



The Nation's Only Women's Storytelling Festival Returns

Better Said Than Done Invites Audiences to Hear History Differently in America's 250th Year

Fairfax, VA — February 26, 2026 — In a country filled with arts festivals, literary festivals, theater events, and storytelling showcases, there is only one festival devoted entirely to live stories told by women.

The Women's Storytelling Festival returns March 19–22, 2026, to Fairfax, Virginia and online, as the nation's first and only storytelling festival dedicated exclusively to women performers. Hosted by Better Said Than Done, the festival features in-person performances at the Sherwood Community Center (3740 Blenheim Blvd, Fairfax, VA) and a special virtual showcase premiering Thursday, March 19. All performances will also be live-streamed, and ticket holders may access festival videos for one month following the event.

Now in its seventh year, the festival has grown into a nationally recognized event with a distinct voice of its own. Women's Storytelling Festival Founder Jessica Robinson explains, "The performers understand the kinds of stories that resonate with our audience: stories grounded in women's lived experiences and points of view. There is something special that happens when tellers and listeners truly connect."

For one weekend, women storytellers from across the country take the stage to share personal, historical, and mythic stories crafted over months and performed live without scripts in hand. This isn't your normal performance art. These are the lived experiences of history as you've never heard them before.

You will hear from investigative reporters, business founders, policy experts, immigrants, artists, and award-winning storytellers. This year includes performers whose work has appeared on stages such as The Moth, Risk!, Stories from the Stage, and the National Storytelling Festival. These are shapers of history whose voices span journalism, entrepreneurship, public service, and the arts.

As the United States marks 250 years, the Women's Storytelling Festival asks a simple but powerful question:

What would our understanding of history look like if we listened to it through women's voices?

For centuries, the nation's story has centered on battlefield victories and political power. But history also unfolds in hospitals, classrooms, communities, churches, and factories. Mothers give birth to every generation yet rarely hold ownership over how that generation's history is told. In this milestone year, the Women's Storytelling Festival expands that lens through a special showcase that reexamines the United States at 250, highlighting resilience, endurance, courage, empathy, and the unseen labor that shapes communities and families.

"When women tell history, something shifts," said Robinson. "We begin to see greatness not only in victory, but in resilience. Not only in power, but in empathy. Not only in dominance, but in survival."

That shift is tangible. Men often approach storytellers afterward to say, "I had no idea." Women leave feeling seen, having finally heard parts of their own lives spoken aloud in a powerful, artful form.

"Listening changes us," said Bonnie Gardner, a featured storyteller at the Women's Storytelling Festival. "When women tell their stories fully, honestly, and from their own perspective, audiences leave understanding the world differently."

The Women's Storytelling Festival is intended for a mature audience and welcomes people of all gender identities. A virtual festival pass is \$50, and \$70 for a full festival pass which includes in-person entry as well as all the recordings. One-day, in-person passes will also be available at the door for \$35.

In the U.S.'s 250th year, the nation's only Women's Storytelling Festival invites audiences to listen differently and to experience history as it lives in the voices of women.

For schedules, tickets, and full performer bios, visit:

<https://bettersaidthandone.org/womens-festival/>

Media Contact:

Jessica Robinson

571-334-8652

jessica@bettersaidthandone.org

Photos and video available upon request.