

## **SOS Cluster Group/Affiliate Organizations**

Southern Order of Storytellers (SOS) supports groups of story lovers who meet locally to promote the art of storytelling and help further SOS's mission. Local groups provide a nurturing environment where participants may practice telling stories, receive supportive coaching, share ideas, resources, and information about upcoming storytelling events, and socialize with others to build a community of story lovers. Groups also organize special programs, such as workshops for the development of storytelling skills and techniques, speakers, presentations, concerts, performances, etc. to help people grow as both storytellers and story listeners.

### **Types of Groups**

#### **Cluster Group**

A Cluster Group is a group that does not have a formal incorporation or non-profit status and operates under the auspices of SOS. SOS will maintain a separate financial account for each SOS group to be able to collect tax deductible donations and expend funds that further SOS's mission. If a group becomes large enough or there are enough financial transactions, SOS may recommend that the Cluster Group become an Affiliate Organization.

#### **Affiliate Organizations**

Affiliate Organizations are groups that are formally incorporated and whose mission supports that of SOS. SOS will not maintain funds or accounts for Affiliate Organizations.

### **Guidelines**

1. Groups should appoint a SOS Liaison who shall serve as a conduit for information between the Group and SOS. Such Liaison shall be a current, up-to-date paid SOS member. The Liaison shall also serve as an ex-officio member of the SOS Board.
2. Group participants should be encouraged to become Southern Order of Storytellers' members. The Group Liaison should make SOS application forms readily available at each meeting.
3. SOS will publicize all Group meetings and events as shared by the Liaison. The Group shall share with members other SOS and Group events. SOS encourages that all events be widely publicized to encourage attendance by story lovers in the community.
4. SOS will both provide resources and information to support Groups and their needs as well as serving as a conduit for groups to share information and resources.

## **SOS CLUSTER GROUP/AFFILIATE ORGANIZATION FORM**

Group name: \_\_\_\_\_

Cluster Group ( ) or Affiliate Organization ( )

Geographic location: \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting location: \_\_\_\_\_

Website/Facebook/etc. \_\_\_\_\_

Name/s of group liaison: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone number/s: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail addresses: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

How long has this cluster group been in existence? \_\_\_\_\_

How many times did you meet in the previous year? \_\_\_\_\_

What was the average number of participants in previous year? \_\_\_\_\_