

## Did You Know?

... before there were movies, DVD players, TV, or radio  
... even before reading and writing were invented  
... *people told stories.*

**Why?** First, they were **fun!** But **stories were important** for other reasons, too. They helped to **teach** values and skills and the right way to behave. They explained **why things existed** – like where the stars came from. They also helped people remember events and keep track of their **history**. Grown-ups told the stories to their children, and later the children told *their* children, and so on. The stories traveled down through time – and they still do!

### Check these out

- [www.standswithmany.com](http://www.standswithmany.com) – Joseph’s official web site!
- *Itse Selu, Cherokee Harvest Festival*, by Daniel Pennington. As Little Wolf awaits the Green Corn Festival, readers aged 4-8 get a taste of Cherokee life before the Europeans came.
- *Baby Rattlesnake*, by Te Ata (adapted by Lynn Moroney). A baby snake wants a rattle like his big brother and sister’s – but is he old enough to use it wisely? Brightly illustrated, moving adaptation from the work of a Chickasaw storyteller. Ages 4-10.
- *Rainy’s Powwow*, by Linda Theresa Raczek. At the Thunderbird Powwow, Grandmother’s love and an eagle’s gift help Rainy choose her special style of dance. Grades K-4.
- [www.cherokee.org](http://www.cherokee.org) – Official home page of the Cherokee nation. Lots to explore for kids and adults.

## Everyone can be a Storyteller!

**Learn a story so it becomes part of you.** Make it your own -- use your **imagination** to describe what the characters look like, where they live, and how they feel. If the characters have a feast, tell about the good things they ate. Act out parts of the story if you want – or **dance** them. **Practice** till you know it well. **Then tell it to your friends!**



# Discovery Theater

presents

## Cherokee Story Circle

with *Joseph Stands with Many*



Storyteller and educator **Joseph Stands With Many** follows traditional Cherokee ways that have come down through his family and clan. Storytelling runs in his family: his grandmother and great-grandmother were both storytellers. The tales Joseph shares not only entertain children (and adults!) but are also used by the Cherokee to teach values and lessons about life. Using music and dance as well as words, Joseph shares these lessons with his audience. A BFA graduate of Towson State University, he understands that storytelling nourishes the imagination of young listeners and sparks the desire for reading.

Joseph’s 12-year-old son, Zachary, is an accomplished storyteller and dancer in his own right who occasionally joins his dad in the programs.



The Smithsonian Associates

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*Guenther and Siewchen Yong Sommer*

*Discovery Theater Artistic Director:*

*Roberta Gasbarre*

*Handout: Anne Stewart O'Donnell*

(202) 357-1500 • [disc-th@tsa.si.edu](mailto:disc-th@tsa.si.edu)

[www.DiscoveryTheater.org](http://www.DiscoveryTheater.org)