SUU Story Project

**Storytelling Resources**

**Theme Specific Resources:**

A Sense of Place:

Sere Prince Halverson

### The five senses of place: Seré Prince Halverson at TEDxSonomaCounty

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gadT3BO4GJc

David Houle  
The Concept of Place has Changed Forever: David Houle at TEDxSarasota

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0ffEmsOgECg>

Cara Courage

### Placemaking and Community | Cara Courage | TEDxIndianapolis

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sfk1ZW9NRDY>

Eve Blossom

### Seeking a Sense of Place: Eve Blossom at TEDxCharleston <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yK9VizVL0zg>

Ted Talk by poet Dana Gioia <https://youtu.be/k_LPbi_gqhI>

Tanner Center Lecture in Human Values: <https://www.suu.edu/tanner/lecture-human-values.html>

Upcoming Tanner Center Events: <https://www.suu.edu/tanner/schedule.html>

**Audio Inspiration:**

Podcasts:

* [S-Town](https://stownpodcast.org/)
* [Serial](https://serialpodcast.org/)
* [Malcom Gladwell’s Revisionist History](http://revisionisthistory.com/)
* [This American Life](https://www.thisamericanlife.org/)

\*\*\*Disclaimer: S-Town and Serial have some profanity and strong language.

**Storytelling Inspiration:**

StoryCorp Website: <https://storycorps.org>

TedX Talks: <https://www.ted.com>

The Best Photo Essays of 2017: <https://www.fastcodesign.com/90155241/the-best-photo-essays-of-2017>

**Telling Your Story:**

The following guidelines are adapted from the website 99u: <https://99u.adobe.com/articles/55367/telling-your-story>

1 – *Find your story by identifying your unique spin on a universal theme*

Often the hardest part is just getting started. Write about what you know. How can others relate and connect to you through your story?

Consider the seven universal story themes. Is there one that might help tell your story? See the following articles for addition information and examples of the seven basic plots:

<https://www.sparkol.com/en/Blog/The-7-universal-story-plots-that-still-entrance-audiences>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Seven_Basic_Plots>

Overcoming the Monster

Rags to Riches

The Quest

Voyage and Return

Comedy

Tragedy

Rebirth

2 – *Take us on an adventure*

Stories need motion and action. Add memorable moments of interest to set it apart from every other story on the same theme.

3 – *Reveal your struggles*

Every good story has conflict and struggle. People are not perfect, you have to show the humanity. No one can relate to a hero without flaws. Share your failures.

4 – *Add literary spice to jazz it up*

Make the story your own by adding personality and character. This is the fun part of writing that gives the audience a picture of who you are! Add the language of the five senses to places where they can make the biggest impact. Show your audience what is happening.

5 – *Teach us something we can benefit from*

Each story should have a moral and pearls of wisdom that readers can apply to their own lives. Find the gems in your experience that might provide insight for others facing similar struggles.