



Storytelling Arts of Indiana

Transforming everyday life

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Author, playwright, NPR commentator Kevin Kling opening Storytelling Arts of Indiana's 2015-2016 performance season

INDIANAPOLIS — Nationally renowned storyteller Kevin Kling brings his signature blend of heart-warming, thought-provoking humor back to Indianapolis on Sept. 19, sharing tales from his Minnesotan upbringing that will resonate with anyone who has been a kid.

Kling, a local fan favorite, has enchanted audiences for decades with stories about his childhood adventures, and “Help Wanted/Inquire Within” promises more of the same. As a boy, Kevin thought nature was something to be conquered, subjugated and used. But when he started in Boy Scouts and discovered the wonders of taxidermy, he embarked on a journey that explores our connection to animals and the healing power of nature.

Healing is a particularly poignant topic for Kling, who has a congenital birth defect that affected development of his left arm and hand. Then when he was in his 40s, he was involved in a motorcycle accident that almost killed him. Kling now has partial use of his left arm and cannot use his right arm at all.

Kling has told audiences that as a child, he didn't want doctors to operate on his left arm because “that's what makes me special.” He also hated fairy tales, saying they always ended badly for the characters with disabilities. Case in point, according to Kling: Snow White traded in seven perfectly good little ones for one tall guy. Then his grandma told him a story about a flawed pot, and that changed his perspective. He shared it with high school students earlier this year during an event commemorating the 25th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. (Watch video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4UASITZOqPY#t=11m55s>)

“Help Wanted/Inquire Within” – Sponsored by Ice Miller
Saturday, Sept. 19, 7:30 p.m.

Frank and Katrina Basile Theater
Eugene and Marilyn Glick Indiana History Center
450 W. Ohio St., Indianapolis

Tickets: \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door; \$15 for high school and college students with valid ID. Purchase at storytellingarts.org or call (317) 232-1882.

About Kevin Kling

Frequent listeners of National Public Radio's "All Things Considered" will already be familiar with Kevin Kling's popular commentaries. Also a published author and playwright, Kling travels the world sharing stories. (One of his plays was banned in Czechoslovakia, but the show went on anyway.) His talent has been recognized by The National Endowment for the Arts, The McKnight Foundation and more. He is a frequent performer at the National Storytelling Festival. Learn more at KevinKling.com.

About Storytelling Arts of Indiana

Since 1988, Storytelling Arts of Indiana has introduced the art of storytelling by creating environments where Indiana residents can hear and share stories and by showcasing tellers who entertain and inspire diverse audiences of all ages. Storytelling Arts provides programming year round, including public performances, the As I Recall Storytelling guilds, weekly storytelling at the bedsides of patients at a local children's hospital, summer performances for various day camps in Marion County, and the Jabberwocky program in collaboration with IndyFringe. Our newest program, the Life Stories Project, records the stories of everyday people in collaboration with WFYI and the Indiana Historical Society. For more information, please visit www.storytellingarts.org.