

For Immediate Release

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### **Stories of Rhythm and Fantasy CD wins Award!**

Sondra Singer, regional storyteller, writer, and musician, residing in Lakewood, Colorado, announces that her original CD of stories and music, *Stories of Rhythm and Fantasy*, has won the coveted **2008 Children's Music Web Award, for Spoken Word for School Age Children**. The Children's Music Web Awards are the only awards judged by kids for kids. See <http://www.childrensmusic.org> for more information

The full-length CD includes four original stories, plus original music. Using a variety of storytelling styles, Ms. Singer weaves the theme of "getting along" throughout the recording. Examples of Ms. Singer's stories can be heard and purchased, both on her website, [www.storydrum.com](http://www.storydrum.com), and, on the popular website, [www.cdbaby.com](http://www.cdbaby.com).

Stories include the half-hour-long fantasy, *The Prince and the Gryphon or the Truth About Boredom*, a story that includes the title characters, how they are both bored in their lives, then how they change places to see how the other half lives. The story has a delightful original musical accompaniment with violin, trumpet, and accordion. *Gerald the Giant* is a tale about a friendly giant who guards the land of the dwarves with his stories and humor. *Joy Madison Carter Makes Noise*, Ms. Singer's first and most popular tale, tells the story of a little girl who loves to make noise, and, through the help of her aunt, finds the drum. Finally, *The Littlest Drum*, is a subtle peace tale, set in the Middle East, with an Arab drum-maker and a little Jewish boy who are united by a small, handmade drum. The CD is completed by an original rhythm piece on Middle Eastern drums, and an original song for children, *I've Got a Song In My Head (that won't go away!)*.

Ms. Singer has always used music as part of her live programs. Some programs include percussion instruments, some include easy folk songs with guitar accompaniment. Examples of her live performance programs can be found on her website.

*Let's Make Noise* uses story and percussion games to keep the interaction flowing between the performers and the audience. Great for children and families.

*A Tour of Africa in Story, Rhythm, and Song* involves a three-person performance troupe consisting of Ms. Singer as the primary storyteller, drummer and vocalist, plus Helen Trencher of Denver, storyteller and percussionist in her own right, plus Stephen Edwards of Jamestown, Colorado, who assists with authentic percussion and vocals. The program includes songs, stories, and percussion pieces learned from African teachers, as well as from books. The program has been used as a presentation for a variety of venues, from literacy night to an example of African culture in elementary schools, as well as at festivals, county fairs, storytelling events, cross-cultural programs, and at libraries. All ages.

*Tales of the Earth, Songs of Peace* is a program that can be performed solo by Sondra or as a longer program with Helen Trencher. Stories come from North America, Bali, India, and Japan. Songs are primarily folk songs, as well as some selections from the Dances of Universal Peace repertoire. Excellent for any Earth Day program or at any other time of the year when the environment is celebrated.

*Building Bridges: Stories, Songs, and Dance about Getting Along* is a program that has many interchangeable parts depending upon the audience. It can be more serious and deal with issues in the Middle East, or it can be light and fun, with a wonderfully delightful Russian tandem tale called The Stubborn Turnip that brings members of the audience onstage to participate in pulling that stubborn turnip out of the ground!

Other programs can be viewed on [www.storydrum.com](http://www.storydrum.com), as well. Ms. Singer can be reached at [sondra@storydrum.com](mailto:sondra@storydrum.com).