



Interested in a workshop to inspire teachers to use storytelling in the classroom and/or a keynote for a conference? Or are you looking for the best way to help college level students, no matter what their major, improve their oral skills?



**Martha Hamilton and Mitch Weiss** are award-winning authors and seasoned presenters who have been winning audiences and critical acclaim around the world since 1980. Renowned for their dynamic presentations of world tales and their work in teaching storytelling, this husband-and-wife team will demonstrate their model for teaching students of any age how to improve their storytelling skills—from everyday one to one communication to speaking in front of a group. Their hands-on, non-threatening, gradually audience-expanding process allays fears and builds confidence.

Check out their informative Web site which reflects the quality of their programs and the breadth and depth of their experience: [www.beautyandthebeaststorytellers.com](http://www.beautyandthebeaststorytellers.com)

**Mitch Weiss & Martha Hamilton, 137 Northview Rd, Ithaca, NY 14850  
Phone: 607-277-0016**

## Comments From Colleges/Universities/Organizations Where Mitch and Martha Have Presented

"Colleges are being prodded by our accreditation agencies to ask how a student is different when she walks across the stage four years after coming to us. Can she read, write, think, and talk to an excellent degree? Talk?! Whoops! Oral expression has long been overlooked. And yet people who present themselves poorly—who can't effectively use voice, facial expressions, and gestures to communicate—may have all the talent in the world, but not be able to demonstrate it. Expressing oneself orally can be taught, though—and the oldest and perhaps best way to help people tune their voices, gain power over their body language, learn to speak at length without notes, and connect with an audience—is by teaching storytelling. Teaching this basic skill works wonders with college students; it adds a powerful and vital dimension to their education. I have had the privilege of teaching a popular course on storytelling at my college, and my students have enjoyed serving as coaches to elementary school students who were learning to tell stories themselves.

Martha Hamilton and Mitch Weiss's book, *Children Tell Stories*, has been a mainstay in my storytelling and children's literature classes for years. Having them spend an afternoon with us and share their techniques in person was a marvelous event."

--Charles Temple, Ph.D., Chair, Education Department, Hobart & William Smith Colleges, Geneva, New York

"On a cold, dark, wet October evening teachers and college students from all over our county came to campus to hear Martha and Mitch present a workshop on storytelling in the classroom. Before long, the rain outside was forgotten and the sounds of excited laughter filled the auditorium. In just two hours Martha and Mitch explained to us why story is such an integral part of education, proved to us that we were all storytellers, and convinced us that the children in our schools could be storytellers, too. What's more, they gave us the tools we needed to get started. Teachers walked away from the workshop saying, 'I can't wait to do this in my classroom!'"

--Tracie L. Coskie, Ph. D., Western Washington University, Bellingham, Washington

"Two of the most gifted, dramatic, and entertaining storytellers I have ever seen. They know how to bring folklore alive for audiences of all ages."

--Alison Lurie, Professor, Cornell University and winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction

"As Executive Director of the Central and Eastern European Schools Association, I bring many people to our region to act as consultants to member schools. 'Beauty and the Beast Storytellers' consistently receive rave reviews and thus rank at the top of the list. Their storytelling presentations are great; students of all ages love them. I have had them back time and again because their teacher workshops and conference presentations are also outstanding. Additionally, their numerous award-winning books help assure that their school visits will have a lasting effect and make them a natural choice for Author Visits. To top it all off, they are a pleasure to deal with and very organized which makes scheduling and arrangements a painless procedure. I highly recommend Mitch and Martha as consummate professionals whose passion for what they do always shines through in every performance, workshop, or keynote address."

--David M. Cobb, Director, Central & Eastern European Schools Association

"Mitch Weiss and Martha Hamilton treated the Tokyo chapter of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators to an evening event, "Words Take Wing: Adapting Old Tales for New Audiences," during their 2008 Japan international schools tour. Mitch and Martha told several of their adapted folktales, showed their wonderful DVD about storytelling in the classroom (from their book *Children Tell Stories*), and shared information on researching and adapting folktales. They described folktales as a flowing, changing process and gave sage advice to our Japan-based writers and illustrators working on retelling Japanese tales for publication. Audience members practiced telling stories to the wall in different voices and then were coached on accompanying actions and eye contact. The feedback from the writers, illustrators and educators who attended the lively and highly interactive event was overwhelmingly positive. Several weeks after the event I introduced Mitch and

Martha's methods and exercises to my Japanese university students in a three-session unit on storytelling. The results were phenomenal, with even typically shy, reserved students mastering the art of telling stories in English with unexpected confidence and joy."

--Holly Thompson, SCBWI Tokyo Regional Advisor

"Mitch and Martha's keynote presentation at our Learning Network Conference in Denver was full of energy and insight. It sparked many teachers in the audience to understand the value of storytelling and how it can help them meet numerous learning standards. The evaluations were filled with adjectives such as 'excellent,' 'vibrant,' 'moving,' and 'outstanding.' A typical comment was 'I loved this eye-opening presentation! The storytellers' enthusiasm kept me engaged and interested. They convinced me that teaching children the art of storytelling brings joy to the classroom and gives students a lifelong skill that will enable them to be successful in many areas.'"

--Phyllis Greenspan, Conference Coordinator, The Learning Network

"Your storytelling was a joy and a vital part of our 'In Celebration of Children's Literature' Conference. The evaluations of your performance and workshop included the words 'wonderful, fantastic, excellent, superb!' many times over. One attendee wrote, 'They were dynamic presenters who kept me wide awake during the last hour of the last afternoon!'"

--Joyce Martin, University of Maine, College of Education

### **Reviews of *Children Tell Stories: Teaching and Using Storytelling in the Classroom***

*Children Tell Stories* has become a staple in the teaching of storytelling from elementary schools to college courses. It won an Anne Izard Storyteller's Choice Award and was praised by award committee members as "an infectiously enthusiastic book on the methods and merits of teaching storytelling to children . . . imaginative, inspiring, easy to read, and tremendously engaging . . . a terrific book that will be a classic for years to come."

"An indispensable guide to all aspects of teaching storytelling" --Book Links, (American Library Association)

"Combining enthusiasm and inspiration with practical tips, handouts, and resources, Hamilton and Weiss offer a comprehensive second edition that will be useful to both novice and experienced tellers. Citing studies that confirm the educational value of storytelling, the authors demonstrate how such activities correlate well with state standards that involve language-arts skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Step-by-step instructions on effective story selection, learning, and telling will empower even the most timid teller . . . "

--School Library Journal

"*Children Tell Stories* is THE book for creating a new generation of storytellers. I discovered the first edition as a teacher and it walked me through all the steps of teaching storytelling. No teacher should be without this amazing tool for exploring the power of narrative. This edition is an even bigger treasure trove than the first, and the DVD brings the techniques to life."

--Esme Raji Codell, Author of the best-selling *Educating Esme*

"*Children Tell Stories* has always been the place to start for teachers who want to use storytelling in the classroom. As shown by Martha and Mitch, storytelling can transform not just a child, or a classroom, but a school. As many years as I've been working with children and teachers, I still go back to it for advice and suggestions, and I've given it to more than one teacher who asks me what to do. Martha and Mitch have given all of us a huge gift -- and this second edition is even better than the first!"

--Bill Harley, two-time Grammy award winning storyteller, songwriter, and author

**Martha and Mitch will be happy to answer any questions about how they could design performances and workshops that will suit the particular needs of your college or university.**

**Contact them at: [www.beautyandthebeaststorytellers.com](http://www.beautyandthebeaststorytellers.com)**

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# Award Winning Books and Recordings by Martha Hamilton and Mitch Weiss

For reviews and more information see [www.beautyandthebeaststorytellers.com](http://www.beautyandthebeaststorytellers.com)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Please send me:	Quantity	Total
Children Tell Stories & DVD/Softcover (R.C. Owen, 2005)	_____	_____
Forty Fun Fables/Softcover (August House, 2015)	_____	_____
The Ghost Catcher/Hardcover (August House, 2008)	_____	_____
The Hidden Feast/Hardcover (August House, 2006)	_____	_____
How & Why Stories/Softcover (August House, 1999)	_____	_____
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How & Why Stories/CD (August House, 2000)	_____	_____
How Fox Became Red/Softcover (R.C. Owen, 2005)	_____	_____
Noodlehead Stories/Softcover (August House, 2000)	_____	_____
Noodlehead Stories/Hardcover (August House, 2000)	_____	_____
Priceless Gifts/ Hardcover (August House, 2007)	_____	_____
Rooster's Night Out /Softcover (August House, 2007)	_____	_____
Scared Witless / Hardcover (August House, 2006)	_____	_____
Scared Witless / Softcover (August House, 2006)	_____	_____
The Stolen Smell /Softcover (August House, 2007)	_____	_____
Stories in My Pocket/Softcover (Fulcrum, 1996)	_____	_____
Stories in My Pocket/CD (1997)	_____	_____
A Tale of Two Frogs /Softcover (August House, 2006)	_____	_____
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Through the Grapevine/Hardcover (August House, 2001)	_____	_____
Tricky Rabbit/Softcover (R.C. Owen, 2005)	_____	_____
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If you have questions, e-mail us at: [info@beautyandthebeaststorytellers.com](mailto:info@beautyandthebeaststorytellers.com) or call 607-277-0016