

FROM: Milwaukee Public Library/StoryCorps

Contact: Milwaukee Public Library University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Sandy Rusch Walton Laura L. Hunt
(414) 286-3032 (414) 229-6447

StoryCorps
Gillian Kocher Debra Carey
(212) 981-5230 (212) 981-5219

**STORYCORPS, THE NATIONAL STORYTELLING PROJECT, TO
LAUNCH FIRST EVER OUTPOST TO BE DONE IN PARTNERSHIP
WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN**

***STORYCORPS TO SPEND SIX MONTHS AT THE
MILWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY BEGINNING JANUARY 25, 2007***

(MILWAUKEE, WI) – January 2007 - The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (UWM) and the Milwaukee Public Library today announced that they will host StoryCorps, the acclaimed oral history project that has been traveling the country documenting the history of America through the unique stories of everyday Americans. StoryCorps was created by award-winning radio documentary producer and MacArthur Fellowship recipient Dave Isay.

UWM will host the first-ever StoryCorps Outpost, a temporary recording space, at the Central Library located at 814 W. Wisconsin Avenue. The Outpost will be open to the public by reservation only from January 25 through July 25, 2007.

The creation of StoryCorps Outposts will offer local institutions – libraries, museums, historical societies and public radio stations – the opportunity to bring StoryCorps to their community for extended periods of time. Existing rooms in these institutions will act as ‘sacred spaces,’ and will be outfitted as a StoryCorps recording space complete with certified StoryCorps Facilitators to guide participants through the process. The soundproof StoryBooth will be set up in the Oriental Room in the Central Library in downtown Milwaukee during its six-month tenure.

At the StoryCorps booth, participants record in pairs – often times friends or loved ones – and one person interviews the other. A trained facilitator guides the participants through the interview process and handles the technical aspects of the recording. At the end of a forty-minute session, the participants walk away with a CD of their interview. With the permission of participants, a second copy will be sent to The American Folklife Center (AFC) where it becomes part of a high quality digital archive. Major funding for StoryCorps is provided by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB). StoryCorps is a project of Sounds Portraits Productions in partnership with NPR and the American Folklife Center (AFC) at the Library of Congress. Those wishing to arrange for an interview can call the StoryCorps reservation line at **800.850.4406**, or visit www.storycorps.net.

In Milwaukee, StoryCorps is partnering with NPR's local public radio station WUWM 89.7, which will air a selection of the local stories and may create special programs around the project. Selected segments will also air nationally on NPR's *Morning Edition*.

StoryCorps opened its first StoryBooth, a freestanding soundproof recording studio, in New York City's Grand Central Terminal in October 2003. In July 2005, it opened a second StoryBooth in lower Manhattan. In addition to the Outpost at the Central Library, two Mobile StoryBooths are touring the nation in Airstream trailers; one trailer stopped in Milwaukee in June 2005 to collect several stories from area residents.

As Outpost Partners, UWM's Center on Age & Community and DocUWM have secured funding for this project through July 2007. Sponsors include the Argosy Foundation, the BRICO Fund, the Forest County Potawatomi Foundation, and the Mosher Family Foundation. Additional donors/donations are welcome to help extend the StoryCorps project past July 2007. In addition, UWM is partnering with several area organizations to ensure that Milwaukeeans from all walks of life have the opportunity to learn about StoryCorps and to record their experiences. Partners include Milwaukee LINKS, Interfaith Senior Centers for the Milwaukee County Department of Aging, the Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association, and the United Community Center.

"We want every resident who is interested in StoryCorps to have the chance to interview someone they know or share their own stories," said Anne Basting, director of UWM's Center on Age and Community. "In particular, StoryCorps provides an excellent opportunity for our aging and underrepresented population to add their voices to American history."

"The Milwaukee Public Library is the perfect setting for the very first StoryCorps Outpost," said Mayor Tom Barrett. "Our city is proud to host this important project, and I invite all Milwaukeeans to take part in what will surely be a key component of American history by sharing and preserving their stories for future generations to enjoy."

For more information on how your organization can become an outreach partner, please call Lori Woodburn, UWM's Center for Age and Community, at (414) 229-2740.

For more information on sponsoring this civic project, please contact Anne Basting, Director of UWM's Center for Age and Community, at (414) 229-2732.

About StoryCorps

Major funding for StoryCorps is provided by The Corporation for Public Broadcasting. StoryCorps is a project of Sound Portraits Productions, in partnership with National Public Radio and the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress. StoryCorps opened its first StoryBooth, a freestanding soundproof recording studio, in New York City's Grand Central Terminal in October 2003 and in July 2005 opened its second StoryBooth in lower Manhattan. Over the course of the multi-year project, StoryCorps plans to open StoryBooths – both mobile and stationary – across the country. Individuals can visit **StoryCorps.net** to make interview reservations and listen to excerpts of other stories told in the booth.

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