

SOUTHERN ORDER OF STORYTELLERS

TELLER EVALUATION **Storyteller Presence**

Did the teller:

- Take control (assume a presence on the stage, look at the audience, get attention)?
- Keep the audience's attention?
- Use eye contact effectively (establish and hold eye contact)?
- Use pauses effectively (for humor, drama, transitions)?
- Connect with the audience (establish a bond, "touch" the story listeners)?

Gestures and Body Language

What did you observe regarding the teller's:

- Hand movement (deliberate or random, supports the story, adds to imagery)?
- Arm movement (wide or narrow, fluid or jerky, timed well, adds to imagery)?
- Moving around (purposeful, fluid, deliberate, different positions for different characters, balanced)?
- Posture (change or vary to emphasize points, change for different characters)?

Facial Expression

Regarding the teller's facial expressions:

- Did facial expressions support the story (expressions timed to fit the story)?
- Were there any distractions (glare on glasses, men's facial hair, hair obscuring or shadowing the face)?
- Did the teller face the audience at all times? If not, was the turn away from the audience necessary and effective?
- Did the teller's face convey emotion (smiles, frowns, wide eyes)?

Voice

Regarding the teller's voice:

- Could you hear (loud enough, projected well)?
- Could you understand what the teller was saying (pronunciation, accents)?
- Was emphasis used to make a point?
- Was there variety (character voices, pauses, tone, volume, pitch, transitional changes, rate)?