

Tellin' Tales Theatre Presents

HANDS UP! POLICE

A virtual presentation of original stories



Tellin' Tales
THEATRE

Everybody Has a Story

Tellintales.org

Hands Up! Police

Hands Up is dedicated to providing adults from a diversity of backgrounds, with and without disabilities a forum to explore controversial issues through writing, development, and performance of their personal stories. Our goal is to reverse the lens through which controversial issues are too often viewed. By highlighting our core, shared humanity, we are better able to understand the beliefs, positions, and circumstances of those with whom we may not agree, or whom we view as 'other'. By engaging with the performers, audience members gain a personal context around the human aspects of challenging issues prompting deeper understanding. **Have a story to tell? Email us at Tellintalestheatre@gmail.com**

Special Thanks

Ann Filmer and 16th Street Theater for hosting our performance

Pete Benitez of Tollbox Inc. for design assistance

Dave Steck of Numeric Pictures and YoFIDMAC Digital Media Art Center for his assistance, guidance, and patience.

Directors Statements

Working with high school students, I quickly learned that if you are going to call a student out on something in front of peers, you had better be right. Make sure you know all the facts. I have chosen to live by Stephen Covey's habit number 5# "Seek to understand first, before making yourself understood". My first thought, when I heard chants of defund the police, was without the police there would be chaos. Instead of running to Facebook and posting my thoughts, I decided I needed to get all the facts. The issue is multifaceted and complicated. This is when my husband and I decided to explore the topic in our next "Hands Up" performance. We hope to share with you a diverse spectrum of experiences. Our wish is that these stories will increase your understanding of the issue and inspire you to learn more. Thanks for attending.

--**Stephen Donart**

5 people see an event, each recall and recount it differently. All of their stories are true. The truth is nuanced, multifaceted, illusive, and difficult to parse. It's also worth the effort. Lies, prejudice, and stereotypes are facile, easy to swallow and at best yield only an incomplete glimpse of the surface. Hiding in plain sight, we're deceived by their simplicity and attracted by easy understanding with minimal effort. As Fox Mulder said, "the truth is out there". I believe we owe it to ourselves and each other to find it. Thanks for journeying and exploring with us.

---**Robert Teverbaugh**

Part One

Anonymous
Performed by Lindsay Porter
Down the Middle

*

Michael Herzovi
The Wrath of Carbondale

*

Janet Anne.
Chicago's Last Bar Raid

*

Robert Teverbaugh
Vaguely Reminiscent

5 minute intermission

Part Two

Rosemary Postula
Crossroads

*

Bianca Palese
Two Out of Six

*

Ed Richards
Two Out of Three Ain't Bad

*

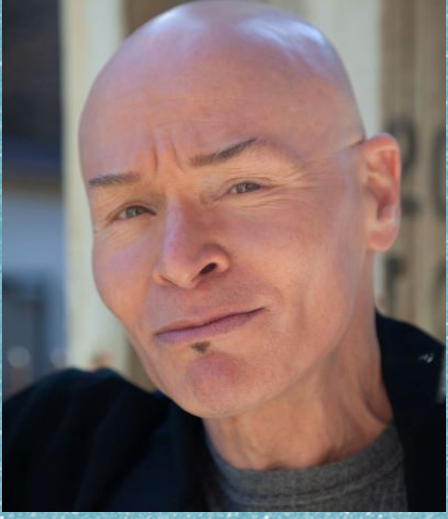
Shane Hendrix
Ice Man Cometh

Storytellers Bios



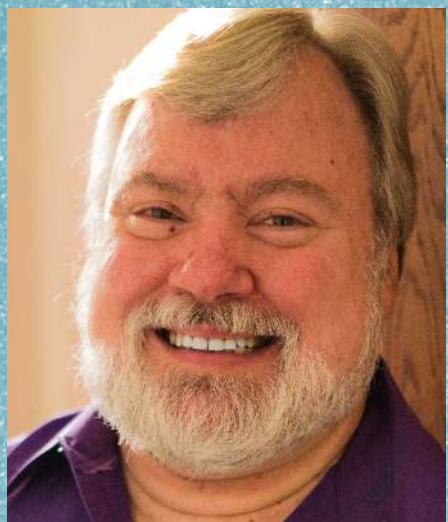
Janet Anne.

Normalizing Lesbianism has been a life-long pursuit and struggle. Still wrestling with the "You don't LOOK gay!" thing - I also don't look 63. And because women hold up more than half the sky, my most personal crusade is against the use of "guys" as a suitable address to a group. Wendy Ward Charm School certificate.



Shane Hendrix

Hails from Georgia, and now considers himself a die-hard Chicagoan. His qualifications for this project include many run-ins with many police officers throughout his lifetime, including one that lasted several years... One of his numerous step-fathers was a cop. For this project, Shane brings the story of his only interaction with the police in which he and they were on the same side...



Michael Herzovi

Most recently appeared as "Richard Pearish" on Fox TV'S NeXt. He is an ensemble member of Tellin' Tales Theatre, performing with them since 2006. He has performed dozens of podcasts with Small Fish Radio Theatre. His writing, acting, and voiceovers can be found at www.michaelherzovi.com. He provided voices for Counterbalance, Hayden and her Family, Code of the Freaks, and others, and the upcoming children's book ASL video Calvin Can't Fly. He has performed with Here, Chicago, Is This a Thing, Write Club, NON:Op, Anytime/Anywhere, and You're Being Ridiculous. He is proud to be a part of Hands Up!



Bianca Palese

Is a twenty-two year old activist from St. Petersburg, FL currently residing in Corning, NY. She recently graduated college with a B.A. in International Studies and Human Services and is now the emergency services program coordinator at a non-profit. Once COVID is over, she hopes to travel abroad and continue working with disadvantaged populations. She is inspired by Taylor Swift, Chinese watercolor paintings, and her supportive family.



Lindsay Porter

IActor, writer, teacher, comedian and Tellin' Tales company member. She first performed with Tellin' Tales in 2006, and has been involved with over a dozen performances since then. In 2017, she began teaching True Tales, a TTT outreach program that provides storytelling workshops for kids with chronic illnesses and disabilities. Lindsay lives in Chicago with her husband and son, CJ, who has performed twice in TTT's middle school mentorship show Six Stories Up.



Rosemary Postula

Is an ensemble member of Tellin' Tales Theatre and has performed in 12 productions over the years. 'Ro' loves to write and tell stories, and to share her funny and crazy journey through life on stage. Hands Up-Police brought her the challenge of diverting from humor, but she was encouraged by a quote from Maya Angelou who said, "There is no greater agony than bearing an untold story inside you." She dedicates this to all parents who face an empty chair at the table.



Ed Richards

Ed Richards is BA's husband & Andrew's dad. BA and Andrew are Tellin Tales alums. 20 + year friend of TDB/Tekki da Boss. . Fourth generation Chicago. Retired CPD Lieutenant & Retired USAR Lieutenant Colonel. BA Loyola (including six semester hours of mime),MPA IIT, MS U of C. I'm a Leo, I like long walks on the beach, and peanut butter cups.



Robert Teverbaugh

Is a Tellin' Tales ensemble member and happy to be finally able to imply some semblance of purpose to his squandered youth. Its lent an endless supply of fodder for some mildly amusing, vaguely enlightening object lessons about what he's noticed while getting old.

Company Bios



Stephen Donart (Director/Facilitator)

Stephen is Program Director of Tellin' Tales Theater. He has a unique combination of Master's degrees in Theater, Rehabilitation Counseling, and Curriculum Instruction and Design. He served as the Artistic Director for Fourth Wall Productions for over 10 years.

His teaching experience includes the Chicago Park District, North Shore Academy, Kennedy King College, and Wilbur Wright College. In 2006 he made his debut in Six Stories Up in the Ozone while serving as a mentor and actor. Steve has been in eight additional Six Stories Up productions.



Robert Teverbaugh (Director/Facilitator)

Robert is a Realtor in Chicago and studied acting at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Prior to working with Tellin' Tales, Robert acted in productions with Running with Scissors, Terrapin Theater, Stage Left, and directed a number of productions at Chicago Dramatists Workshop, and other venues. He played "Belize" in Angels In America with The Journeymen, "Aaron" in Titus Andronicus with Shakespeare's Motley Crew, and was an ensemble member in The Expense of Spirit which premiered at Bailiwick and moved to 'Here' in New York for a limited run.



Tekki Lomnicki (Artistic Director)

Her two full-length plays When Heck Was a Puppy: The Living Testimonies of Folk Artist Edna Mae Brice and Blurred Vision (which she remounted at 16th Street Theater in 2019) were critically acclaimed by The Chicago Reader and The Chicago Sun Times. She has written and performed over 26 solo performance pieces, and starred in the award-winning film, The Miracle by Jeffrey Jon Smith. She taught youth at Chicago's Gallery 37 and After School Matters, and adults at the Victory Gardens Training Center. Tekki is a recipient of an Illinois Arts Council Artists Fellowship in New Performance Forms, the 2008 3Arts Award in Theater, the 2010 Grigsby Award for Excellence in Solo Performance, the 2014 Dan Van Hecke Award for outstanding leadership and service to the disability community and was named a 2016 Duke of Distinction at York



Jesse Swanson (Managing Director)

Is thrilled to be joining the Tellin' Tales team this year as the Managing Director. Before coming on board he served as a producer and stage manager for The Second City, where he developed several world premiere productions and still serves as a faculty member in the training center. His work has been seen on stages all over Chicago and around the world and won acclaim at the D.C. Capital Fringe, the Crisis Art Festival and many more. He is so excited to bring his experience, his love of story, and his passion for accessibility to Tellin' Tales Theatre.

Tellin' Tales Theatre Mission Statement

The mission of Tellin' Tales Theatre is to shatter barriers between the disabled and non-disabled worlds through the transformative power of personal story. We bring together children and adults from both communities to share their stories in theatrically innovative productions and programs to promote awareness, understanding and acceptance.



DON'T MISS OUR NEXT SHOW IN THE HANDS UP! SERIES

HANDS UP! GENDER

A virtual presentation of original stories



**Tellin' Tales
THEATRE**
Everubodu Has a Storu

Saturday, October 23 • 7 pm CST
Sunday, October 24 • 2 pm CST

GOT A **STORY TO TELL?**

Email us at Tellintalestheatre@gmail.com



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THEATRE**
Everubodu Has a Storu