3059 students
heard our stories

19 elementary
Our senior storytellers
were rejuvenated
Our storytellers serve
seven cities



Annual Report to Members and the Communityfor the fiscal year July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023



Fourth graders at Mountain View Elementary School and their librarian, Andrea Oetting, and storyteller Peg Brown thank the Longmont Community Foundation for their second grant. February, 2023.

#### **Thank You**

The SVVS Board of Directors would like to thank our volunteers for the time and energy they put in for the children of the St. Vrain Valley School District. Additionally we would thank our community for their support, advice and recognition

Jeff Mayer, President, Laura Meyers, Vice President, John Shetter, Treasurer, Laurel Miller, Secretary, Marianne Balin and Donna Leard, Trainers, and Mike Cain and Peg Brown, Members at Large

#### **Mission**

St. Vrain Valley Storytellers promote learning and discovery to make sense of self and the world for preschool to fifth grade students in the St. Vrain Valley School District in Colorado.



This 20" x 30" poster was created and presented in May 2019 by Wendy Durst's 3rd grade class at Red Hawk Elementary to SVVStoryteller Wynn Montgomery.

# **Partnerships**

**Intercambio** offered us a wonderful space for our training session and our leadership meetings. We reciprocated by donating to their organization.

**Central Presbyterian Church** provided a place for our monthly membership meetings. Now we have a place that is large enough for our growing organization.

Spellbinders – Our parent organization continues to provide us with training materials, additional training for our volunteers and a national presence.

St. Vrain Valley School District Our primary goal is to support classroom teachers by providing storytelling to the elementaries of the St. Vrain district. Andrea Oetting, a librarian at Mountain View Elementary School, continues as an Educational Liaison to the Board.

**Longmont Community Foundation** The Foundation continues to be one of our greatest supporters. They once again have provided a generous grant as well as providing advice adding to the success of our foundation.

YMCA of Northern Colorado Longmont YMCA continues to collaborate with SVVS as we continue to offer storytelling to Summer Camp kids and after school care.

**City of Longmont, Sandstone Ranch** During June and July, the City of Longmont organizes educational programs at Sandstone Ranch. A city employee gives us various themes to find stories for. Last summer 10 SVVS storytellers told stories to over 102 children and their families.

**Longmont Senior Venues** This year our storytellers told stories monthly to residents of The Peaks, A Day Place, Alta Vita Memory Care and the Longmont Senior Center.



Kathryn O'Leary telling stories to families at Sandstone Ranch, June 2021

# **Community Impact**

#### 3059 students

from the St. Vrain Valley School District were entertained and uplifted by the stories of St. Vrain Valley Storytellers throughout the school year.

## 19 elementary and K-8 schools

have at least one SVVStoryteller - 68% of all primary schools in the District.

## 133 elementary classrooms

and their children throughout the St. Vrain Valley were served by SVV Storytellers.

### Our senior storytellers were rejuvenated

by the process of learning traditional stories, devising original methods of delivering them and sharing their tales with children in the classroom.

The special connection created between our Storytellers and the children of the St. Vrain Valley enriched the minds of our listeners through enhanced understanding of world culture and improved cognition.

**Seven municipalities** had St. Vrain Valley Storytellers in their schools: Erie, Firestone, Frederick, Hygiene, Longmont, Lyons and Niwot.

Our Storytellers impacted diverse communities in the St. Vrain Valley, from kindergarteners to fifth graders in schools, to families at Sandstone Ranch and seniors at facilities in Longmont.



Jan Tafoya, Marsha Coons, Barb Long, Laura Meyers, Donna Leard, Jeff Mayer, Lucero Castro-Frederick, Bill Burkard, Deborah Crabbe, Pat Mescher and Mary Baskett at the Spellbinders Annual Meeting, April 2023

# **Member Activities and Accomplishments**

- 37 storytellers told stories monthly in 133 classrooms and 19 schools.
- 3 Storytellers, Jeff Mayer, Peggy Codding, and Dick Mandile, told stories to children and their families at Family Read Night at Mountain View Elementary
- 3 Storytellers, Bill Burkard, Karen Copperberg and Laura Meyers, told stories to children and their families at Literacy night at Twin Peaks Academy



2 Storytellers, Marianne Balin and Donna Leard, told stories to 100 Girl Scouts ranging from 6 to 14 years old at the Boulder County Fairgrounds



Peg Brown tells a story at the 2022 kick-off meeting at Debbie Lane's home.

**Debbie Lane** hosted our kick-off membership meeting in August 2022 at her beautiful home for the second year

Marianne Balin told Hannukah stories to 30 adults at the Longmont Shabbat Group

## **SVVS Accomplishments**

10 new members completed a 12 hour training course led by Marianne Balin and Donna Leard

228 seniors at Alta Vita Memory Care heard stories from our SVVStorytellers organized by Laurel Miller

150 seniors at A Day Place Adult Daycare Programheard stories from our SVVStorytellers organized by Wynn Montgomery

210 seniors at The Peaks Care Center heard stories from our SVVStorytellers organized by Rosanna Thomas

50 seniors at the Longmont Senior Center heard stories from our SVVStoryteller John Shetter

10 people at Recovery Café Longmont heard stories from our SVVStoryteller John Shetter and Johanna Renouf

SVVS donated to our community partner Intercambio in the amount of \$1000

SVVS was the recipient of a Live and Give grant from the Longmont Community Foundation in the amount of \$4500

# Finances - Fiscal Year (July 1 2022 - June 30,2023)

Outstanding balance (working budget) \$8,077.93

Capital Reserve \$15,000.00

**Expenses** \$4,105.08 (7/1/22 to 6/30/23)

Individual donations \$4,068.32

Live and Give grant \$4500



Bill Burkard tells his version of "Little Red Riding Hood" as part of the Storyteller Showcase, February 2023

