

Presents:



Cape & Islands' "Listen to Your Mother" 2020 Cast

Our featured guest storyteller:



Holly Elissa Bruno, MA, JD, best-selling and award-winning author, international keynote speaker and radio host specializes in emotionally intelligent leadership. She served as Assistant Attorney General for the state of Maine and Assistant Dean at the University of Maine-Augusta School of Law. An alumna of Harvard University's Institute for Educational Management, she teaches leadership courses for Wheelock College, now part of Boston University, and most recently in Singapore.

Holly Elissa's just released book, ***Happiness Is Running Through the Streets to Find You: Translating Trauma's Harsh Legacy Into Healing***, offers useful insights and heartfelt examples of facing trauma with HOPE, not terror. Her book *The Comfort of Little Things* received the Living Now Award for books that "uplift the quality of life". Her current writing focuses on transforming childhood trauma into healing wisdom. Her article "Broken into Wholeness" <http://www.hollyelissabruno.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Broken-into-Wholeness.pdf> was released by *Exchange Press* in early 2018. Her ground-breaking first book, *Leading on Purpose* was published by McGraw-Hill in 2008. Its sequel, *What You Need to Lead: Emotional Intelligence in Practice* has been one of NAEYC's (National Association for the Education of Young Children) best-sellers. She is a frequent contributor to *Child Care information exchange* and her articles appear in NAEYC's *Young children* journal.

Holly's keynote topic "**Learning from the Bumps in the Road: Turning Potholes into Grand Possibilities**" reminds us to "practice strategies to help us regain our footing, reclaim our confidence, rekindle our joy and humor, and turn potholes into grand opportunities." Holly's keynote address "**Play's the thing: Using Humor and Fun to Uplift your Workplace**" reminds us to "set a tone for creativity and joy Humor frees our brain's executive function to invent new approaches, solve problems effectively and stay optimistic no matter what. Work need not be the opposite of play. Learn how to restore fun and passion around you to chase the blahs and restore enthusiasm for (your) invaluable work – with children."

Our Cape Cod local storytellers:



Rosanne Annoni (Chatham, MA) spent thirty-five years in private practice as a psychotherapist before becoming an ordained minister teaching a path of self-realization called the Diamond Approach. For the last twenty years she's taught throughout the United States and Europe.

Ten years ago, Rosanne joined a memoir writing class, and discovered a new passion. Last year she completed a draft about her complex relationship with her mother. Most recently, she's been creating essays she calls "Teaching Stories" - vignettes to provide insight into student-teacher relationships from both sides as well as deep insight into the lives of spiritual teachers. Though there are many books available by spiritual teachers, few offer insights into their inner landscape.

Rosanne and her husband moved to the Cape from northern California four years ago, after traveling back and forth between coasts for several years. They share their home in Chatham on a pond with their Havanese dog, Zoey, as well as the many fowl and fish who visit daily.



Mary-Jo Burke-Kelly (West Yarmouth, MA) currently works for Kennedy-Donovan Center as an Early Intervention Service Provider demonstrating to the parents various play activities that they can use to help their children develop their language and cognition skills. She received a BS degree from New York University and a MA in Early Childhood Education and Deaf-Education from Gallaudet University in Washington DC. Mary Jo is fluent in American Sign Language. She's been a sign language interpreter and taught sign language on the college level. She was a teacher at Bruce Street School for the Deaf in Newark, NJ. for almost 30 years where she received many awards including the Governor's Teacher Recognition Program. Her many positions there included preschool teacher, parent education program leader and an inclusion teacher for middle school math and science.

Mary-Jo is married to James Kelly and has three adult children. She enjoys reading and her bucket list includes visiting every Major League Baseball park.



Stephanie Goley (South Chatham, MA) is a mid-westerner who landed on Cape Cod eight years ago after 15 years in California. She is the mom of three great kids and a dog- Kai (14), Liam (11), Addy (10), and Ed the Dog (7ish); and has been married to Rob for 17 years. Stephanie writes a blog about her oldest son and his adventures. You can see it at <http://kroniclesofkai.blogspot.com> She has worked an elementary school teacher, staff development administrator, school data analysis coach, a social media and SEO specialist, triathlon event organizer, and most recently teacher of mindfulness. She loves to exercise, paddle board, ski, camp and travel.



Debra Krumholz, M. Ed., LMHC (Orleans & Amherst MA) lived and worked on the Cape in 80s & 90s, as a mental health counselor and was involved in community theater. She continues to feel connected to the Cape and spends time on the Cape throughout the year. She moved from the Cape to Brooklyn and now lives in Amherst, Mass where she works as a therapist in private practice. She's enjoyed participating in a few story slams over the past couple of years.

She's never met a group she didn't want to join and is currently in a meditation group, a book group, an ongoing therapy training group, a card and game playing group, and more! Check out her website about slowing down called, "It's About Time" found at www.debkrumholz.com.

Debra's been keeping busy during this pandemic by taking LOTS of walks with friends, cooking and eating, playing (very beginning) piano, doing crosswords, snuggling with her two kitties, doing jigsaw puzzles and compulsively organizing anything and everything she can get her hands on. In more normal times, she's a big fan of independent movies, live theater, especially Broadway musicals, stand up, listening to storytelling and traveling both in the US and abroad.

Debra has a 25 y.o. daughter who went back to her birthplace and deep family roots when she moved to Brooklyn last year. They're very close and Debra still gets sad every time they have to say goodbye.





Karen McPherson (Chatham, MA) received a Bachelor of Fine Arts (Acting) from Boston University in 1968, which stayed on the shelf until she was able to retire to the Cape in 1996. Finding so many thriving and exciting theatres here, she has been rehearsing or performing continuously in productions from Wellfleet to Cotuit, finally able to truly call herself an “actor”. She was the Drama Coach at Chatham Middle School for several years, and has worked as an actor, a director, and a stage manager, although performing is her first love. In her younger years she was a folk singer, appearing in clubs including the prestigious Cellar Door in Washington, DC. Her favorite role is that of Daisy Werthan in “Driving Miss Daisy”, which she has most recently performed at the Barnstable Comedy Club. She looks forward to once again saying “I can’t, I have rehearsal.”



Jill Meyer (Harwich, MA) is a mother of five and author of the blog www.parenthooduncorked.com. She is a wash ashore, originally from New Jersey, and has lived on the Cape for seventeen years, after graduating from Babson College where she earned a degree in entrepreneurial studies and marketing. For sixteen years, she owned and managed two different inns in Chatham, the most recent of which was the four-diamond Captain’s House Inn. In addition to raising her kids and writing her blog, Jill is a Justice of the Peace and officiates over 100 weddings a year. She also operates a side business called Write Weddings and composes personalized wedding ceremonies and vows for couples who want to add a more personal touch to their wedding.



Jill and her husband, James, live in Harwich and believe that finding humor in everyday situations is the key to surviving the formative years of raising children. With children ages 12, 10, 8, and five-year-old twins as the grand finale, they are now in the throes of those intense years. Their only boy (8), is adopted from Ethiopia, and has more energy than his four sisters combined. Together, their brood keeps them on their toes, and most importantly, keeps them laughing.



Joanne Callum Powers (Brewster, MA) is an actor, choreographer, storyteller, and playwright. She feels most alive writing for and performing on stage. She has taught creative drama at Cape Cod Theater Company, and Contemporary Dance, and Movement for Actors at Cape Cod Community College, and a long time member and choreographer for the Extremes Dance Theater.

Joanne is a Developmental Specialist working for the Early Intervention program at the Kennedy-Donovan Center. She loves working with children and brings her joy of play and story to children and families.



Vicki Summers (Brewster, MA) is a professional actress, and drama teacher for 12 years at Riverview School in Sandwich, MA. She has performed in the theater since high school. Her favorite roles include Blanche in *A Streetcar Named Desire*, Mrs. Roby in *Xingu and Other Stories* (with Julie Harris), Molly in *Molly Sweeney*, Louisa in *Nine*, Margie in *Good People*, Aurora in *Kiss of the Spider Woman*, Nina, Wanda and Meg in *Durang-Durang*, Elsa in *The Road to Mecca*, and Amanda in *The Glass Menagerie*.

In *Bella, An Immigrant's Tale*, Vicki brings to life her beloved grandma. *Bella, An Immigrant's Tale* was originally developed and produced at Cape Rep Theatre, Brewster MA in their theater lab program for new plays. In addition to performing this one-woman play, Vicki offers oral history workshops to all ages with the goal of encouraging all to discover and record their own treasured, family stories before they are lost in time.



Deb Willsea, M.Ed. (Chatham, MA) Founder & President of Cape Cod Toy Library, Inc. and Co-Chair of Cape & Islands' "Listen to Your Mother" premier event with Joanne Cullum Powers. Her 40 year experience working in the education field has shown a passion for creating innovative programs, engaging play-based learning environments, and providing accessibility to educational resources and role models for children and families. She has a grown daughter and three grown sons and a 3 year old grandchild. Deb is delighted to share this "Listen to Your Mother" cast and stories with you!