

For Immediate Release  
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## **STAC HOSTS FREE STORYTELLING EVENT FOR LOCAL FAMILIES**

**(SPARKILL, NY – October 15, 2008)** – St. Thomas Aquinas College will host Day Two of the free Rockland County Storytelling on Saturday, Oct. 18<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 – 4:30 in the Sullivan Theater on the College's main campus in Sparkill. This event is free for families and features interactive and musical storytelling for children and families. For more information contact Dr. Michael Shaw at [mshaw@stac.edu](mailto:mshaw@stac.edu).

Day Two at St. Thomas Aquinas is a Fall Family Celebration. In addition to storytelling, attendees can participate in story crafts activities directed by Debra Tietze, coordinator of the Early Childhood Teacher Training Program at Rockland Community College, and Executive Director of the Campus Fun and Learn Child Development Center.

Children can also participate in "Paws for Reading" and read or tell stories to dogs who are specially trained to be great listeners. This program is coordinated by Lisa Hoag, certified Reading to Dogs trainer.

STAC Keynote storyteller will be award-winning storyteller Jonathan Kruk. Kruk, best known for Hudson Valley stories, including a dramatic retelling of The Legend of Sleepy Hollow, will be presenting classic tales of Halloween. Other storytellers include Dr. Evan Matthews, Assistant Professor of Music, who will involve children in musical storytelling by inviting them to play a wide range of instruments; Stuart Nager, a drama teacher from the New York City Department of Education who is nationally recognized for humorous stories; Pamela Schembri, Newburgh school media specialist who tells Halloween stories; and Elise Krakower, North Rockland library specialist who tells multicultural stories.

There will be free apples courtesy of Orchards of Conklin and other free refreshments. The special family event celebrates the power of stories, children will have an unforgettable experience.

For more information contact Dr. Michael Shaw, Professor of Education at [mshaw@stac.edu](mailto:mshaw@stac.edu).

### **MORE ABOUT ST. THOMAS**

The College's 2,700 full and part time students can choose from over 60 different majors, minors, specializations, and dual degree programs across five divisions: The Humanities; Business Administration; Social Sciences; Natural Sciences & Mathematics; and Teacher Education or are enrolled in one of our graduate programs. St. Thomas has expanded its offerings to include: a Master of Science in Education with specializations in Literacy, Special Education, and Educational Leadership, a Post Masters Certificate program in Education, a Master of Science in Teaching, a Master of Business Administration program, a Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Science in Education, and an Associate of Arts and an Associate of Science degree, the latter two offered at the West Point Military Academy. For more information on the College visit [www.stac.edu](http://www.stac.edu).