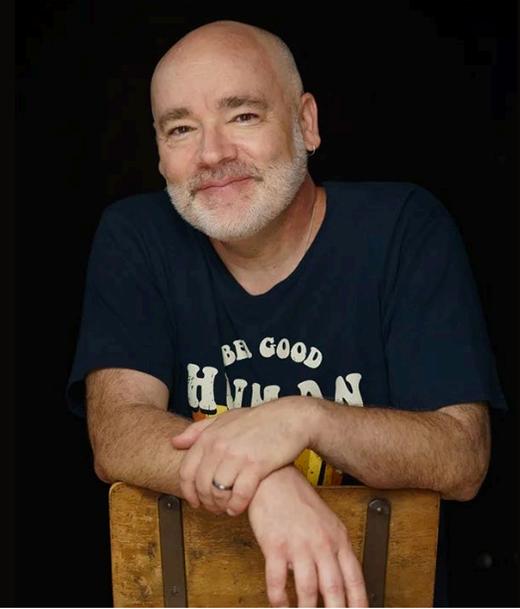


## SEAN MURPHY

# A Unique Voice for News Media, Leading Podcasts, and Expert Panels



AS SEEN IN



Sean Murphy offers an insightful, compelling voice uniquely suited to cable news segments, leading podcasts, and expert panels. His proven versatility as an author, cultural critic, and educator allows him to expertly navigate timely topical conversations, bridging ideological divides with clarity, empathy, and experience.

“Sean’s insights are reliably provocative, and he is occasionally quite convincing. His takes are informed, he is invariably amusing, thoughtful, and speaks past my brain directly to my soul—a talent that is rare but very needed in these times.”

— Mike Shields, *Convergence Media, CNN Contributor*

“I admire Sean as a masterful storyteller and essayist, but he’s also deeply knowledgeable about the many ways technology both impacts and drives changes in the cultural landscape. Murphy combines an analytical mind with a technophile’s passion, and can explain as well as anyone why the worlds of art and academia can—and should—embrace innovation.”

— Shawn DuBravac, *New York Times Bestselling Author & Top 30 Futurist*

“Sean has a razor-sharp wit to match his intellectual curiosity. Consistently a treat to read.”

— Jake Sugarman, *Salon*



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bit.ly/sean-murphy



@bullmurph



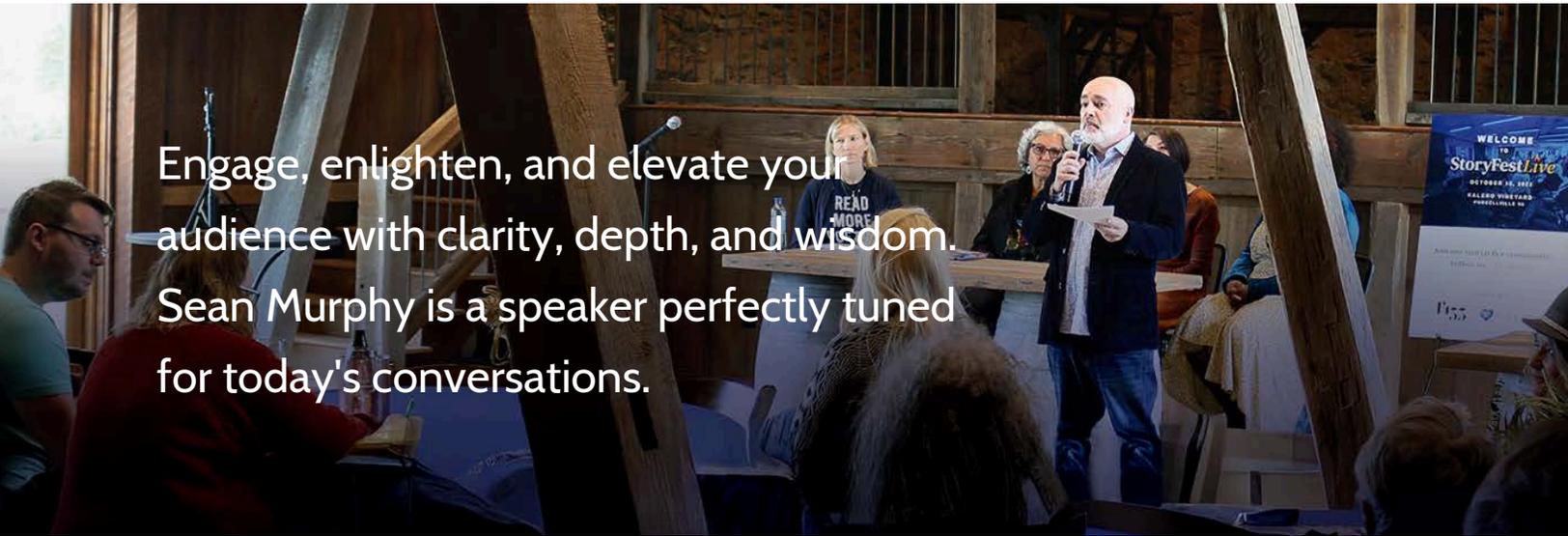
@bullmurph

# SEAN MURPHY

## Bridging Divides Through the Power of Storytelling

In an era where narratives shape realities and storytelling has unprecedented influence, Sean Murphy stands out as a uniquely insightful and essential voice. His deep understanding of the art and science of storytelling makes him more than just a commentator—he is a translator of the complex, a bridge-builder between ideological divides, and a guide for navigating the narratives that define our times.

Sean's gift lies in his rare ability to decode the hidden mechanics of narrative across all sectors—from literature and entertainment to technology, politics, and culture. He doesn't merely talk about stories; he reveals how stories function, how they influence society, and how they can be harnessed to foster empathy, connection, and meaningful change. His decades-long immersion in storytelling—as a writer, educator, advocate, and host—equips him with a distinctive ability to engage diverse audiences, challenging assumptions and provoking thought in ways few can.

A photograph of Sean Murphy speaking at a podium during a StoryFest Live event. He is a man with a beard, wearing a dark jacket and blue jeans, holding a microphone and a piece of paper. Behind him, a woman in a blue shirt with "READ MORE" on it is visible. To the right, a sign reads "WELCOME TO StoryFest Live OCTOBER 14, 2022 FALLEN VILLAGES HOTEL/CLUB IN". The setting is a rustic room with wooden beams and a large window.

Engage, enlighten, and elevate your audience with clarity, depth, and wisdom. Sean Murphy is a speaker perfectly tuned for today's conversations.

Sean Murphy is an award-winning author, cultural critic, and the Founding Director of 1455, a non-profit celebrating the power of storytelling. With over two decades of experience publishing fiction, poetry, reviews, and insightful essays on culture, politics, music, and technology, Sean's work has been featured in prominent outlets including Salon, The Village Voice, The New York Times, NPR's "All Things Considered," and USA Today. As Director of the Center for Story at Shenandoah University, he has interviewed hundreds of creatives and thought leaders, skillfully navigating complex conversations with clarity and empathy. Sean's dynamic speaking style and profound expertise make him a compelling and valuable voice for **Podcasts, cable news, expert panels and conferences.**

**SEAN MURPHY**

## Areas of Expertise & Compelling Topics



### Modern Masculinity and Its Complexities

Sean Murphy's nuanced exploration of masculinity in his acclaimed book, *This Kind of Man*, makes him uniquely positioned to engage thoughtfully on one of society's most pressing issues. Producers seeking to illuminate the intricacies of modern manhood, from emotional vulnerability to shifting cultural expectations, will find in Sean an articulate and empathetic voice capable of resonating deeply with diverse audiences.

- Provides actionable insights into navigating emotional intelligence and changing gender roles
- Expertly dismantles stereotypes, promoting healthier dialogue about masculinity.
- Engages male and female audiences alike, fostering mutual understanding and empathy.

### AI and Technology's Impact on Human Connection

As technology transforms how we connect, Sean Murphy offers a thoughtful, balanced take on its impact—highlighting both promise and pitfalls offering insights to those seeking meaningful conversations on the human side of tech.

- Explores practical solutions for maintaining genuine relationships amidst digital overload.
- Provides unique perspectives on how technology can enhance rather than hinder human connection.
- Effectively communicates complex tech-driven cultural shifts to diverse audiences.

# SEAN MURPHY

## Digital Media, Disinformation, and Truth

Sean's critical analysis of digital media's role in disseminating misinformation equips him uniquely to discuss one of our era's greatest challenges: truth in the age of information overload. Producers seeking to tackle disinformation head-on will find Sean's informed, pragmatic strategies invaluable.

- Provides actionable strategies for identifying and combating misinformation.
- Articulates the role of narrative in shaping public understanding and belief.
- Expertly explains complex media dynamics in accessible terms.

## Culture Wars and the Power of Narrative

Sean's expertise in analyzing the power of narratives to shape public opinion and political polarization positions him ideally to help producers navigate contentious cultural debates. His insights into storytelling as both a unifying and divisive force offer audiences a deeper understanding of the dynamics driving today's culture wars.

- Deconstructs polarized narratives with balanced, insightful critique.
- Suggests innovative approaches for storytelling to bridge ideological divides.
- Clearly illustrates how narrative framing impacts cultural and political outcomes.

## Political Discourse and Cultural Critique

In an era of deep ideological divides, Sean Murphy stands out as a rare commentator who transcends partisan politics, making him perfect for discussions requiring genuine nuance and authenticity. His ability to constructively critique narratives from both political spectrums provides producers with the opportunity to foster meaningful dialogue that bridges rather than deepens divides.

- Effectively engages audiences across the political spectrum with balanced critiques.
- Breaks down complex political narratives into accessible, insightful discussions.
- Offers practical approaches to fostering bipartisan dialogue and cooperation.

## SEAN MURPHY

## Books &amp; Impact

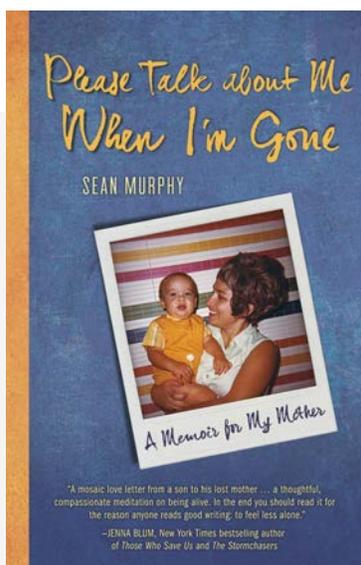
Murphy's literary contributions powerfully explore critical social themes, complex human experiences, and the profound intersections of identity, culture, and societal expectations. His diverse body of work spans evocative poetry, insightful memoir, and compelling fiction, earning widespread recognition and resonating deeply with readers from all walks of life. Each publication underscores Sean's ability to navigate sensitive topics with authenticity, empathy, and a uniquely relatable voice.



"...anatomizing all the ways that American masculinity finds itself adrift, with a special thought for the women in the same lifeboat..."

— Louis Bayard

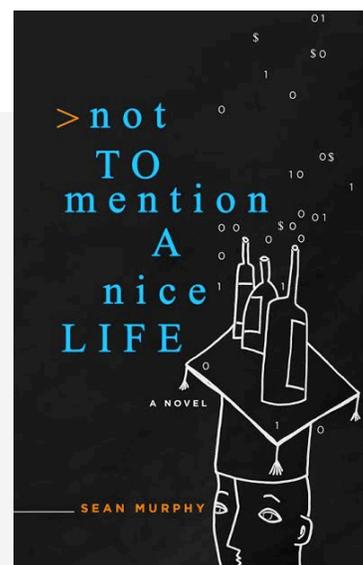
*Author of #1 Netflix Movie, The Pale Blue Eye*



"...a mosaic love letter...a thoughtful, compassionate meditation on being alive."

— Jenna Blum

*NYT best-selling author of Those Who Save Us*



"Murphy's masterful storytelling takes us on an honest, searing, sardonic ride."

— Jeremy Neuner

*co-author of The Rise of the Naked Economy*

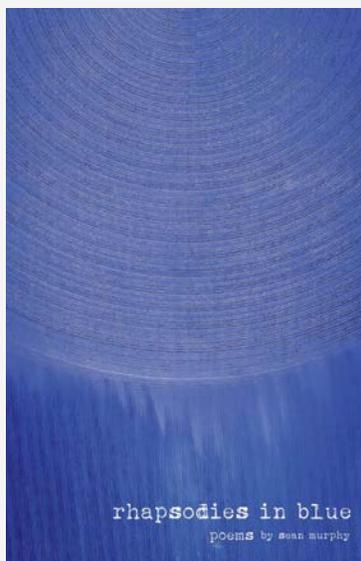


## SEAN MURPHY



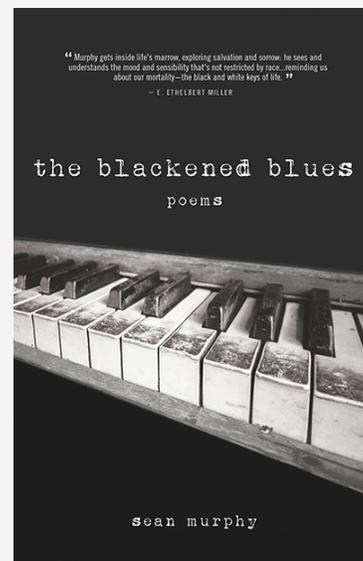
"A transformative journey that not only unveils new dimensions to familiar tunes but beckons you to venture into uncharted musical realms."

— Nabil Ayers  
Author of *My Life in the Sunshine*



"Sean Murphy is a blues and jazz artist poet who touches our souls and enriches our lives!"

— Dr. Cornel West  
Professor, Philosopher,  
Artist, Activist



"There is a grand richness here in *The Blackened Blues* and these poems may very well keep you up at night."

— John Goodman  
Former Playbox Jazz Critic,  
Author of *Mingus Speaks*

Sean has published 8 books and over 2,000 Articles on Politics, Music, Tech, for dozens of media outlets during the last 25 years.

Explore all books and more of Murphy's work at [seanmurphy.net](http://seanmurphy.net)

SEAN MURPHY

# Awards & Industry Recognition



CHSS Department of English Distinguished Alumnus,  
George Mason University (2019)



Four Pushcart Prize Nominations (2015-Present)



Two Best of Net (2021, 2023)



Memoir Magazine Prize for Books (2022)

1455

# StoryFest Live

## 1455 Literary Arts Annual StoryFest

Under the visionary leadership of Sean Murphy, 1455 Literary Arts has established StoryFest as a premier gathering that unites a diverse array of authors, poets, artists, and storytellers. Since its inception in 2019, StoryFest hosted over 500 speakers and more than a thousand endless panels and evolved into a dynamic platform that celebrates the transformative power of storytelling, fostering connections among creatives from various backgrounds and disciplines.

# 500+

Participating  
speakers

# 1000+

Panels, workshops,  
and sessions

# 2000+

In-person and virtual  
attendees

# 300+

Young poets contest  
submissions

# 5 years

of annual StoryFest  
events



1455

## Hosting Distinguished Speakers

Over the years, StoryFest has attracted an impressive roster of distinguished speakers, including:



Douglas Stuart



Brian Broome



Deesha Philyaw



Jake Tapper



Jane Friedman

## Storyteller of the Year Awards

Winners of the 1455 “Storyteller of Year” award included:



Jean Case



Lisa Ling



Ron Charles

Through these multifaceted programs, Sean Murphy and 1455 Literary Arts continue to champion the art of storytelling, creating inclusive spaces that inspire and connect communities worldwide.

## Bringing StoryFest to the Students

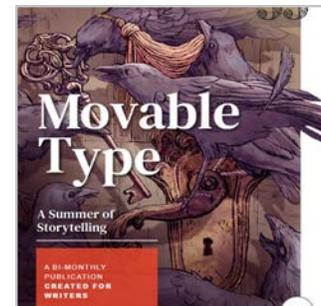
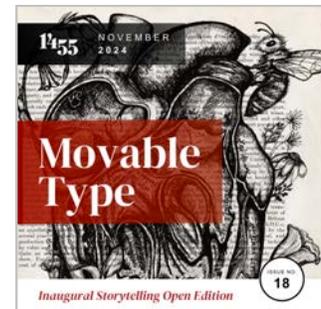
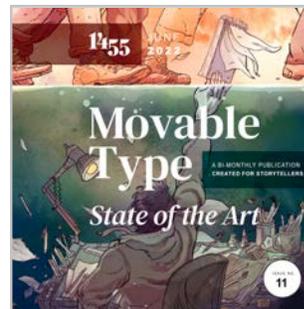
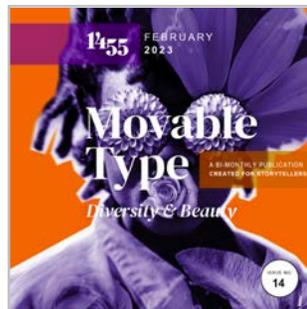
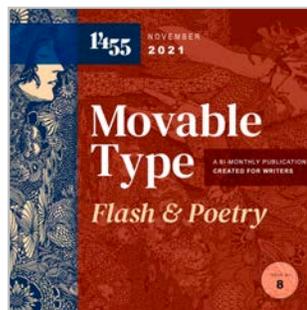
In his role as Director of the **Center for Story at Shenandoah University**, Murphy has brought the annual StoryFest to the students and community.



1455

# Movable Type

Curated and edited by Sean Murphy, Movable Type is 1455's e-magazine designed to showcase personal stories by exceptional writers, provide invaluable resources, and foster solidarity among literary enthusiasts. Each issue reflects Sean's commitment to elevating a diverse array of voices—poets, prose masters, essayists, educators, and anyone passionate about written expression. By democratizing content and emphasizing the importance of personal narrative, Movable Type continues the legacy of its namesake—the technological breakthrough that revolutionized storytelling and access to ideas.



Read and subscribe at [1455litarts.org/movable-type](https://1455litarts.org/movable-type)

SEAN MURPHY

# Academic Contributions



Sean Murphy serves as the Director of the Center for Story at Shenandoah University, where he emphasizes the transformative power of storytelling. His recent article, "[What's the Story? How Writing Your Stories Becomes the Story of Your Life](#)", highlights the significance of personal narratives in shaping one's life.



## About The Center for Story

The Center for Story isn't just a program at Shenandoah University—it's the embodiment of Sean Murphy's life's work. Sean created the Center as a natural extension of his decades-long commitment to the power of story as a tool for connection, transformation, and cultural impact. His vision is already taking shape. The Center is quickly becoming a vibrant space where storytelling is recognized not only as an art form, but as a foundational skill that touches every discipline, career path, and life.

- **Story as a Force for Change:** Sean champions diverse voices and ensures the Center uplifts stories that build empathy and challenge the status quo.
- **Creativity, Community, and Craft:** At the heart of Sean's vision: accessible, purpose-driven storytelling for everyone—across formats, backgrounds, and experiences.
- **Teaching by Doing:** Through workshops and hands-on events, Sean empowers storytellers to grow their skills and discover their voice.
- **A Cultural Connector:** Sean builds bridges between campus and community, forging partnerships that make storytelling a shared, public act.
- **Honoring the Past, Inventing the Future:** With one foot in tradition and one in tech, Sean leads a Center that preserves heritage while pushing storytelling forward.

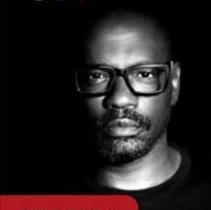
# SOME THINGS CONSIDERED



HOSTED BY  
**SEAN MURPHY**

Sean hosts the podcast "Some Things Considered", launched in 2024, where he engages with celebrated writers, educators, and advocates on a variety of topics. His insightful conversations have garnered a dedicated listener base, making it a valuable resource for those interested in culture, politics, music, and technology.

**STC**



**Is Toxic Masculinity Destroying Society?**

WITH **Brian Broome**

EPISODE 1



**STC**



**Behind the Scenes & Untold Stories from the White House**

WITH **Steven L. Herman**

EPISODE 7



**STC**



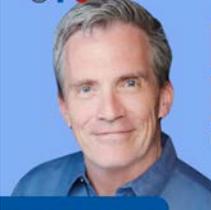
**A Literary Icon on Creating a Positive Platform**

WITH **Deesha Philyaw**

EPISODE 9



**STC**



**#1 Netflix Novelist Tells Oscar Wilde's Story**

WITH **Louis Bayard**

SEASON 2 | EP 3



**STC**



**The Hidden Secrets of Publishing**

WITH **Courtney Maum**

EPISODE 4



**STC**



**Writing Success in the Age of Overload**

WITH **Charles Bock**

SEASON 2 | EP 2



**STC**



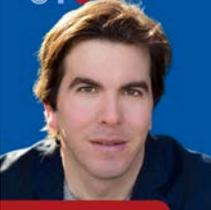
**How Storytelling Powers Best-Selling Games**

WITH **Grant Shonkwiler**

SEASON 2 | EP 9



**STC**



**Crypto, Chaos, & the Culture War**

WITH **Jacob Silverman**

SEASON 3 | EP 1



**STC**



**Stanford's Self-Inflicted Indignity**

WITH **Austin Robert Smith**

SEASON 2 | EP 1



Listen and subscribe at [seanmurphy.live](https://seanmurphy.live)



SEAN MURPHY

# Deep Explorations of Culture, Arts, and Identity

Sean Murphy's Substack is a curated platform for readers who value thoughtful storytelling across multiple dimensions of culture. With four distinct sections—spanning topics including culture, politics, music, and identity—his newsletter explores the intersections of art and human connection. Each section offers original essays, reflections, and commentary that aim to inform, inspire, and invite dialogue. Whether unpacking a forgotten moment in history, celebrating the influence of a favorite record, or exploring the mechanics of a well-told story, Murphy's Substack is a destination for readers who believe in the transformative power of narrative.

The screenshot displays the website for Sean Murphy's Substack. At the top, the name "SEAN MURPHY" is centered in a stylized font, with search and share icons to the right. Below the name is a navigation menu with links: Home, Podcast, Some Things Considered, This Kind of Man, Kinds of Blue, The Amazing Pudding, Archive, and About. The main content area features a grid of article cards. The central card is a full-width portrait of Sean Murphy in a white blazer standing in a library. To the left and right are smaller article cards with titles and descriptions. Each card includes a date and the author's name, "SEAN MURPHY".

**SEAN MURPHY**

Home Podcast Some Things Considered This Kind of Man Kinds of Blue The Amazing Pudding Archive About

**SOME THINGS CONSIDERED**  
**About Some Things Considered**  
 On Culture, Politics, and Art  
 JUN 13, 2024 • SEAN MURPHY

**THE AMAZING PUDDING**  
**About The Amazing Pudding**  
 Exploring the Depths of Prog Rock  
 FEB 6 • SEAN MURPHY

**SEAN MURPHY**  
**About Sean Murphy**  
 Sean Murphy, a cultural critic and rebel advocate covering the world, one story at a time.  
 JUL 2, 2024

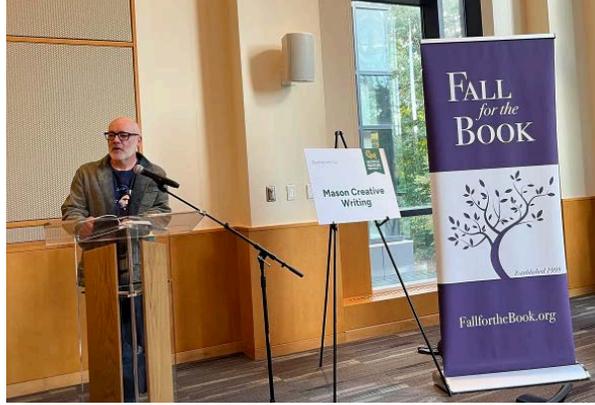
**kinds of blue**  
**About Kinds of Blue**  
 American History via Music  
 FEB 6 • SEAN MURPHY

**This Kind of Man**  
**About This Kind of Man**  
 Rethinking Narratives of Masculinity  
 FEB 6 • SEAN MURPHY



Read and subscribe at [seanmurphy.live](https://seanmurphy.live)

**SEAN MURPHY**



# Bring Sean's Insight to Your Audience

Sean is available to appear on cable news, podcasts, as an event keynote or panelists, or moderator for in-person and virtual events. **He has spoken and been interviewed by national media, wide ranging podcasts, key notes, book festivals, writing retreats, universities, and conferences** on topics ranging from creative entrepreneurship and arts criticism to the role of narrative in business, technology, and education. With deep expertise, a passion for elevating underrepresented stories, and a talent for sparking meaningful dialogue, Sean brings insight, energy, and inspiration to every event.

## Book Sean

For more information on booking Sean for speaking engagements, contact:

### Mark Seferian

*Publicist / Brand Manager*

[mark@goldencompassvc.com](mailto:mark@goldencompassvc.com)

## Get Involved

For all other inquiries, you can contact Sean Murphy directly at:

### Sean Murphy

*Author, Podcaster, Professor,*

*Nonprofit Founder*

[sean@1455litarts.org](mailto:sean@1455litarts.org)

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