



## Now Hear These!

Several days ago, it happened again: I was DWI - driving while impaired. But it wasn't alcohol or drugs that were making me laugh like an idiot one moment and then cry like a baby the next. It was a podcast, and I have to confess: I'm addicted. Fortunately, it's a benign addiction, and if you appreciate good storytelling like I do, a little binge-listening now and then won't hurt you. In fact, it might even make you a better storyteller yourself, so with that in mind, let me offer six podcasts for your consideration. [Full Story](#) Please note: Apple Mail users may need to scroll down manually.

## Registration Now Open for July Master Class

For the first time ever, The Goodman Center is offering a two-day workshop focused on storytelling and presenting as leadership skills. "Telling Your Story: A Master Class for Nonprofit Leaders" will be held in Los Angeles on July 16th and 17th at the California Community Foundation.

If you've never participated in any of our workshops or webinars, this intensive class will give you a solid grounding in telling personal stories, organizational stories, and delivering those stories (and more) in your presentations. And for those who *have* participated before, it will give you the opportunity to build on that experience and take your communications skills to a new level.



Registration is open now, but **we will accept only 75 participants**, so if you're interested, click [here](#) for more information (including a full course outline for both days) and register now at our special rate of \$375.

## Upcoming online classes at The Goodman Center

PRESENT BETTER	WEBINAR BETTER	TELL BETTER STORIES
<p><b>Why Bad Presentations Happen to Good Causes</b></p>	<p><b>The Webinar on Webinars</b></p>	<p><b>Storytelling: Tapping the Power of Narrative</b></p>
<p>May 21 &amp; 22 11am - 12pm PT</p>	<p>May 29 11am - 12pm PT</p>	<p>Sept. 11, 18, 25 &amp; Oct. 2 9am - 10am PT</p>

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### This American Life

Widely acknowledged as the gold standard in audio storytelling, "[This American Life](#)" has been producing introspective and often melancholy stories since its host and co-creator, Ira Glass, brought the show to public radio in 1995. In addition to candid, sometimes quirky, sometimes heartbreaking, short stories about every day life from every corner of America, TAL's producers and reporters have also done incredible long form journalism that explores everything from controversial [incarcerations](#) to the surprisingly funny world of selling [cars](#).



### Serial

Telling a single story over twelve episodes, "[Serial](#)" revisits a 15-year-old murder case in an effort to uncover whether or not justice was served. Even if you aren't interested in true crime, this podcast from former TAL producer Sarah Koenig is chock-full of masterful (and sometimes maddening) storytelling that will keep you excitedly lapping up episodes until you've absorbed every last drop.



### Start-Up

Another show from a former TAL producer, "[Start-Up](#)" is like "Serial" without the murder. Each episode follows host and creator Alex Blumberg through his highly emotional journey of starting a business; fittingly, his start-up is a web-based network for narrative podcasts. Blumberg's unflinching look at his own process is as brave as it is riveting and gives the show a depth that is rarely found in public discourse around business.



### Radiolab

Abstract concepts like [truth](#), [time](#), and [choice](#) are made immediately meaningful and tangible as "[Radiolab](#)" hosts and co-creators Jad Abumrad and Robert Krulwich explore these topics through the lens of personal narratives. It's a testament to their expert storytelling that a show full of scientific and philosophical inquiry can simultaneously be so effortlessly playful and accessible. [This](#) episode entertained and horrified me all while challenging my belief in conservation in a way that I still haven't been able to reconcile.



### The Moth

Unlike the previous shows on the list, "[The Moth](#)" podcast places little focus on its host and has no journalist-reported stories. Rather, it's comprised exclusively of highly personal stories told by the people that lived them first hand. The stories in the podcast are recorded at storytelling events that are regularly held all over the country. Storytellers recount their most embarrassing, hilarious, challenging, moronic, and enlightened moments to a live audience, all without the use of notes. The resulting stories are raw, authentic, and completely engrossing.



### Rant & Rave

Our last recommendation is near and dear to our hearts (and homes). Once a month at the Rogue Machine Theatre in Los Angeles, Roxanne Hart and John Pollono produce "[Rant & Rave](#)," a night of honest and affecting storytelling centered around a one-word theme. The 99-seat theatre and sold out audience of regulars makes for a uniquely intimate vibe, one of real sharing amongst friends. In 2013, I decided there were too many good stories being told to go unpreserved and started hosting a podcast that features one story each week. We know we're biased, but our list wouldn't be complete without a recommendation to check out these deftly told, heartfelt tales. (And be warned: explicit language is often the norm during "Rant & Rave" performances.)



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## About Us

free-range thinking is written by Andy Goodman and Celia Hoffman. To read back issues, download free publications, and to learn more about our work, please visit [www.thegoodmancenter.com](http://www.thegoodmancenter.com).

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