

An Evening of Native American Stories with **Gayle Ross**

**Thursday November 13th
CMU, Anspach Hall 161, 7pm**



Gayle Ross is an enrolled member of the Cherokee Nation and a direct descendant of John Ross, Principal Chief of the Cherokee during the infamous “Trail of Tears”. Her grandmother told stories and it is from this rich Native American heritage that Gayle’s storytelling springs.

During the past twenty-five years, Gayle has become one of the best-loved and most respected storytellers to emerge from the current surge of interest in this timeless art form. Gayle has appeared at almost every major storytelling and folk festival in the United States and Canada, as well as theaters and performance arts halls through out the U.S. and Europe. The prestigious National Council of Traditional Arts has included Gayle in two of their touring shows and internationally acclaimed musician and composer Peter Buffet featured Gayle and her stories in his epic stage performance “500 Nations”, based on the CBS mini-series produced by Kevin Costner. Gayle was invited by then Vice President Al Gore to perform at a gala at his residence entitled “A Taste of Tennessee” and she was chosen by the Clinton White House as the only Native American speaker at the giant “Millenium on the Mall” celebration in Washington D.C. First Lady Laura Bush selected Gayle to perform at the National Book Festival’s opening gala where she shared the stage with such luminaries as CBS News anchor Bob Schieffer and stage and screen star, Julie Andrews. Gayle’s stories have opened evenings for such distinguished speakers as Maya Angelou, N. Scott Momaday and Alice Walker and she has appeared with such noted Native American artists as Rita Coolidge, Wes Studi, Kevin Locke and John Trudell. Her stories have been heard on National Public Radio on such programs as “Living on the Earth” and “Mountain Stages”. From the kindergarten classroom to the college campus to the Kennedy Center, Gayle stories have enthralled audiences of all ages.

Sponsored by CHSBS, The Office of Institutional Diversity & The Office of Native American Programs