

Ann Shapiro – Bio

Ann Shapiro brings the folk traditions of music and storytelling together. Her storytelling repertoire includes multicultural folk tales and personal stories with a touch of humor centered on family characters and adventures. Her delivery of American folk songs encourages audience participation and includes songs about immigration, historical happenings, environmental concerns, work songs, and songs to sing around the campfire.

She is recommended by the CT Office of the Arts as a Teaching Artist and since 1999, serves as Executive Director for The Connecticut Storytelling Center.

In addition, she tours her variety of shows as a solo and with her husband, Tom Callinan. Their recordings include: *Hokey Folky* and *For No Good Reason At All* (sing alongs), *Imagine Menagerie & I'm Gonna Tell* (stories in tandem), *Let's Clean Up Our Act* (songs for the earth), and most recently, *Home Remedies* (original songs about family life).

Ann and Tom have been featured tellers at the National Storytelling Festival and tellers in residence at the International Storytelling Center, both in Jonesborough, Tennessee. Ann was honored to receive the National Storytelling Network's Oracle Award in 2005 for leadership in the Northeast. She received the Barbara Reed Award for significant contributions to the CT Storytelling community from the CT Storytelling Center in 2008 and received the Ruth Hill and Brother Blue Award in recognition of extraordinary commitment, dedication and loving encouragement to the New England storytelling community at the Sharing The Fire Northeast Storytelling Conference in Nashua, NH. in 2009. The Elizabeth L. Mahaffey Arts Administration Fellowship annually recognizes one exceptionally accomplished Connecticut arts administrator with a \$2,500 award to be used for professional development activities. The CT Office of the Arts honored Ann with this award in 2009.

For more information about Ann Shapiro: www.crackerbarrel-ents.com