



  
Pangaea Arts  
presents

# Stories on Wheels

STORIES on WHEELS is an original storytelling act for the whole family. The show is based on Kamishibai (literally *paper theatre*), a traditional travelling street-theatre show from Japan.

Tales are brought to life by a high-energy comic performer, using beautifully illustrated picture cards displayed in a magnificent miniature wooden stage attached to the back of a unique bicycle.

The show combines the best of oral storytelling and narrative painting. Featuring gorgeous illustrations by local artists, as well as traditional picture cards from Japan, several short stories are told with music, dramatic action, and audience interaction. As well, the audience gets to hear an amusing and informative history of the art form.

**You've never been told a story this way before!**



We acknowledge the  
financial assistance of the  
Province of British Columbia



More information: [www.pangaea-arts.com](http://www.pangaea-arts.com)  
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## About Kamishibai

Kamishibai (*kah-mee-shee-bye*) is a form of vibrant street storytelling that was popular in Japan from the 1920's to the 1950's. The Kamishibai storyteller would ride from corner to corner on a bicycle equipped with a small picture-card stage, where he would sell candy and tell several short stories. At its peak, Kamishibai was the most popular form of children's entertainment; thousands of storytellers, writers and artists were involved in this booming industry. After the introduction of television and the eventual decline of Kamishibai, many of the skilled Kamishibai artists went on to become the first pioneers of the now world-famous Japanese comics known as *manga*.

## About Pangaea Arts

Pangaea Arts is an award-winning intercultural, interdisciplinary world arts organization, formed to promote cultural interaction and the exchange of ideas between diverse communities and to introduce Canadian audiences to performance traditions from around the world. As well as producing stunning world theatre collaborations, Pangaea Arts has brought a wide range of *Theatre for Young Audiences* to elementary schools, festivals and communities. In 2008 Pangaea Arts travelled to Japan to accept the prestigious *Uchimura* prize, which recognizes work that promotes Japanese theatre and culture around the world.

## What people are saying

*"STORIES on WHEELS was the hit of the 2011 Vancouver International Children's Festival! Families flocked to the storyteller as he gathered the crowd regaling them with ancient tales that delighted, enchanted and engaged the audience."*

**-Katharine Carol,**  
Artistic & Executive Director,  
Vancouver International Children's Festival

*Very talented storyteller... an obvious passion for storytelling.... I liked the way you interacted with the audience... very interesting and original form of storytelling.*

**-Lori Nick,**  
Library Technician,  
Fraser Valley Regional Library

*Spectacular storytelling and creative use of artistic cards. Enjoyable! Students actively engaged in this educational theatre style performance.*

**-Farzana Kassam,**  
Teacher,  
Laura Secord Elementary



STORIES on WHEELS is extremely portable, low-tech, and flexible, and can be performed in a wide range of environments, from large theatres with full technical support, to classrooms, to impromptu street performances on a bit of grass or sidewalk.

*Engage Multiple Literacies (Curriculum Links: Visual Arts, Language Arts, Social Studies, Drama)*

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