

## Ten Things to Take Into Account When Telling Stories

- **Facial Expressions:** Does the storyteller's face enhance the emotions of the story?
- **Gestures:** Does the storyteller's body language support what the storyteller's mouth is saying?
- **Eye Contact:** Does the storyteller (venue permitting) attempt to look in every audience member's eyes at least once per story?
- **Reading the Audience and Negotiating with the Audience:** Does the storyteller react to what the audience is saying? Is the storyteller paying attention to the audience's body language, laughs, gasps, and other cues, and then adapt to improve the listeners' experience?
- **Descriptive Ability:** Does the teller provide enough of a visual painting?
- **Tempo:** Do the storyteller's words come out too fast or too slow for the story being told and the type of audience present?
- **Voice Inflection:** Do all the vocal ranges used support the story and its characters and their emotions?
- **Diction:** Does the storyteller speak clearly?
- **Projection:** Can the storyteller be heard by everyone in the audience?
- **Enthusiasm:** Is the most excited person for the story the storyteller?