

# RENAE LESLEY

## LITERARY/SPOKEN WORD

During the “WRITE YOUR STORY, PAINT YOUR STORY, TELL YOUR STORY” workshop, participants begin with a written account of their life story paying homage to their culture and family traditions. Regardless of age, they will begin with prompts to help guide their timeline chronologically with fun and engaging activities and a discussion to help mine the details they want to portray. Subsequent sessions will have participants create an art piece based on their story to represent their timeline as a whole or to shine light on certain events they want to capture.

## VISUAL ARTS WORKSHOPS

During the “MIXED MEDIA PORTRAIT” workshops, participants will look at Cherokee and other cultural patterns, colors, signatures and tendencies and discuss symbology and cultural significance. Taking a B&W photocopy of the participant or even of a favorite person or historical figure, they will alter with different techniques such as adding a colorful background, meaningful symbols, colorized or textile-fused clothing, embellishments and accessories such as hats, crowns, feathers, jewelry, etc., to create a frameable piece.

During the “BRING A LEGEND TO LIFE” workshops, participants will present and listen to various examples of folktales, myths, and cultural stories; students may also present a favorite tale through a book or in a remembered retelling of a family story. They will sketch and draft our visualization and artistic rendering of the story either by

**drawing the characters and or a scene, or by reproducing symbolic elements dispersed throughout the premise, or ideally incorporate all these and more in creation of a mixed media art piece to represent the chosen story.**

**Other workshops include “Mixed Media Art Portrait”, “Mixed Media Art Journal”, “The Art of Papermaking”, and “Art Card Creation”.**

## **THEATER/ACTING WORKSHOPS**

**10-minute plays completed in the Discover Your Inner Playwright workshop can be staged, minimally set and performed through a 5-session series of 50 min classes per play, culminating in a festival of plays. As an alternative, one play may be chosen and collaborated from within the group, staged, set and performed in one 5 session series culminating in one performance.**

## **SENIOR PROGRAMMING**

**Senior workshops include: “Write Your Story, Paint Your Story, Tell Your Story”, “Mixed Media Portrait”, “Mixed Media Art Journal Keepsake”, “Art Card Creation”, and “Your Name (or your pet’s name) in Cherokee”.**

**Participants and audiences aged 2 and older**