
EXPERIENTIAL WORKSHOP

Transformative Storytelling as a Way of Life: A Workshop for Peaceful Warriors, Wisdom Seekers, Lovers of Life & Magicians of the Common Good

Saturday, April 12th from 10:00am-4:00pm

Allard Hall – Terrace Lounge, Room 402 – Lunch Included

Abstract

Since communication began, human beings have woven together experiences and interpretations of those experiences in attempts to make meaning—we call these attempts “stories”. Stories can be told through words, images, and sounds; they can be written down, spoken, sung, danced, painted, photographed, and more. Writers, artists, musicians, filmmakers, therapists, lawyers, teachers and activists tell stories. But they are not the only ones. All humans are storytellers, and the stories we tell are one of the most powerful ways we experience, and influence, the world. Participants in this workshop will experience ways of “re-viewing” stories they tell themselves and stories in the world to generate life-giving narratives.

This event is co-hosted by the Vancouver School of Theology and supported by SSHRC. Registering by the early bird date of March 20 will give access to a lower registration fee. [Register here](#) or contact Michelle LeBaron at lebaron@allard.ubc.ca if you have any questions.

Gareth Higgins (Ph.D)

Peacemaker, Writer and Story Activist at the Intersections of Spirituality, Justice and Art



[Gareth Higgins](#) was born in Belfast in 1975 and grew up during the Northern Ireland Troubles. He now divides his time between Northern Ireland and the US. Gareth writes and speaks about the power of storytelling to shape our lives and world, peacemaking and justice, and how to take life seriously without believing your own propaganda. He has been involved in peacebuilding and violence reduction in Northern Ireland and helping address legacies of conflict. Gareth has a Ph.D. in Sociology from Queen’s University Belfast and helped teach the world’s first graduate course in Reconciliation Studies at Trinity College Dublin. He also helped found the *Wild Goose*, [New Story](#) and [Movies & Meaning](#) festivals. Gareth leads retreats in North America and [Ireland](#) and founded [The Porch Magazine](#).



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