

Dear Friends,

In seven days, people from around the world will join together to celebrate the First International Day for Sharing Life Stories. The ausculti.org site has become an amazing hub of connections between folks in the Pacific Rim, India, Africa, Brazil, Central America, Europe, the Middle East and North America. We are writing to remind you about our activities here in the U.S., and to encourage you to join us on the day to share your stories, by posting them on the site, connecting to videos you have made, bringing friends, co-workers, family together and share a story. You can even join us in the virtual world Second Life during the day, and at a conference the next day.

One of the themes that we are encouraging people to consider in their sharing of stories is miracles. The miraculous is often the source of good storytelling; the unbelievable coincidence, the recovery of things long lost, the impossible achievement, and the simple awakening to what is miraculous about flowers in the Spring. They are our ghost stories, scary or spiritual, our magical adventures into another reality, our suspensions of disbelief. Everyone has a miracle in their lives, one that

changes their perspective about being alive, about possibility, about hope and redemption. We encourage you to share your thread about the miraculous. Towards that end I have dug up a script from 1993, about the last day at my theater in San Francisco and the beginning of my journey into Digital Storytelling. It was made into a digital story, really my first digital story, at our second Digital Storytelling workshop at the American Film Institute, the one where Dana Atchley met his future wife, Denise. You can find the story at http://internationaldayblog.storycenter.org/?page_id=80 and a place to share your miracle stories in the comment thread.

Center for Digital Storytelling Events on May 16

BERKELEY

The Center for Digital Storytelling (Berkeley, CA) is joining with Streetside Stories (see streetside.org) and other local organizations and individuals to hold a public event to celebrate the Day! The event will feature music, spoken word and media presentations and will be held Friday, May 16, from 7 to 9

p.m., at the Berkeley Central Library.

What? Public event, featuring music, spoken word and media presentations

When? 16 May 2008, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Where? Berkeley Central Library, 2090 Kittredge at Shattuck – Berkeley, CA

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DENVER

The Center for Digital Storytelling is co-producing an event with "Telling Stories & Music" - a group that puts on live performances of music and spoken word essays around specific themes. This will include live music, live essays/stories being read and digital stories being shown.

The event will be on Friday, May 16th, at 7:30 pm at the Mercury Cafe, 2199 California St.

What? Event including live music, live essays and digital stories!

When? May 16, at 7:30 p.m.

Where? Mercury Café, 2199 California St. –
Denver, CO

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WASHINGTON D.C.

CDS is planning a public event with SpeakEasyDC and the Served Project for the International Day for Sharing Life Stories. The event, called Pulling a 180: Stories about Change, transformation and New Beginnings will feature a musical performance by Lilo Gonzales, SpeakeasyDC community storytellers, and screened stories by teenage filmmakers from the Served Project.

What? An evening of musical, screened, and live storytelling

When? Friday May 16th, 8 pm

Where? Saint Stephens Church,
auditorium 1525 Newton St. NW (16th &
Newton St.) Washington DC 20010

Donation: \$10 (students, seniors, and alternate
donation: \$5)

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LOS ANGELES

Community Room
Armory Center for the Arts
145 N Raymond Ave
Pasadena,
3 – 9 p.m.

The Armory joins with CDS in an event that will feature digital stories created in on-site workshops, including artist/author Riua Akinshegun and documentary filmmaker Kathy Huang's *Miss Chinatown, USA*; CDS Los Angeles presents an evening of story performance, digital storytelling screenings, narrative documentary and story swapping.

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