and work with the local public libraries. They have been telling tales to local schools and library groups and continue to enlighten everyone with old and new stories.

You can register now by returning the attached form to Terrie Sullivan at Library Media Services, Jim Miles PDC. We are expecting a great turn out this year so don’t delay in registering.

If you have any questions or concerns you may contact Terrie at 647-4716 or district 5 digit number 57955 or email her at [terrie.sullivan@polk-fl.net](mailto:terrie.sullivan@polk-fl.net)

Respectfully

The Cracker Storytelling Committee