

# Storytelling Time at SWOSU on October 22

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It will be storytelling time with Greg Rodgers on Wednesday, October 22, at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford.

A member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, Rodgers is a burgeoning writer and storyteller. He is a descendant of the Reverend Israel Folsom who was a co-author of the first Choctaw dictionary and a prominent Choctaw leader in both Mississippi and Oklahoma during the 1800s.

His appearance at SWOSU will be at 7 p.m. in the SWOSU Conference Center, located at the corner of 7<sup>th</sup> and Davis Streets in Weatherford. This is the second program in the SWOSU Library's 2008 Library Showcase series. Admission is free and everyone is welcome to attend.

Rodger's short story, "Harriet's Burden," is included in the 2006 November/December special Native American issue of Storytelling Magazine, the membership publication of the [National Storytelling Network](#). The story is the first in a series of short stories based on family remembrances.

Another story, "Giddy Up, Wolf", will be included in an anthology of Native American trickster tales to be released this fall. The collection includes trickster tales by about 20 Native American storytellers from across the country. Also, his children's book, *The Ghost of Mingo Creek and Other Spooky Oklahoma Legends*, was published by the Forty-Sixth Star Press in September of this year. This 104-page book features eight creepy tales that take place across the Oklahoma landscape.

An accomplished Native American flute player, Rodgers has performed and presented workshops at schools, libraries, and tribal events throughout Oklahoma. He has performed stories for diverse audiences, including the [Choctaw Nation Storytelling Festival](#) that is held annually in McAlester and the 2006 [Okla Chahta Gathering](#) that is held annually in Bakersfield (CA).

In addition to the writing, telling, and collecting of stories, Rodgers serves as a newly elected board member for both the [Oklahoma Choctaw Tribal Alliance](#) and [Territory Tellers](#), the Oklahoma state storytelling organization.

Rodgers' storytelling repertory includes both traditional and contemporary Choctaw stories, family stories, and travel stories from the year he spent in Prague teaching English. He recently completed a storytelling mentorship under the direction of professional Choctaw storyteller and author, [Tim Tingle](#). For the last year, he has studied the craft of storytelling with a nationally respected and acclaimed Appalachian master storyteller, [Elizabeth Ellis](#).

For more information, contact Linda Pye at the SWOSU AI Harris Library at 580.774.7021.