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Jery Y. Huntley, Founder and President

(410) 353-6372

createyourstoryproject@gmail.com

[www.ourstorybridge.org/](https://www.ourstorybridge.org/)

Think of OurStoryBridge as the loom on which the fabric of a community’s narrative comes together. Each story, each thread binds the fabric tighter and tighter, creating intricate linkages between individuals, groups, organizations, events, environments, locales, and more. Stories remind us of where we have been and inspire us toward where we can go. Please help us to continue this impactful work.

OurStoryBridge Inc. is a new 501(c)(3) charitable nonprofit that manages OurStoryBridge: Connecting the Past and the Present. Launched in September 2020, this free, online resource and tool kit supports the production of low-cost crowdsourced, community story projects nationwide. Our mission is to:

* Be a resource and tool kit for OurStoryBridge projects that preserve and circulate local audio stories past and present through accessible online media.
* Promote, build, and assist with the deployment of these resources in communities across geographic, cultural, socioeconomic, racial, and organizational strata.
* Help strengthen these communities through the sharing of their stories, including preserving the stories of older generations before they are lost and encouraging younger generations to become engaged community members.

Our vision is to empower every community to cultivate connection across the generations, encourage civic engagement, celebrate diversity, and engender shared and durable kindness.

OurStoryBridge uses an adaptive model to support the creation of three- to five-minute, locally produced audio stories accompanied by related photographs—made freely accessible online via an individualized website and curated podcasts. We encourage OurStoryBridge adopters to lean on our experience and resources to get started and then to shape their story projects to meet their own needs and goals.

Our free online Tool Kit at <http://www.ourstorybridge.org> contains a User Guide (now in its 2nd Edition and downloaded over 600 times) that includes everything a community needs to know to start a story project, plus how-to videos, and sample documents. We also offer a free Teacher’s Guide, with almost 600 exemplary stories from the first ten active projects to help educators across the country integrate stories into their curricula. Our website has seen over 5,800 unique visits and our monthly e-newsletter and other marketing efforts through social media and beyond enjoy robust and growing audiences. Founder and President Jery Y. Huntley continues to volunteer as a mentor to new projects and maintains a busy presentation schedule, both virtual and in-person, introducing more and more communities and organizations to the benefits and ease-of-use of OurStoryBridge. A core team of dedicated colleagues, as well as a credit-bearing internship opportunity for future librarians through the University at Albany, help sustain the operations of this powerful project.

To date, OurStoryBridge has supported the release of 14 community story projects in nine states from Vermont to Alaska and is guiding the launch of more across the country. The quick adoption and endorsements of our model on a national scale, by libraries, historical societies, museums, and issue-oriented organizations, affirms the deep historical value in our endeavor and is resulting in a diverse network of local story projects.

OurStoryBridge collaborates with organizations across the country to grow story projects, bring them to teachers for classroom use, and raise funding to support our efforts. We are also looking forward to spurring the development of story projects to serve as local community’s contributions to Semiquincentennial commemorations, leading up to 2026 and beyond.

A quick look at these websites can help you understand OurStoryBridge:

[Voices, Journal of New York Folklore](https://www.ourstorybridge.org/articles-and-stories) [Our Towns Civic Foundation](https://www.ourtownsfoundation.org/building-bridges-within-and-among-communities-through-stories/)

[Mountain Lake PBS](https://mountainlake.org/adirondack-family-book-festival-mlj-interview/)  [OurStoryBridge](http://www.ourstorybridge.org) [Adirondack Community](http://www.myadirondackstory.org)