

## WRITING STRATEGIES FOR THE DIVERSITY IN YOUR CLASSROOM

*Reaching Reluctant Writers* is an ideal presentation for grade 4-9 teachers who are faced with bewildering diversity in every classroom ~ auditory-sequential and visual-spatial learners, ESLs, boys and girls, gifted, those with physical/behavioural challenges, and yet others with myriad learning differences. This presentation delivers valuable brain-based, professional writing tips that demystify and manage **low writing output**.

Can you teach writing to this diversity all at once? You bet! As long as you know the brain- and evidence-based tools that will help you. First assess the writers' block, then use one of many strategies to get the student's creativity flowing.

### Teachers discover:

- The recent findings in brain research related to writing
- How to unravel the 8 sub-skills of writing
- How to test for each sub-skill and identify the deficit(s)
- A tool-kit of strategies to ramp-up your teaching of creative writing to all diversities simultaneously
- How to quickly improve written output and quality
- How to demystify the challenges for students and their parents



**This session not only provides the solutions, but also models the tools. Using an animated PowerPoint presentation and writing examples, each session has teachers participating in experiential exercises that shed light on the complexity of writing and demonstrate how to tap students' latent creativity.**

### Some recent comments from participants:

*"One of the gems of Pro-D. I wish the session was longer."*

*"...I was glued to everything you had to say."*

*"I was truly inspired - I could feel the energy."*

*"The information was an eye-opener for me."*

*"I will use the Levine Output Inventory to pinpoint my frustrated writers' problems."*

*"Will try the ideas next week."*

Surrey Teachers' Association Convention, May 2006

*"Compelling, useful, affirming...time well spent!"*

*"Julie is a fantastic speaker..." "...excellent for a beginner teacher..."*

*"I liked the way you modeled the strategies and ideas."*

*"Julie...showed warmth and humour. She was courteous and professional..."*

*"A dynamic and engaging speaker."*

Coquitlam Teachers' Association conference, February 2006

***Reaching Reluctant Writers* is suitable for teachers at individual schools or for district-wide professional development conferences**



So far, **Julie H. Ferguson** has changed the way over 2,000 teachers approach creative writing and the way hundreds of students actually write. Her mission: to improve the literacy statistics in Canada, one kid at a time.

A working writer for 35 years, Julie is the author of *Writing with Power: Proven Tools and Tips for Your Classroom* and seven other non-fiction books; her latest is *Sing a New Song* (Dundurn 2006). Her many articles have appeared in international, national, and regional publications, as well as on the Web.

Not only is Julie a successful author, she is also an accomplished speaker and trainer who earned her professional speaking designation in 2000. During the last ten years, many of western Canada's school districts have invited Julie back time and again to present at their professional development events and to lead lively, fun workshops for their gifted, regular, and special needs students. She also delights in inspiring Aboriginal students and boys-only English classes to improve their writing.

Julie presents at international writers' conferences, and teaches for the Creative Writing program at Vancouver Community College. Julie has also appeared on local and national radio. She was one of Vicki Gabereau's Five Guests of the Year.

Julie is a proud member of the Federation of BC Writers, the Plain Language Association International, and formerly of the Canadian Association of Professional Speakers,



To book Julie for your students or next Pro-D day, please call

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