

Annual Jeanne B. Goodwin Storytelling Festival Features Kirk Waller

By John Fancher

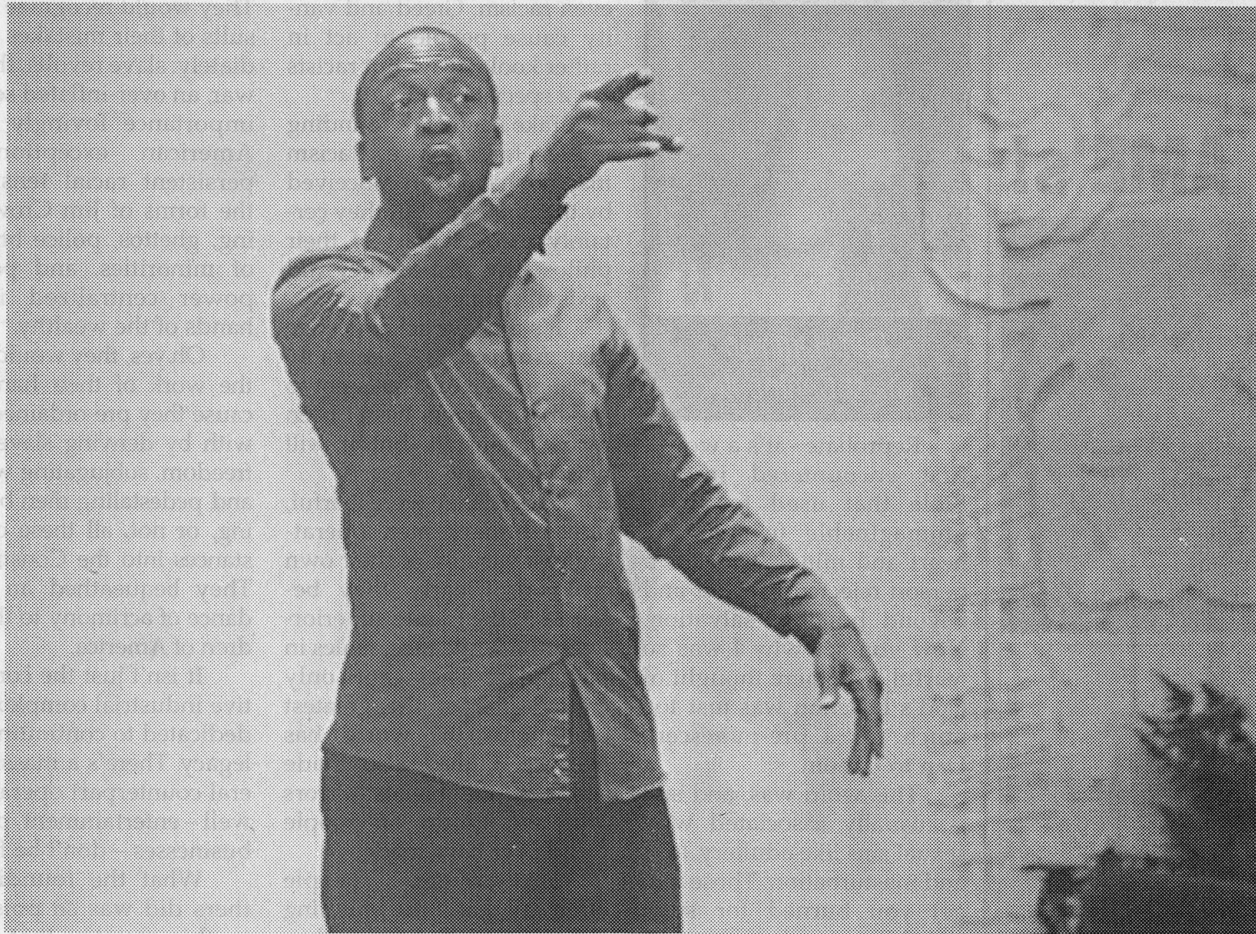
Tulsa City County Library

With more than 20 years of experience as an award-winning storyteller, Kirk Waller will share stories through words, music and movement during a special library appearance.

Waller, winner of the Parent's Choice GOLD Award for his latest CD "But Why? Stories, Music and Songs" is the featured presenter for the annual Jeanne B. Goodwin Storytelling Festival, July 1, 10:00 a.m., at Rudisill Regional Library, 1520 N. Hartford. Families are invited to let their imaginations soar as Waller shares his award-winning presentation.

As director of the Storytelling Programs at Oakland-based Stage-bridge Senior Theater Company, Waller was named the winner of the 2010 J.J. Reneaux Emerging Artist Grant by the National Storytelling Network. He was recognized for his signature musical and movement-infused storytelling style.

The annual festival is a tribute to the late Jeanne B. Goodwin, a lifelong educator and literacy cham-



pion, who understood how storytelling and the visual experience work to build a vivid imagination.

Celebrating Jeanne B. Goodwin's 100th birthday in 2003, Rudisill Regional Library's storytime room was dedicated in her honor. Multi-colored fish, shaped with individual pieces of tile, greet children entering the ocean-themed storytime room. Each wall of the room features colorfully painted starfish, clown fish, sharks, lobsters, turtles and other wonders of the underwater world. Children often create their own stories using the sea creatures painted on the storytime walls.

While at the library, families are encouraged to sign up for the 2015 children's summer reading program "Every Hero Has A Story" which continues through August 1. Children reading eight books will receive a medal of achievement, and coupons for free food and entertainment around Tulsa County.

For more information, call the Ask Us Hotline, 918-549-7323, or visit the library's website, www.tulsalibrary.org.