

Preparing for Your Interview

Congratulations on your interest in being interviewed for a video portrait!

The following suggestions will help you prepare for the wonderful gift you are about to create.

Begin by looking around your home at the items you have collected. Some of them may carry stories of their own that you could share. Look for any items or photos that you would like to include in your story.

There may be future viewers who would enjoy hearing you read a favorite poem, children's story, or better yet, sing a song! Think back to your favorite childhood memories. What traditions did your family share? How did you celebrate holidays? Did you have any fears? What were your favorite activities? What did you enjoy as a child? How was your childhood different from children's lives today?

Please dress comfortably and try to pick a top that is neutral without a too-distracting pattern so the camera can focus on you. You should select a comfortable chair and have a glass of water nearby. We will chat until you feel relaxed. Know that YOU are the director. If you tire or simply wish to start again on a different day, just say so. If you say something that you don't want shared, you just tell me and I will take it out. What is important to me is that you enjoy the experience. You decide if you want to offer the recording as a special gift or to save it to be shared as a memorial legacy.

I am looking forward to meeting you and hearing your story!

Cyn Tickell

♪ **If you have any questions, please contact me at:** 813-767-7549 ~ cyntickell@gmail.com

♪ **Gather (or think about) some personal items that might elicit memories and stories**

- Albums, Photographs, Portraits
- Letters, Postcards, Telegrams, Writings, Poetry, Recorded Performances (A/V)
- Diplomas, Certificates, Licenses, Resumes, Awards
- Recognitions in any newsletters/papers, magazines, TV/Radio recordings
- Scrap Books, News Clippings, Old Magazines
- Hobby or Craft items (artwork, finished items, tools, supplies, etc.)
- Musical Instrument or Music Box
- Collections (artwork, collectables, stamps, coins, etc.)
- Sporting or Activity items (baseball, fishing tackle box, bowling shoes, etc.)
- Gifts or Acquisitions (from family, friends, work or travel)
- Jewelry box (rings, pins, necklaces, etc.)
- Clothing or Quilts (tee shirts, outfits, hats, shawls, blankets, quilts)

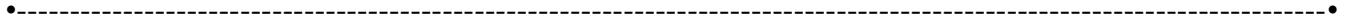
♪ **Draw a timeline of your life's milestones** (on the following page) and consider including:

- Family Births, Marriages, Deaths
- Places where you have lived or visited
- Education, Occupations, Military or Public Service
- Personal Achievements, Adventures or Rewarding experiences
- Personal Challenges, Hospitalizations or Hard Times
- Historic Events, Inventions or Innovations that changed the way you lived

A Timeline of Your Life's Milestones

Birth

Present



♪ Make a few notes about stories or topics you want to be sure to cover...

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

♪ List items or photos you would like to show in your story...

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____