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**Climate Collaboratory
Intergenerational Digital Storytelling Project**

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StoryCenter Background and Qualifications

The StoryCenter founded and pioneered the Digital Storytelling methodology of participatory media creation in 1992. As a leading nonprofit in the storytelling and participatory media space globally, StoryCenter has for the past 27 years been working with universities, non-profit and community organizations, government agencies, museums, school systems, foundations, and private funders to develop storytelling initiatives around the world. Our unique digital storytelling workshop model integrates creative writing, oral history, and participatory media production to assist people with little to no prior video-making experience in producing short digital videos, or “digital stories” told from their personal perspective. Our commitment is to honor the story of each person in our workshop, as well as the relationships that are created and strengthened as stories are shared

Overview of Methods

The StoryCenter teaching philosophy is grounded in the popular education method of starting from where people are. Workshop participants are invited to share stories from their own life experiences, in the context of a group production environment. Facilitators talk them through the steps they need to take to complete specific editing and production tasks in a hands-on process.

Through consultation with our partner organizations, we assess the level of technological, emotional and creative support needed for the storytellers so they finish the workshop feeling excited about their participation. The Framework for Ethical Digital Storytelling Practice provides a good overview of our approach to workshop facilitation.

StoryCenter has many years of experience working across ages, languages, cultures, literacy levels, and all levels of experience with technology. Our goal for each workshop is to create a welcoming, dignified experience for all storytellers. Each agenda is developed in consultation with our collaborating agency, and all workshops are staffed with facilitators who have a proven track record of working across cultures and experiences.

Scope of Work and Budget for online workshop(s) with Climate Collaboratory:

Climate Change is one of the defining issues of our time and we are at a crucial moment. Conversations about climate change in the mainstream media tend to represent the issue as politically charged and highly divisive. And

the trajectory of where we seem to be headed can feel overwhelming, sometimes making us as individuals feel that there is nothing we can do to make an impact. The Climate Collaboratory seeks to bring together youth and senior environmental activists to share their personal stories of a time when they stood up to fight for the environment, or a time when they didn't, but wished they had. The goal of this project is to share stories, learn from each other, and create a shared vision of a sustainable, just and peaceful future.

StoryCenter is committed to creating supportive, online and in-person spaces where personal struggles and moments of courage can be expressed, and virtual community can be cultivated. Our facilitators are drawing on their years of experience in holding space for sometimes difficult conversations and in helping important stories to surface in a powerful group process, as they support the work of documenting and archiving every-day personal stories in these unprecedented times. *We know from our work that storytelling can help people navigate the challenges ahead and hold out for a newly revived civic space that embraces cooperation and love, rather than exclusion and hopelessness.*

OPTION I:

For the **StorySharing Climate Collaboratory Program**, we propose a two- part program:

First, **five online storytelling series** with ten participants, made up of 5 seniors and 5 youth, in each group/ series will be held. Each of the five storytelling series will be held in two 2-hour group sessions on Zoom. The series will be followed by an open mic session for all participants.

StoryTelling Series:

Session I: provides an overview on the power of personal storytelling and the opportunity to work with story prompts;
Session II: features a Story Circle, where each participant has a chance to verbally share a story with the group.

Participants will receive tips for revising/ editing their story drafts, to be done on their own.

Session III: A final "Open Mic" session will be held after all five groups have completed the 2-part series. All participants will be invited to share what they've written with the entire group

Second, once we have completed these 5 online storytelling series, we will, in collaboration with the storytellers and the project partners, identify two participants from each session to continue working with us by participating in an **online Digital Storytelling workshop**, to develop a story as a short video/ digital story.

SAMPLE ONLINE AGENDA: Full Digital Storytelling Workshop: (for up to 10 people)

Four-week schedule

The online digital storytelling workshop will involve a series of 6 group Zoom meetings, each 2 hours in length, as well as individual sessions with a facilitator, and individual work time by each participant as they adapt their writing, record a voiceover narration, gather images, and edit their video.

Preparation information with sample stories, writing prompts, and recommended reading will be shared with participants 2 weeks in advance of the workshop.

INDIVIDUAL work: Participants create Google Docs folders for their materials and share their story drafts with facilitators

Week one:

Monday: WEBINAR ONE: 2 hours

Introductions

7 Elements of Storytelling Discussion

INDIVIDUAL work: script revisions

Wednesday: WEBINAR TWO: 2 hours

Story Circle: Participants will share their drafts (or story idea) and receive feedback from their peers and facilitators.

One on One sessions: Individual script work sessions

From Thursday (week one) – Friday (of week 2):

Each person will work individually with a StoryCenter facilitator for a script revision session(s) via Zoom.

INDIVIDUAL work Finalize scripts

Week Two:

Monday: WEBINAR THREE: 2 hours

Photography and Visual Treatment Presentation and Exercises

Make Photo/Video Shot Lists

INDIVIDUAL work: Participants gather or take photos/videos or create art for their stories

Wednesday: WEBINAR FOUR: 2 hours

Audio recording and editing tutorials

INDIVIDUAL work: Once script is complete, participants will record and and edit their voiceover narrative

Week Three:

Monday: WEBINAR FIVE: 2 hours

Video Editing Tutorial in WeVideo

INDIVIDUAL work: Participants complete rough cuts for review/feedback; participants can schedule individual sessions with facilitators for help with selecting images and video editing.

Week Four:

Monday through Thursday: One on One sessions: Video Editing assistance:

Participants meet with facilitators to finalize / polish video edits. Each session will take approximately **1 hour**

FRIDAY: WEBINAR SIX: 2 hours

Online Premiere of Stories and celebration

Equipment for online workshop:

Participants will need:

1. a computer or laptop, Google Chrome browser
2. quiet space to work,
3. headphones (iphone-type earbuds),

4. a smartphone or digital camera,
5. high-speed wifi
6. Google docs (requires a gmail)

Software: StoryCenter will provide the video editing program, and the audio recording and editing software

TOTAL for OPTION I: \$22,500**

5 Online Storytelling Series and storytelling support for 10 participants per series @ \$2,500 each: \$12,500
 1 Online Digital Storytelling Workshop, 10 participants: \$10,000

OPTION II:

5 online 2-part storytelling series (same as above)
 1 **in-person** 3-day digital storytelling workshop (instead of the online digital storytelling workshop)

In-person workshop:

Workshop schedule: 9:00- 5:00

- **Day One:** Introductions, 7 Elements of Storytelling discussion; story circle; individual script writing/revisions time/review; Photography and videography session;
- **Day Two:** Individual scripts finalized; voiceover recordings; storyboarding/visual treatment and photo gathering; video editing tutorial; production time/rough cuts
- **Day Three:** production time to polish final stories; export stories; Story Premiere and celebration

Workshop Logistics for In-Person workshop:

Computer lab or workspace with laptops, audio/visual for sharing stories, 2 quiet (separate) rooms for recording; provide morning coffee and lunch provided for participants.

TOTAL: \$22,500 + travel expenses for 2 StoryCenter facilitators for the 3-day DST workshop**

5 Online Storytelling series for 10 participants per series (total of 50) @ \$2,500 each: \$12,500
 1 (three-day) in-person Digital Storytelling Workshop, 10 participants: \$10,000

** For additional support with story publication and social media campaign, for up to 30 hours of staff time: **\$2,500**

Program Impacts:

- Provide participants with a sense of connection, enhanced wellbeing, personal storytelling skills, and media production skills,
- Produce a large body of 50 compelling short, written stories and 10 digital videos that will serve as an archive, as well as help to inform steps for the way forward;

- Offer story readers and viewers the chance to reflect on their own experiences and become mobilized to support climate change action.

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