



# Global Communication Sadarri Saskill



7929 26<sup>th</sup> Avenue ♦ Kenosha, Wisconsin, 53143-5609  
Phone & Fax-on-demand: 262. 605.8885 ♦ E-mail: [globaltales@yahoo.com](mailto:globaltales@yahoo.com)  
Web Site: [www.globaltales.com](http://www.globaltales.com)

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To whom it may concern,

This is a letter of recommendation for Mike Lockett. I have, as a spectator and artistic peer, had the privilege of observing multiple facets of Dr. Lockett’s creative genius. I first heard Mike as we shared the same storytelling stage at a concert in Madison, Wisconsin. From the very beginning, I was impressed by his verbal dexterity and nimbleness of tongue; his flair for the clever; and his impeccable sense of humor.

I feel that Mike Lockett has an energetic personality framed by irresistible charismatic appeal. Through multiple character voices and vivid detail he takes his audiences on remarkable journeys through time and space. Once, I eagerly watched Mike at the National Storytelling Pre-Conference in St. Louis, MO as he spun tale after tale to a group of youth storytellers and their families. Mike mesmerized the entire audience with his music-laced story performance. We were in awe as he mentored these new tellers with his heart replete with sincerity and good intention. You can truly see that Mike Lockett loves what he does!

Learning another language is not always an easy feat. However, this learned storyteller uses rhythm, rhyme, and repetition to teach and reinforce diverse aspects of the English language. Many of Mike’s stories teach intricacies of American History, world cultures and other academic facts across the curriculum. Mike Lockett’s style is smooth and the clarity of his story voice makes him stand out among his peers.

One of the things I love most about Mike is his way of drawing you into a tale. He is an expert at building the suspense in a story up to a cymbal-crashing crescendo. He can also make the most serious of listeners double over in full-bellied laughter. In addition, Mike builds in the element of participation into almost every tale he tells. The young and the young at heart are more than eager to jump in and play a part. The real story often begins with the spark Mike ignites in the mind of his listener. Alfred Lord Tennyson once said:

**“The happiness of a man in this life does not consist in the absence but in the mastery of his passions”.** — *Alfred Lord Tennyson, English poet (1809 - 1892)*

Drawing from the truth represented in Tennyson’s words, listeners can easily conclude that Storyteller Mike Lockett must be an extremely happy man.

Sincerely,

*Sadarri Saskill*

