

## Sue Kuentz

*Storytelling and teaching with the vision that the world, past, present, and future is our classroom, empowers students to realize that anything is possible if given the opportunity to begin learning where their own experiences are known, and then bridge to open their minds to the views and experiences of others through motivational, engaging stories, strategies and activities that allow possibilities and hands-on experiences, discussion, and reflection.*

### High School and Universities Attended

- **Our Lady of the Lake University (December 1990)**
  - Master of Education Degree with a Specialization as a Learning Resources Specialist
- **The University of Houston ( December 1981)**
  - Bachelor of Science in Education
  - Minor in Psychology
- **John Marshall High School in Northside ISD (May 1977)**

### Certifications

- English as a Second Language Certification – June 2006, updated 2013
- Professional Learning Resources Specialist Certification – August 1990
- Texas Teacher Certificate, grades 1-8 – January 1982
- Kindergarten Endorsement – January 1982

### Employment History

- Professional Storyteller in the schools and public libraries from 2013 – present
- Writing/Storytelling Consultant in the elementary schools from 2013 – 2017 (West Avenue Elementary, Olmos Elementary: NEISD)
- Youth Storytelling Club Sponsor from 1992 – present (Lopez Middle School right now)
- UTSA Adjunct Professor in the College of Education (Fall 2013)
- Retired from Public School (June 2013) – 32 years in NEISD, San Antonio, TX
- Tuscany Heights Elementary in North East ISD (June 2010 – June 2013)  
(All previous schools and years are available upon request)

### Professional Association Memberships and Offices Held

- **TCA** (Texas Commission on the Arts Roster from 2013 – present)
- **SASA** – San Antonio Storytelling Association – President (2015- 2017)
- **NSN** – National Storytelling Network, member
- **TSA** – Texas Storytelling Association, board member, executive secretary (2016 – present)
- **TLA** - Texas Library Association (1991 – 2017)
  - Storytelling Round Table Board member (2015-present)
  - Chairperson of the Texas Storytelling Round Table Committee (1997-1998)
- **Friends of NEISD Libraries** – Chair 2016 - present

### Workshop Training for Storytellers and Educators

- “Storytelling makes Reading and Writing come ALIVE!”
- “Integrating Readers Theater into the Classroom”
- “Storytelling Masterpieces: Making Connections Inspired by Artists and their Work”
- “Where Oral Storytelling and Digital Technology Meet”
- “Storytelling from the Heart: Empowering Students and Teachers in the Classroom”
- “Storytelling Activities in Your Library – the Cool Place to be!”
- “Windows and Mirrors: Broadening our Students’ Views Through Storytelling Activities”
- “The Secret Society of Storytelling: Feeling Confident About the Craft of Telling Stories”- preK – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade

## Honors and Awards

- Colson-Herndon Educator's Award 2016: awarded to an educator who has given of his/her time and talents to mentor storytellers and promote the art of storytelling
- Storyteller at the George West Story Fest 2013 – present
- Texas Commission on the Arts Roster – 2013-present
- Storyteller at the Tejas Storytelling Festival – ongoing
- Organizer of the Tejas Storytelling Children's Day @ the Tejas Storytelling Festival – 2016-present
- Storyteller and/or Emcee for the San Antonio Tellabration – 2010 to present
- 2009 ExCEL Award Winner Recognizing Excellence in Education (SACU and KENS 5)
- "District Teacher of the Year"-North East I.S.D. – May 2009
- Keynote Speaker for the UTSA Storytelling Festival – March 2009
- "Teacher of the Year"-Stone Oak Elementary – Spring 2008
- HEB Lifetime Achievement Award/Excellence in Teaching – May 2008
- Trinity Prize for Excellence Finalist –April 2008
- Key Note Speaker for the International Reading Association at UTSA – Feb. 2008
- Key Note Speaker for the North East ISD New Teacher Institute - August 2007
- Emcee and storyteller at the Texas Folklife Festival, Institute of Texan Cultures- 2000-2010
- Honored as one of five Regional Storytellers to perform at the Texas Storytelling Festival in Denton – March 2006

## Community Involvement

- As President of the San Antonio Storytelling Association, we, as members, have told stories as a group to many organizations and school districts for no compensation (e.g. Circle School Pumpkin Patch, Oct. 2017, Travis Park Ghost Stories 2014, Storytelling at NISD Literacy Day, Storytelling at the Zoo, Stories at the Low Vision Center on Medical Drive, Irish tales at the Helotes Highland Games)
- Tejas Storytelling Association Board Member – developing storytelling in the communities (small groups: Veterans, children, hospitals, storytelling in the schools)
- Chair of the Friends of the North East Libraries in San Antonio – providing free literacy events for families while supporting literacy in the libraries
- Participate and involve Lopez Middle School Storytelling Troupe members in many community activities that usually take place on the weekends :
  - UTSA Storytelling Festival Workshop Presenter- 2016 - 2018 (students told stories)
  - George West Story Fest – I produced 2 stages for youth tellers while emceeing both 2016-17
  - HEB Christmas Tree Lighting Activities at the Alamo Plaza (students told winter tales) 2014-2016
  - Tejas Storytelling Festival
  - Guadalupe State Park Halloween Storytelling 2012- present (students tell tales)
- Organized and lead the Texas Storytelling Youth Challenge held for 2<sup>nd</sup> – through 12th graders in Texas who want to compete in various categories through their storytelling talents. 2003 - 2010
- Organize and lead the Youth Storytelling Concert at the Texas Folk Life Festival each June involving confident student storytellers
- Coordinate and host the Youth Storytelling Concert sponsored by the Institute of Texan Culture's Folklife Festival (skilled storytellers of all ages are recruited to present their stories to a large international audience) – 2000 - 2010

## Personal Information

- Married for 38 years to Charles Kuentz, past Director of Bands at Tom C. Clark High School in Northside ISD
- Two sons, Philip Kuentz, Mechanical Engineer in Katy, TX and Chase Kuentz, Computer Science employed in Austin, TX

## References:

### **Mary Grace Ketner:**

Storyteller and active member with the San Antonio Storytellers Association, Tejas Storytelling Association, and the National Storytelling Network

Email: [marygraceketner@gmail.com](mailto:marygraceketner@gmail.com) or [mgk@talesandlegends.net](mailto:mgk@talesandlegends.net)

Cell: 210-887-0628

### **Carolina Quiroga-Stultz, Bilingual Storyteller**

Email: [carolinastoryteller@outlook.com](mailto:carolinastoryteller@outlook.com)

Cell: 423-943-6736

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### Video Recording Links below:

1. Sue Kuentz Mix: <https://tinyurl.com/y856hdwm>
  2. Writing Down the Bare Bones of your Story: <https://youtu.be/rgayQOwGaU8>
  3. The Very Hungry Frog: <https://youtu.be/qt-h7jFdxJc>
  4. The Flying Cat: <https://youtu.be/jH44GkB8918>
  5. The Stolen Bairn and the Sidh Fairies: <https://youtu.be/k5qsm4AQjmo>
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