



Storyteller

Lyn Ford

Lyn Ford is a fourth-generation storyteller; she listened to and learned from the elder storytellers in her Affrilachian (African American Appalachian) family. Lyn is a nationally recognized raconteur and workshop presenter, a writer, a Thurber House mentor to young authors, and an Ohio teaching artist with the Ohio Alliance for Arts Education (OAAE) and the Ohio State-Based Collaborative Initiative of the Kennedy Center (OSBCI). Lyn shares the gifts of the oral tradition with interaction, rhythm and rhyme, humor, personal history, and heart. Lyn has performed at storytelling and education conferences and storytelling festivals across the United States, including the National Storytelling Festival in Tennessee, the Timpanogos Storytelling Festival in Utah, and the Talk Story Festival in Hawaii; Lyn has also shared her stories at the Cape Clear International Storytelling Festival in Ireland. Lyn calls her stories "Home-Fried Tales" to honor her father, who was a terrible cook, and the best storyteller she ever heard.

Ohio Literacy Resource Center

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Kent State University

Kent, Ohio 44242

<http://literacy.kent.edu/beginnings>



Beginnings
XIX

19th Annual

Ohio Writers' Conference

May 6, 2016

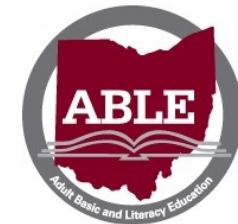
Columbus, Ohio

Celebrating the

outstanding

writing accomplishments

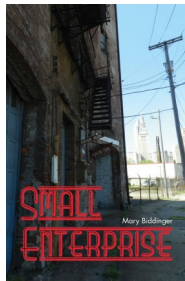
of Ohio's ABLE Authors





Keynote Speaker

Mary Biddinger



Mary Biddinger is the author of four full-length collections of poetry, most recently *Small Enterprise* (Black Lawrence Press, 2015). Her work has appeared in *Denver Quarterly*, *Green Mountains Review*, *jubilat*, *The Laurel Review*, and *Pleiades*, among others. She is a Professor of English at the University of Akron, where she teaches poetry writing and literature, and edits the Akron Series in Poetry at the University of Akron Press. She is the recipient of a 2015 National Endowment for the Arts creative writing fellowship in poetry, and is currently working on a book-length volume of prose poems.

Ohio Writers' Conference

Every year since 1998, Ohio celebrates the outstanding writing accomplishments of adults who are participants in Adult Basic and Literacy Education (ABLE) programs.

ABLE students are invited to submit original writings for review. All genres are acceptable. The submissions however, must be original. Original means that the work must not be copied from any source.

Accepted submissions are published in a softbound book, *Beginnings*. Accepted writers are invited to attend the Ohio Writers' Conference, along with their teacher and one paid guest. The 19th Annual event will take place in Columbus, Ohio on May 6, 2016.

The day begins with fourth-generation storyteller Lyn Ford sharing a few of her

"Home Fried Tales". A keynote address and an interactive writing workshop conducted by author Mary Biddinger will follow. After an awards luncheon, *Beginnings* authors are invited to share their work at an open mike session. An author signing will conclude the day.

Attention ABLE Artists Your artwork could be featured on the cover of *Beginnings XIX*

Please send your original art on a 8 1/2 x 11" sheet of paper to:
Ohio Literacy Resource Center
Attn: Beginnings ART
Research One—1100 Summit St.
Kent State University, Kent OH 44242



SUBMIT YOUR WRITING @

literacy.kent.edu/beginnings/writersconference.html

All entries must be submitted via the online process. No handwritten/ emailed pieces will be accepted. Entries must not be copied from any source. Deadline for entry is February 12, 2016. Only students who are currently enrolled in an Ohio Adult Basic and Literacy Education (ABLE) program are eligible.