

WRITING WITH POWER!!

A CREATIVE WRITING PRESENTATION FOR TEACHERS (and students) WHO:

- Teach grade 5-12
- Are seeking new approaches that stimulate and revitalize creative writing
- Want to encourage writing
- Want to unleash powerful, but often dormant communication skills

Exciting writing is accessible! It is a teachable and learnable process based on proven principles. Your students can write better if they separate the creative process from the mechanics. Sadly, most of us are not taught to write this way. The keys to overcoming this challenge in the classroom are professional writing skills that, once learned, bring writing enjoyment and confidence to both teachers and students.

TEACHERS WILL LEARN:

- How to manage gender differences in writing
- How to warm up the writing centre in the brain
- How to identify power words
- How to create and use power triplets
- How to banish boring beginnings
- How triplets lead to exciting paragraphs
- How to develop outlines for any length project
- A new approach to editing/proofing

In a more adult format than used for grade 5-12 students, teachers experience a similar session. Using a PowerPoint presentation that models the approach, interactive techniques, examples, and fun exercises, teachers compose two paragraphs that jump off the page and a collectively written project that is worthy of publication.

"I learned how to grab the reader..."

"...discovered how to write creatively."

"Learned how to start with exciting words."

"Made me think outside the box."

Gde 6-8 students (SD 43 Coquitlam, BC) Nov 06

"I enjoyed...the ways to tap into the writer within all our students."

"...a valuable source of ideas, strategies and information."

"The modelling gave me empathy and insight into my students."

"...an eye-opening presentation based on teachable strategies and brain-based research." "I found myself involved and intrigued."

"An excellent presenter with a good mix of hard facts, useful classroom strategies, and personal anecdotes."

Gde 5-12 teachers, Catholic Independent Schools, Vancouver, Oct 06

"Thanks for trusting our professionalism and giving us the ideas, yet saying, 'Now you know how to apply it in the classroom.'"

Central Okanagan Teachers' Association conference, Aug 06

"An outstanding, informative, and educational day."

"Fun, creative, edgy." Nanaimo Teachers' Union conference, Feb 04

***Writing with Power!* is suitable to present to teachers and students at individual schools and to 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 Plain Language Association International, the Federation of BC Writers and formerly of the Canadian Association of Professional Speakers



To confirm Julie's availability, call

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