

Worldwide Virtual Storytelling Guild Best Practices

1) *Play Nice*

- Listen respectfully
- Mute yourself while listening to reduce interference
- Make your feedback comments worthy but supportive
- No divisive commentary
- No derogatory language
- Keep foul language to an absolute minimum

2) *Respect each other*

- Respect the intellectual property of others by contacting tellers to ask their permission if you wish to tell their tales
- Present stories from other cultures respectfully
- Listen thoughtfully to others' feedback
- Remember that we welcome novice tellers, so please help new tellers polish stories in progress
- Respect confidentiality whenever it is requested
- Honor the social diversity in the group

3) *Due Diligence*

- Research the sources of your stories and share information about sources generously
- Invest practice time in your stories
- Time your story as you will be performing it so that it can be scheduled appropriately
- If you are given a time out signal by the host, stop immediately
- Do not share any recordings or stories outside the group without permission

4) *Strive to be Prosocial*

- This begins by being sensitive to, and observant of, your audience
- The Art of Storytelling can change lives. Be aware of using storytelling to support positive change in your community and the world.
- Commit to your own personal and professional growth and that of other group members