

Library & Reading Programs

Immersed among the books, at the core of a community, I tell my listeners; 'Stories are in the air here! Reach up with your hand and a little imagination. You'll catch them!' As a member of the Board of Trustees of the Desmond /Fish Library in Garrison, I understand the changes and constraints we face today. We need vital libraries more than ever. Ask about my summer reading programs and Hudson River lore. I'll tailor a unique storytelling program for you.

Program Possibilities

[*Finger Fables for Squiggly Squirmers*](#) – Aesop to Anansi performed with a “hands-on” audience, guaranteed to turn your most squiggly wigglers into active listeners. Best for pre-k to first graders.

- 1 *Fairy Tale Theater* – classic tales from around the world performed with kids in quick costumes and masks. Ideal for older elementary grades
- 2 *Tall Tales & Urban Legends* – using with exaggeration and surprise truth stretching stories for the “Tween” set.
- 3 [*The Legends of The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*](#) – The fact-based of lore of the spirits surrounding the “the ghost of the Hessian trooper during the Revolutionary War, whose head was carried away but may have actually been a cannon ball.” Best for teens and adults.
- 4 *Halloween* – Spooky (but not scary) Stories! – a happy Halloween witch, a ridiculous roly pumpkin head, the haunted hand and other enchanting tales for young children.
- 5 *Hudson River Lore* – A performance of traditional stories of the mysterious and historical river.

- 6 *Pirates!* – Jonathan and musician, Jim Keyes in pirate garb, perform interactive shanties, and share lore of buccaneers & privateers from Captain Kidd to Black Bird. Ask about pirates in the American Revolution.

Book Talk Program - “Legends and Lore of Sleepy Hollow and the Hudson Valley” by Jonathan Kruk

There is always time to introduce teens and adults to the origins of the Headless Horseman! I give an entertaining book talk, rich with legends and lore about how Washington Irving created this haunting classic tale.

Sample Summer Reading Topics

Funny Food Fables, Summer Time Dragon Tales, Elves Trolls & Fairies, Sibling Stories Seriously Silly, Creepy Crawlies, Animal Tales, Magic & Mystery, Ocean Notions, Riddles.

December Holidays

Christmas, Hanukkah and Solstice.

About my Performances

Shows are about fifty engaging minutes for children; interactive, with silly stretches, and skits. Adults get a little over an hour. Librarians describe my library reading programs as; “Theatrical,” “Bardic” “Like Robin Williams meets Viggo Mortenson” and say “Jonathan is expertly adept at holding a crowd.”

Fees: Book 2 shows on the same day for \$350 total. One show is just \$250!

