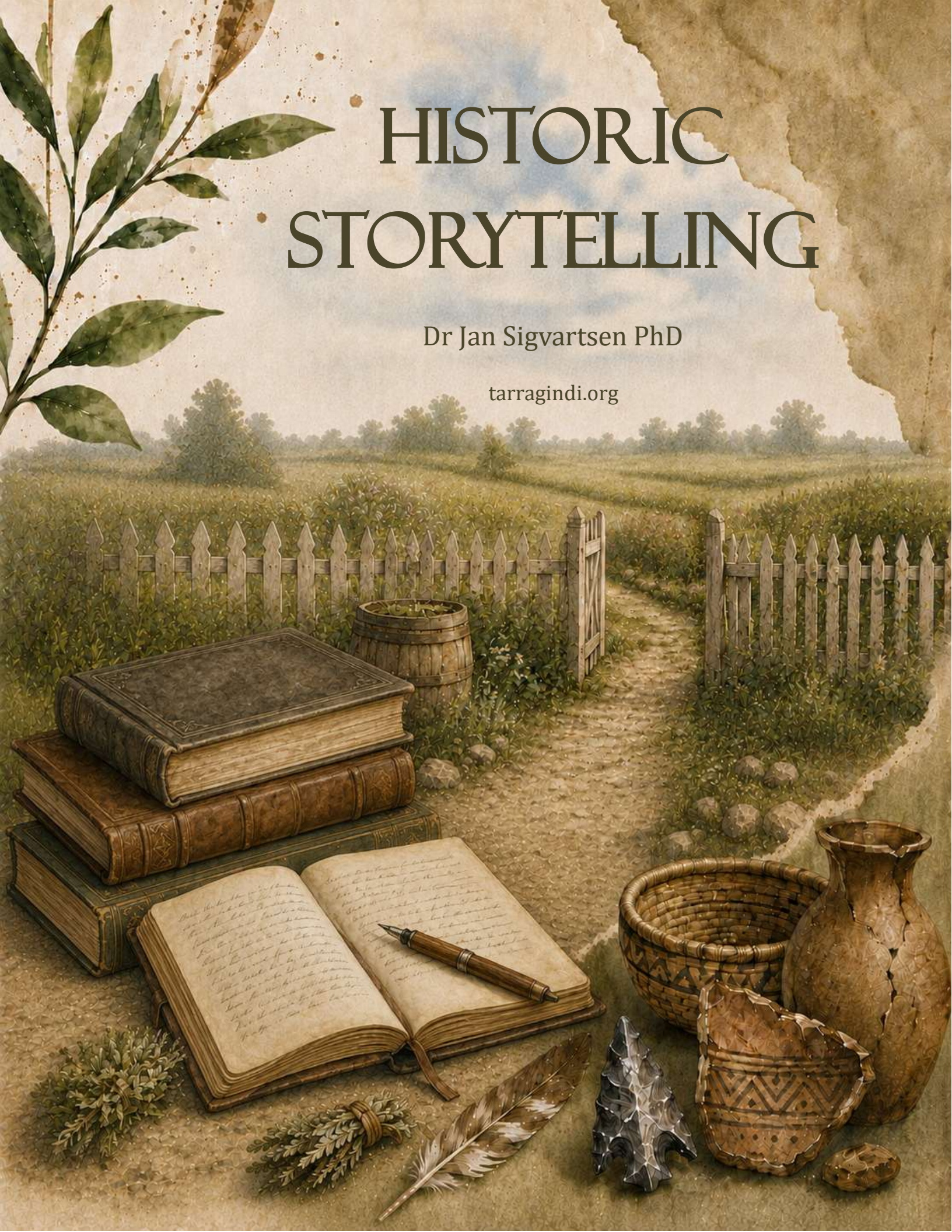


HISTORIC STORYTELLING

Dr Jan Sigvartsen PhD

tarragindi.org



Historic Storytelling

CLASS TITLE: Historic Storytelling (ages 8-20)
TOTAL REQUIRED HRS: 16
ADDITIONAL TIME: Yes (if needed)
SEMESTER HOURS: 16
LOCATION (address): 6161 Pheasant Court, Berrien Springs, MI 49103
PRIMARY INSTRUCTOR: Dr Jan A. Sigvartsen PhD
CONTACT INFORMATION: 269-363-3968 – info@tarragindi.org – tarragindi.org

LOCATION REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS, IF REQUIRED:

- Orientation for all of Dr Sigvartsen's 12 History, Archaeology, and Genealogy classes will be held on: September 1 **OR** September 3, 6pm – 8pm, 6161 Pheasant Court, Berrien Springs, MI 49103.
- Your Local History Tour that gives context to your program will be held on: September 12 **OR** September 13, 3pm – 5pm.
- This class is then held every Monday, 6pm-8pm, from October 19 – November 30.

INSTRUCTOR QUALIFICATIONS: BA, MA, PhD
Publication Record available at: jansigvartsen.com.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. Before television and books, Storytellers were an important part of human life. They entertained and kept historic stories alive. You will learn how to speak publicly, engage your audience, and craft historic stories that 2000 years ago would have made you the storyteller of your community. For ages 8-20.
2. Using story prompts from our local community's past, students will learn how to work a newspaper article or historic chapter it into an oral narrative, and the mechanics of delivering it to an audience in an engaging way.
3. Students will be able to tell stories in public, and improve their confidence and public speaking skills, including voice projection and modulation for effect.
4. We want to encourage students to think critically about the past, apply modern wisdom to an old story, and inject humor and drama into their story telling.

SYLLABUS/OUTLINE: Weekly approximate breakdown of activities:

Week 1 – 2 hours

Orientation: at the Tarragindi Archaeology Dig site: 6161 Pheasant Court, Berrien Springs, MI 49103.

You will be required to sign a waiver and choose if you want to participate in photographs or not during this program. We will go over expectations, requirements and goals. We will talk about how Dr Jan's programs endeavor to use local history and archaeology as a catalyst to build belonging and a sense of place, and they both can have very advantageous effects on your school work, your potential for success, and your future career.

Week 2 – 2 hours

Local History Tour: This semester we are going to Fernwood Botanical Gardens for our local history tour – our treat for you and one parent/guardian, if they want to join us. Siblings not registered in the program or additional parents/grandparents/guardians are welcome, but are responsible for paying for their own discounted entry fee.

- ***Fernwood Botanical Gardens is located at: 13988 Range Line Rd, Niles, MI 49120. Park in the carpark, wait on the patio outside for Dr Jan so we can go in together.***

Did you know that a Native American trail went right through this garden and its landscape in the St Joseph river valley makes it almost perfect for settlement both now and 10,000 years ago. We will walk around this historic garden and hear stories of how this beautiful space came about in our community, and over the past 200 years was developed by different people.

Week 3 – 2 hours

Historic Storytelling – 6161 Pheasant Court, Berrien Springs, MI 49103

Prompt - Last week you learned about Ben Oki, a Hiroshima bombing survivor who created the Japanese Garden at Fernwood Botanical Gardens. Using his story and your creativity, retell his story or a part of his story to the class.

Week 4 – 2 hours

Historic Storytelling – 6161 Pheasant Court, Berrien Springs, MI 49103

Prompt: George Harland, a Spanish Dollar counterfeiter, escaped from the 1838 Old Jailhouse in Berrien Springs. Craft a story about how he escaped and the Sheriff put a \$75 reward on his head, or was this a justifiable crime?

Week 5 – 2 hours

Historic Storytelling – 6161 Pheasant Court, Berrien Springs, MI 49103

Prompt: The Brickmaker of Berrien Springs is a tale of a man who went out for groceries for his wife and came back a civil war veteran.

Week 6 – 2 hours

Historic Storytelling – 6161 Pheasant Court, Berrien Springs, MI 49103

Prompt: Phebe Stanclift-Tooley was a former Quaker who had the humiliating task of divorcing her husband in the 1860s when he deserted her and their three children and ran off to California – never to be seen again. But then she married one of the wealthiest men in Berrien County... (Did you know it is some of her things that we are digging up at the Tarragindi Archaeology Dig!)

Week 7 – 2 hours

Historic Storytelling – 6161 Pheasant Court, Berrien Springs, MI 49103

Prompt: The Pokagon Band was going to be sent to Kansas on the Trail of Tears. Could Judge Epaphroditus Ransom save them from being forcibly removed from land they had rightfully purchased? Would Judge Ransom take on the United States Government for them?

Week 8 – 2 hours

Historic Storytelling – 6161 Pheasant Court, Berrien Springs, MI 49103

Prompt: The lost village of Wolf's Prairie (now Berrien Springs) has long been a mystery. Where is it? What if Dr Jan and his archaeology team found it? Tell the story of the find.

STUDENT ASSESSMENT - In addition to the 2 items below, what will be used to evaluate student progress and/or end of semester pass/fail status?

- 1) Students agree to attend at least 80% of class sessions/lessons offered. Attendance is kept online and tracked by Partnership staff. Unexcused absences resulting in failure to meet 80% threshold may result in program discontinuation.

- 2) The Partnership Student Assessment is filled out by the teacher and turned in to Partnership staff. The rubric is found on the teacher's online attendance sheet. Failing marks for lack of participation, behavior issues, excessive absences, etc. may result in program discontinuation.
- 3) Other class-specific assessment: Engagement in the program, follow through with instruction, and asking good questions.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES: (online, books, video, etc.):

www.tarragindi.org/resources - page on our website giving links to local history resources.

CLASS-SPECIFIC POLICIES:

Attendance: Students are to attend each week. If they cannot make it one week, we are happy to reschedule or have them attend one of our other archaeology classes that has some crossover content.

Behavior: To be careful, listen to instructions, wear your safety gear, identify everything you like about others (not what you don't like about them – ancient and settler communities succeeded through team work), zero tolerance of bullying, report bullying, have fun!

Weather: This is an indoor class, but will be canceled if there is significant snow forecast. All students will be emailed. Dr Sigvartsen will still go down to the Tarragindi property to ensure everyone got his email message.

Other: Be kind to the neighbors by parking in the designated areas, being courteous, and keeping the noise down.