RIBS Affiliate Report

NABS

November 18, 2020

January: RIBS presented its 22nd Annual FUNDA FEST: A Celebration of Black Storytelling. Highlights included hositng South African Storyteller Gcina Mhlophe and her daughter, poet Khwezi Becker. RIBS partnered with the 25th Annual Langston Hughes Community Poetry Reading.

RIBS presented a COVID compliant FUNDA STORY CAMP this summer. 10 young people from ages 6-12 learned storytelling and performed for their families at the end of the week. They also performed at an outside performance festival called the DECAMERON.

RIBS received funding from the RI Dept of Education to record and present a storytelling series: Black History Matters. This was presented during the Summer Learning Program. RIDE funding also supported a 7 week on-line storytelling program for families, and monies to purchase technology for our tellers to present programs virtually.

RIBS’ storytellers Valerie Tutson and Rochelle Garner Coleman are working with the International Tennis Hall of Fame to create a story of Black tennis, in partnership with 7th grade teachers at Thompson Middle School in Newport. What was to be a live presentation is now going to be digital.

RIBS has partnered again with the Laotian Community Center for the Dance and Storybridge Project. This has shifted to first focus on creating a podcast, and then live (virtual) storytelling for FUNDA FEST in January 2021.

RIBS is preparing for FUNDA FEST 23: A VIRTUAL Storytelling Festival to take place on line January 23-31, 2021.