

# Chennai Storytelling Festival 2024 (Feb 2024)

## Schedule giving timings in the USA and Canada Eastern time-zone.

In February, time in the USA and Canada Eastern time-zone is 10.5 hours earlier-in-the-day than in India.

CSF 2024 would be the 12th annual edition of the Chennai Storytelling Festival.

The theme of the CSF in general is  
"Ways Storytelling of Various Cultures, Religions, World-views, and Practices  
can Facilitate Growing, Maturing, Freedom from Oppression, Teaching and Learning,  
Playing, Creating, Transforming, and/or Healing in Individuals and Groups –  
and the Healing of the Environment."

The theme of CSF 2024 in particular is  
"Personal Growing and Maturing  
(and possibly also Community Growing and Maturing)."

The sessions listed immediately-below would occur in English, and would occur via Zoom.

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### **Blue Larger Text = Sessions by and for Children.**

The Children's events are designed especially for 6 to 12 year-olds. People of all other ages are also welcome to attend.

**Yellow Background and Bold Black Text = Storytelling sessions** hosted by [Pretigaya Haran](#) and [Shital Rayathatha](#). 12 sessions.

Fridays, 8:30am-10:30am.  
Saturdays, 4:00am-6:00am.  
Sundays, 12:01am-2:00am.

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Festival Director, [Eric Miller](#).

Festival contact: +91 98403 94282. [info@storytellinginstitute.org](mailto:info@storytellinginstitute.org)  
Festival homepage: <https://storytellinginstitute.org/CSF2024.html>

If your email ID is not yet subscribed to a WSI email announcement group, and you would like to receive the Zoom links for CSF 2024 sessions, please send an email request to [info@storytellinginstitute.org](mailto:info@storytellinginstitute.org)

The Chennai Storytelling Festival is presented by the World Storytelling Institute (an NGO based in Chennai), in association with the Chennai Storytellers group and other organisations and individuals.

Dates of CSF 2024:

- 1) Fri 2nd, Sat 3rd, Sun 4th Feb.
- 2) Fri 9th, Sat 10th, Sun 11th Feb.
- 3) Fri 16th, Sat 17th, Sun 18th Feb.
- 4) Fri 23rd, Sat 24th, Sun 25th Feb.

CSF 2024 sessions would be occurring via Zoom, unless noted otherwise. Admission to all sessions is free. However, contributions to the Session Leaders, the Storytellers, and the Festival are very appreciated. Please click on the person's name [here](#) for contact info.

**Weekend #1** (USA and Canada Eastern timings)

**Fri 2nd Feb** – 12:30am-2:30am, Shan K. (Chennai), **Workshop:** "[Business Storytelling](#)". For teenagers and adults.

6:30am-7:00am, Opening Session.

7:00am-8:30am, Geethanjali Javed (Chennai), **Workshop:** "[Persuasive Presentations through Storytelling](#)". For teenagers and adults.

**8:30am-10:30am, Storytelling especially for teenagers and adults (1 of 12).**

8:30am, [Maja Bumberák](#) (Hungary).

8:50am, [Alistair Martin](#) (near Toronto).

9:10am, [Denise McCormack](#) (New Jersey).

9:30am, [Angela Halvorsen Bogo](#) (Norway).

9:50am, [Jon Sundell](#) (North Carolina).

10:30am-11:30am, Eric Miller (Chennai), **Workshop:** "[Story Composition](#)" (1 of 8). For teenagers and adults.

Fri 2nd – 10:30pm-11:59pm, Priyanka Sagar (Noida), **Workshop:** "[The Play of Senses in Storytelling](#)". For teenagers and adults

**Sat 3rd** – **12:01am-1:30am, "Storytelling Workshop for Children", Shital Rayathatha (Chennai).**

1:30am-3:00am, **Storytelling:** Stories about Facing Challenges. For teenagers and adults.

1:30am-2:30am, *KathaKrafters:* [Anagha Prasad](#) (Bangalore), [Geetha Subramanian](#) (Coimbatore), [Meera Venkatesan](#) (Bangalore), and [Parvathy Eswaran](#) (Bangalore).

2:30am-3:00am, [Ramendra Kumar](#) (Bangalore).

**4:00am-6:00am, Storytelling for people of all ages (2 of 12).**

4:00am, [Manisha Bhise](#) (Mumbai).

4:20pm, [Shital Rayathatha](#) (Chennai).

4:40am, [Sudha Umashanker](#) (Chennai).

5:00am, [Marijana Mrvos](#) (Croatia) and [Elizabeta Alkovic](#) (Croatia).

5:20am, [Jayanthi B](#) (Chennai).

6:00am-7:30am, Sowmya Srinivasan (Coimbatore), **Workshop:** "[From 'I Am Not Enough' to 'I Am Enough': Externalising Internal Narratives Through Stories and Metaphors](#)". For teenagers and adults

**7:30am-9:00am, Storytelling for Children, with Activities, Divya Vijayakumar (Chennai).**

9:00am-10:30am, Ambujavalli N (Chennai), **Workshop:** "[Entwined Narratives: A Journey Into Weaving Parallel Stories](#)". For teenagers and adults.

10:30am-11:30am, Eric Miller (Chennai), **Workshop:** "[Story Composition](#)" (2 of 8). For teenagers and adults.

Sat 3rd – 10:30pm-11:59pm, Maricris Basto (Philippines), **Workshop:** "[Bringing Stories of the World to Local Readers and Listeners](#)". For teenagers and adults.

**Sun 4th** – **12:01am-2:00am, Storytelling especially for teenagers and adults (3 of 12).**

12:01am, [Priyanka Sagar Maheshwari](#) (Noida).

12:20am, [Jaishree Sethi](#) (New Delhi).

12:40am, [Shilpa Mehta](#) (Jaipur).

1:00am, [Ed Lewis](#) (California).

1:20am, [Sowmya Srinivasan](#) (Coimbatore).

4:30am-6:00am, Banumathy H. (Coimbatore), **Workshop:** "[Storytelling, Games, and other Activities as Tools to Teach Spoken English](#)". For people of all ages.

**6:00am-7:30am, Storytelling by Children, Divya Vijayakumar (Chennai).**

7:30am-9:00am, **Storytelling:** Stories about Coming of Age. For people of all ages. *Springboard Tales:* [Ambujavalli N.](#) (Chennai), [Banumathy H.](#) (Coimbatore), [Debjani Bhaduri](#) (Chennai), [Kaanchan Prashanth](#) (Chennai), and [Pretigaya Haran](#) (Chennai).

9:00am-11:00am, Magdalene Jeyarathnam (Chennai), **Workshop:** "[Psychodrama, Dream, and Story](#)". For teenagers and adults.

**Weekend #2** (USA and Canada Eastern timings)

**Fri 9th Feb** – 12:30am-2:30am, Shan K. (Chennai), **Workshop:** "[Ways to Create Imaginative Stories](#)".  
For teenagers and adults.

5:00am-6:30am, David Heathfield (UK), **Workshop:** "[Mixed Language Storytelling](#)".  
For teenagers and adults.

6:30am-8:30am, Shital Rayathatha (Chennai), **Workshop:** "[Plan Your Future: Utilize Strategic Storytelling for Building Communication Skills, Overcoming Procrastination, and Goal Setting](#)". For Teenagers and Adults.

**8:30am-10:30am, Storytelling especially for teenagers and adults (4 of 12).**

8:30am, [Norah Dooley](#) (Massachusetts).

8:50am, [Dada Maheshvarananda](#) (North Carolina).

9:10am, [Heather Forest](#) (New York).

9:30am, [Laxmi Balaji](#) (Toronto).

9:50am, [Howard Lieberman](#) (Minnesota).

10:30am-11:30am, Eric Miller (Chennai), **Workshop:** "[Story Composition](#)" (3 of 8).  
For teenagers and adults.

**Fri 9th** – 10:30pm-11:59pm on, Denise McCormack (New Jersey), **Workshop:** "[Exploring the Meanings of Stories Through a Critical Lens](#)". For teenagers and adults.

**Sat 10th** – 12:01am-1:30am, Kanagadurga Ramesh (Chennai), **Workshop:** "[Building Your Story Bank](#)".  
For teenagers and adults.

1:30am-3:00am, Lavanya Prasad (Bangalore), **Workshop:** "[Telling Stories the Villupaatu Way](#)". For teenagers and adults.

**4:00am-6:00, Storytelling for people of all ages (5 of 12).** Hybrid: Goethe Institute.

10:00am, [Helmut Wittmann](#) (Austria).

10:20am, [Stefania Ganzini](#) (Italy).

10:40am, [Britta Wilmsmeier](#) (Germany).

11:00am, [Marina Maria Granlund](#) (Sweden).

11:20am, [Pooja Giri](#) (Chennai).

6:00am-7:30am, **Workshop:** "[STEM Teaching with Storytelling](#)", Barry Stewart Mann (Georgia, USA).

**7:30am-9:00am, Storytelling Workshop for Children, Kalyan Babu (Chennai).**

9:00am-10:30am, Laura Simms (New York), **Storytelling:** "[From Ogress to Benefactor: The Tale of Hariti Ma, She Who Steals Away Our Suffering](#)" (a Tibetan-Nepalese mother goddess story). For teenagers and adults.

10:30am-11:30am, Eric Miller (Chennai), **Workshop:** "[Story Composition](#)" (4 of 8).  
For teenagers and adults.

**Sat 10th** – 10:30pm-11:59pm, Rohini Jayanti (Hyderabad), **Storytelling:** [Telling Stories from Indian Mythology Using Art Forms such as Music, Painting, Kamishibai, Storyboard, Dance, and Puppets](#). For people of all ages.

**Sun 11th** – **12:01am-2:00am, Storytelling especially for teenagers and adults (6 of 12).**

12:01am, [Vicky Ness](#) (California).

12:20am, [Lipika Mohanty](#) (Bhubaneswar).

12:40am, [Parvathy Eswaran](#) (Coimbatore).

1:00am, [Nilguen Yalay](#) (New Zealand).

1:20am, [Nidhi Sehgal](#) (Faridabad).

4:30am-6:00am, Annapoorani Barani (Chennai), **Workshop:** "[Storytelling and Patriarchy](#)".  
For teenagers and adults.

**6:00am-7:30am, Storytelling for Children, with Activities, Sridevi Srinivasan (Chennai).**

**7:30am-9:00am, Storytelling by Children, Kalyan Babu (Chennai).**

9:00am-10:30am, Debjani Bhaduri (Chennai). **Workshop:** "[Antagonists in Stories](#)".  
For teenagers and adults.

**Weekend #3** (USA and Canada Eastern timings)

**Fri 16th Feb – 5:30am-7:00am, "Workshop on 'Environmental Storytelling' for Children", Sree Karuna (Vishakapatnam). For people of all ages.**

7:00am-8:30am, Mubeen Irshad (Chennai), **Workshop:** "[Personality Development Through Storytelling](#)". For teenagers.

**8:30am-10:30am, Storytelling especially for teenagers and adult (7 of 12).**

8:30am, [Elisa Pearmain](#) (Massachusetts).

8:50am, [Jennifer Munro](#) (Connecticut).

9:10am, [Bruce Kirchoff](#) (North Carolina).

9:30am, [Mary Louise Chown](#) (Manitoba).

9:50am, [Bruce Marcus](#) (Massachusetts).

10:30am-11:30am, Eric Miller (Chennai), **Workshop:** "[Story Composition](#)" (5 of 8). For teenagers and adults.

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**Fri 16th – 11:30pm to 2:30am, Mohan Krishnan, Workshop:**

"[Impactful Body Language and Vocal Techniques for Effective Storytelling](#)".

For teenagers and adults.

**Sat 17th – 4:00am-6:00, Storytelling for people of all ages (8 of 12).**

4:00am, [Alla Lebedeva](#) (Moscow).

4:20am, [Sridevi Srivasan](#) (Chennai).

4:40am, [Shraddha Nigavekar](#) (Pune).

5:00am, [Sowmya Srinivasan](#) (Coimbatore).

4:20am, [Alvin S. W.](#) (Chennai).

**6:00am-7:30am, Storytelling for Children, Nicholas Pawlowski (Minnesota).**

7:30am-9:00am, Laura Simms (New York). **Workshop** (info is [here](#)). For teenagers and adults.

9:00am-10:30am, "**Healing Story Circle**", *Circle of LOVE*: [Geetanjali Shetty Kaul](#) (Mumbai), [Poonam Joshy](#) (Bangalore), [Ramya Iyer](#) (Bangalore), [Sowmya Srinivasan](#) (Coimbatore).

For teenagers and adults.

10:30am-11:30am, Eric Miller (Chennai), **Workshop:** "[Story Composition](#)" (6 of 8).

For teenagers and adults.

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**Sat 17th – 10:30pm-11:59pm, Audra Sisak (Seattle), with Banumathy H. (Coimbatore) and Shivani Dhillon (Chandigarh), Workshop:** "[Storytelling and Autism: Focus on Practical Issues of Telling and Listening](#)". For people of all ages.

**Sun 18th – 12:01am-2:00am, Storytelling especially for teenagers and adults (9 of 12).**

12:01am, [Meera Venkateshan](#) (Bangalore).

12:20am, [Shaheen Maniar](#) (Pune).

12:40am, [Vandana Rao](#) (Visakhapatnam).

1:00am, [Wangari Grace](#) (Kenya).

1:20am, [Maricris Basto](#) (Philippines).

5:00am-6:30am, Sonia Bareja (Portugal), **Workshop:** "[Reclaim Yourself – or, from Chaos to Clarity](#)". For teenagers and adults.

**6:30am-7:30am, Storytelling for Children, with Activities, Anuradha C. R. (Chennai).**

7:30am-9:00am, Sudha Umashanker (Chennai), **Workshop:** "[Ways to Use Story and Storytelling to Heal after the Loss of a Loved One](#)". For adults.

9:00am-11:00am, Cris Anderson and Team (*Minnesota Folk Tale Gardening Club*, Minnesota), **Workshop:** "[Ritual Engagement with Folktales](#)". For teenagers and adults.

**Weekend #4** (USA and Canada Eastern timings)

- Fri 23rd Feb – 5:30am-7:00am, Dr Mary Kuttikadan (Mumbai), with Kanagadurga Ramesh (Chennai) and Shital Ravi (Mumbai), **Workshop:** "[Storytelling by and for People Who Have Attention Issues](#)". For people of all ages.
- 7:00am-8:30am, MAST (Madras Association of Storytellers): [Geethanjali Javed](#), [Mohan Krishnan](#), [Padma Rangaraj](#), and [Shifa Mustafa](#), **Workshop:** "[Creating Songs that Tell Stories](#)". For teenagers and adults.
- 8:30am-10:30am, **Storytelling especially for teenagers and adults** (10 of 12).  
 8:30am, [June Brown](#) (Toronto).  
 8:50am, [David Heathfield](#) (UK).  
 9:10am, [Mihaela Rau](#) (Romania).  
 9:30am, [Les Schaffer](#) (Virginia).  
 9:50am, [Regina Ress](#) (New Mexico).
- 10:30am-11:30am, Eric Miller (Chennai), **Workshop:** "[Story Composition](#)" (7 of 8). For teenagers and adults.
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- Fri 23rd – **11:00pm-11:59pm, Storytelling for Children, with Activities:**  
**11:00pm, Aarti Ashwin Kute** (Mumbai).  
**11:30pm, Ramendra Kumar** (Bangalore).
- Sat 24th – 12:01am-1:30am, Nandini Murali (Chennai), **Poetry and Story Workshop:** "[Developing Elements of Nature as Metaphors for Renewal and Transformation](#)". For teenagers and adults.
- 1:30am-3:00am, Haritha Kannan (Chennai), **Workshop:** "[Anger Management Through Stories](#)". For teenagers and adults.
- 4:00am-6:00, **Storytelling for people of all ages** (11 of 12). Hybrid: [Center for Counselling](#).  
 4:00am, [Lalitha Thilak](#) (Chennai).  
 4:20am, [Divya Anand](#). (Chennai).  
 4:40am, [Ambujavalli N.](#) (Chennai).  
 5:00am, [Milly Jackdaw](#) (West Wales).  
 5:20am, [Tim Sheppard](#) (England).
- 6:00am-6:30am, [Jasmina A. Žiljak](#) (Croatia), **Storytelling**.  
 6:30am-8:30am, Kalyan Babu (Chennai), **Storytelling and Talk:** "[Moon Symbolism and Significance in Folklore and Mythology](#)". For teenagers and adults.  
 8:30am-10:30am, Debjani Bhaduri (Chennai) and Team, **Storytelling:** [Stories about Women](#). For teenagers and adults.  
 10:30am-11:30am, Eric Miller (Chennai), **Workshop:** "[Story Composition](#)" (8 of 8). For teenagers and adults.
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- Sat 24th – 10:30pm to 11:59pm, Regina Ress (New Mexico), **Workshop:** "[Storytelling On the Moment: When 'Why We Tell a Story' Becomes Critical](#)". For teenagers and adults.
- Sun 25th – 12:01am-2:00am, **Storytelling especially for teenagers and adults** (12 of 12).  
 12:01am, [Neena Girish](#) (Thiruvananthapuram).  
 12:20am, [Kavita Shah](#) (Ahmedabad).  
 12:40am, [Shreya Biswas](#) (Kolkatta).  
 1:00am, [Lavanya Prasad](#) (Bengaluru).  
 1:20am, [Jenis Lunkad](#) (Raipur).
- 4:00am-5:30am, **Storytelling for Children, with Activities:**  
**Shreya Biswas** (Bangalore).  
**Parvathi Eswaran** (Bangalore).
- 5:30am-7:00am, Laxmi Balaji (Toronto), **Workshop:** "[Panchatantra Stories](#)". For people of all ages.
- 7:00am-8:30am, Smita Rajan (Mumbai), **Workshop:** "[Retelling and Creating Stories to Build Resilience and Positive Behaviour in Oneself and Others](#)". For teenagers and adults.
- 8:30am-10:00am, **Panel Discussion:** "[Ways the Dravidian Movement Has Used Stories to Communicate Its Messages](#)". For teenagers and adults.
- 10:00am-10:30am, Closing Session.