

Basic Detail Report

Meet Award Winning Children's Book Author Renowned Liberian Artist & Performer Won-Ldy Paye



Celebrate African storytelling and performance

in this unique and exceptional One-Man Show: Tales from the Rain Forest - A 60 minute show highlighted by colorful traditional costumes, musical instruments, storytelling and masked dance. Won-Ldy's stories about everyday people, animals, places, and events incorporate dancing, singing, and audience participation.

Won-Ldy Paye captivates audiences of all ages. He has performed in Africa, Canada, and most recently in Kathmandu, Nepal and Mexico City. He performed in KALETA: A West African Children's Festival, as part of the Seattle and Philadelphia International Children's Festivals, and at The Kennedy Center - Imagination Celebration, Washington DC. Won-Ldy's performance was featured in the American Library Association 2007 Annual Conference in Washington D.C. He is a regular highlight of the Seattle Library System. His presentation is seen widely in schools, libraries and festivals throughout United States. Won-Ldy Paye was a featured "New Voice" Performer at the National Storytelling Festival, Jonesborough, Tennessee, October 3-5, 2008 and will also be a Teller-in-Residence June 22 - 28, 2009.

Won-Ldy Paye has won numerous Awards for his literary work in United States and Africa. His Book Head, Body, Legs: A Story from Liberia - (a folktale about cultural diversity and co-operation), ©2002 published in English, Japanese and Korean was selected as the "We Share a Story 2007": An International Art/Literacy Connection featured book! Children from 6 continents, in 23 countries - (Ethiopia, Kenya, Liberia, Rwanda, Morocco, Zambia, Mali, United States, Denmark, England, Germany, Netherlands, Norway, Republic of Korea, Cambodia, Hong Kong, Japan, Nepal, Chile, Brazil, Venezuela, Russia and Australia/New South Wales) worldwide connected and collaborated during the World Literacy Week, 2007.



Won-Ldy Paye (pronounced Wondy and Paye pronounced Pay) is from the northeastern region of Liberia. His family lives in the tropical rain forest along the Futa Jalon Maintain range in West Africa. Won-Ldy was trained by his grandmother-Gowo and is a member of the Tlo Ker Mehn, the class of professional entertainers and keepers of the oral tradition. Growing up in the rice field, Won-Ldy learned drumming, instrument making, dancing, wood carving, mask making, fabric dyeing, and mural painting - the traditional arts and knowledge that nourish and entertain every Dan person. Additionally, he received a Western style education in schools and colleges for the skills he needed in the world beyond Liberia, West Africa.

Bring This Rich Tradition And Engaging Literary Work To Your Library With A Performance This Year.

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