

celebrate the stories of your community.

StoryCorps
storycorps.org

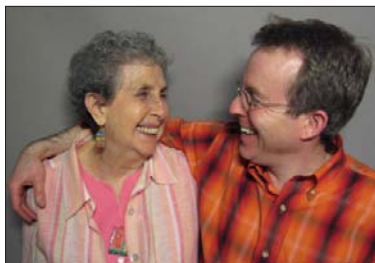


StoryCorps is an independent nonprofit project whose mission is to honor and celebrate one another's lives through listening.

Founded in 2003, StoryCorps gives pairs of participants the opportunity to leave a legacy in sound for future generations. We invite everyday people to record 40-minute interviews with their loved ones in our soundproof recording booths. One copy of the interview goes home with the participants on a CD, and with their permission, a second copy is archived at the Library of Congress. StoryCorps is one of the largest oral history projects of its kind, and millions listen to our broadcasts on NPR's *Morning Edition* and on storycorps.org.

Every voice counts

We believe there is room for every voice in history. The stories of your community are essential to our archive at the Library of Congress, and we want to help you preserve these stories for future generations to hear.



Join the movement

Tell the people in your community that their lives matter and that their stories won't ever be forgotten. Encourage them to interview a loved one in our Lower Manhattan StoryBooth. These interviews can have a profound impact on the participants, and the recording experience is a great way to capture your organizational or community history. It will also give your organization a new way to reach out to and interact with community members. Best of all, our public service is free.



Next: Learn about our StoryBooth in Lower Manhattan and what to expect in a StoryCorps interview.

What people are saying:

"The StoryCorps project may well be the most important cultural event in America today. It's about us. About who we are. About where we've come from, and where we want to go."

Alex Kotlowitz,
Journalist and author

"StoryCorps enabled [our organization] to become fully engaged in people's lives in a new and meaningful way. There is something very appealing in this age of anonymity about giving people a chance to tell their personal stories."

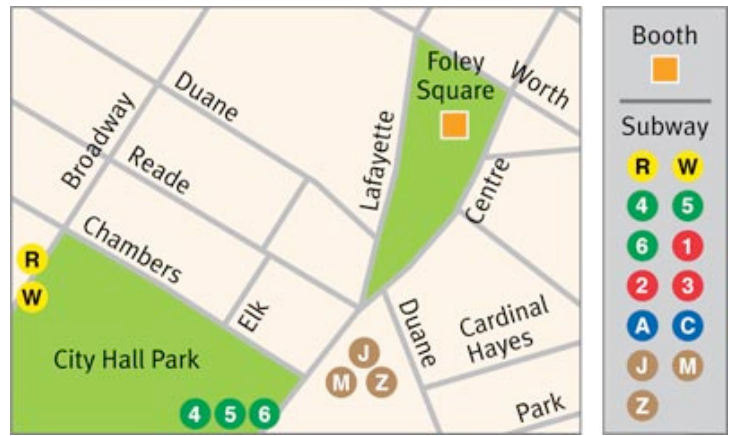
Donna Nicely,
Nashville Public Library

Learn more about StoryCorps and listen to hundreds of stories online at storycorps.org.

StoryCorps in New York City

StoryBooths are soundproof recording facilities with professional recording equipment, operated by trained staff called Facilitators. We provide a comfortable and intimate recording space for participants to record their stories and conversations with loved ones.

Our StoryBooth in Lower Manhattan is located in Foley Square on Centre Street between Worth and Duane streets, across from the U.S. Courthouse.



The StoryCorps Interview: Step by Step

A StoryCorps interview is 40 minutes of uninterrupted time for meaningful conversation with someone you care about. No matter how well you know your storyteller, some preparation will greatly improve the quality of the interview. Review the interview process below, then visit storycorps.org for more tips.

STEP 1

Welcome (2 min) – The Facilitator will provide some background information about StoryCorps,



explain his or her role in the interview process, and answer any questions you might have.

STEP 2

Prep (6 min) – The Facilitator will walk you through the paperwork, which asks for basic personal



information such as name, address, and ethnic background.

Tips for a great conversation:

Look at your partner, not the microphone.

Stay interested and engaged.

Be yourself; you can laugh or even cry.

Emotional questions like “How does this make you feel?” often elicit thoughtful responses. Don’t be afraid to ask.

Be curious and honest and keep an open heart. Great things will happen.

STEP 3

Sound check (4 min) – Once you and your interview partner are ready to proceed, the Facilitator



will make sure you are positioned well for recording and check the audio levels.

STEP 4

The interview (40 min) – While you and your partner are talking, the Facilitator will take notes, keep time, and monitor audio. Facilitators are not interviewers, though they may ask a question during the interview.



STEP 5

Your CD (3 min) – When the interview is over, the Facilitator will give you a copy of the interview on CD. He or she will also explain the release



form, which allows StoryCorps to keep one copy and send another to the Library of Congress.

STEP 6

Photos (5 min) – Finally, the Facilitator will take photos of you and your interview partner, both together and separately. These photos will be included in the archive at the Library of Congress.



Great questions to ask:

What was the happiest moment of your life?

What are you most proud of?

Who was the most important person in your life?

What are the most important lessons you’ve learned in life?

What is your earliest memory?

How do you want to be remembered?

Who was your first love?

Is there anything you’ve never told me but want to tell me now?

Visit storycorps.org to customize your own list of questions.

Make your reservations today

Organizations like yours have brought community members to StoryCorps for many different reasons, including:

- Anniversaries
- Community celebrations
- Reunions
- Oral history projects
- Memorials
- Educational programs
- National holidays
- To get to know each other better

For more information about StoryCorps and to make reservations at our StoryBooth, please contact:

Veronica Ordaz, Lower Manhattan Site Supervisor
Phone: 646-723-7020 ext. 13
Email: vordaz@storycorps.org



storycorps.org

Bring StoryCorps to your community

If you can't make it to our StoryBooth, StoryCorps will come to you. Your organization can sponsor on-site recording days at the location of your choice for a reasonable fee. We will bring StoryCorps trained staff and state-of-the-art recording equipment to your community for anywhere from one day to one year.

To learn more about our on-site services visit storycorps.org/your-community or call 646-723-7027.



Support our work

If you believe in the power of listening, visit us at storycorps.org/donate to learn how you can help StoryCorps reach out to record our history, hopes, and common humanity.