



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## Telling Stories of Strong Women

*Landmark Center celebrates World Storytelling Day, March 22*

**SAINT PAUL, Minn. (Feb. 1, 2016)**—Seven women will each tell the story of a strong woman in history, in honor of World Storytelling Day. “Strong Women Telling Stories of Strong Women” is March 22 at 7 p.m. in Landmark Center’s F.K. Weyerhaeuser Auditorium.

Every year, since 2003, [World Storytelling Day events](#) take place on or around March 20 in more than 25 countries around the world. Each year a global theme complements the principal concept behind WSD, “If I can hear your story, it's harder for me to hate you.”

“This year’s global theme is ‘Strong Women and Heroines,’” said Larry Johnson, storyteller, WSD coordinator, and medic during the War in Vietnam. “This year, we especially like that World Storytelling Day is in March, as the March 22<sup>nd</sup> event will also commemorate Women's History Month.”

Storytelling is often thought of as fairytales, fables, and oral history, but it is also commonly used to foster peace and understanding, community building, healing, and in advocacy work. A collection of peacemaking, veterans’, and women’s groups—Minnesota Alliance of Peacemakers, Women Veterans Initiative, Veteran Resilience Project, ERA Movement, Women's Congress for Future Generation and Future First MN, and Coming Home Collaborative—will be sharing their work at Landmark Center’s WSD event with information tables.

### Storytellers:

Peggy Flanagan - Director of Children's Defense Fund; State Rep District 46A  
 Catrina Huynh-Weiss - Writer/Producer/Performing Artist; Immigrant after 1975 Fall of Saigon  
 Rose McGee - Storyteller/Author/Social Justice Activist; Creator of Sweet Potato Comfort Pie Initiative  
 Renee Weeks-Wynne - Storyteller/Augsburg student; Kawase Fellow at 2015 Hiroshima Peace Inst.  
 Judy Brooks - Landmark Center Director of Community Programming  
 Elaine Wynne - Storyteller/Therapist/Activist; Veteran Resilience Project Founder  
 Chante Wolf - Persian Gulf Veteran for Peace; Writer/Artist/Activist with Women Veterans Initiative

In addition to the seven storytellers, the program will recognize the three high school winners of the Minnesota Alliance of Peacemakers’ Peace Essay contest, each one a “strong” young woman in her own right.

“Strong Women Telling Stories of Strong Women” is co-presented by Landmark Center, Veteran Resilience Project, Women Veterans Initiative, Minnesota Alliance of Peacemakers, ERA Minnesota, and Women's Congress for Future Generation and Future First MN. A suggested donation of \$10 supports

[Veteran Resilience Project](#), a nonprofit, founded by storyteller Elaine Wynne, that brings trauma therapy to Minnesota veterans, both women and men, in need.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS: Leading up to the March 22 event, Landmark Center wants to hear stories of strong “everyday” women –grandmothers, mothers, sisters, daughters, aunts, nieces, and friends. These women may not be in history books, but they made in impact on their families, friends, and/or communities.

Landmark Center will share these stories throughout the month of March on its social media platforms and blog. Select stories may be printed as part of the March 22 event. Submissions will be accepted until March 15, but to ensure enough time to share all submissions, those wishing to participate are encouraged to send in their stories by March 1. Stories can be submitted via Landmark Center’s Facebook or Instagram, or emailed to [kschoenfelder@landmarkcenter.org](mailto:kschoenfelder@landmarkcenter.org). Please tag submissions via Facebook and Instagram @landmarkcenter and #LCstrongwomen.

### **About Landmark Center**

Landmark Center is a dynamic, historic cultural center and central gathering place in downtown Saint Paul. It is owned and sponsored by Ramsey County and managed by Minnesota Landmarks, the nonprofit programming and management agency for the building. Landmark Center is located at 75 West 5th Street, on Rice Park and is accessible to those with impaired mobility. Parking is available on street and in nearby Lawson, Science Museum and RiverCentre Ramps. For more information call 651.292.3063 or visit [www.landmarkcenter.org](http://www.landmarkcenter.org).

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