

About Suzanne's Presentations -

My teachers and students raved about how interesting you were...we loved how you told the stories behind the stories...You captured their attention from the beginning . — **Desiree Beard, Lake Dallas Middle School, Lake Dallas, Texas**

An interesting, funny, talented person who communicates a real interest and caring about students and their reading and writing habits. — **Terry Rose, McLoughlin Middle School, Vancouver, Washington**

You truly mesmerized our students and created great interest in your book ... you were just wonderful and you had such a positive impact on the students. — **Sarah T. Severs, J.P. Burley Middle School, Charlottesville, Virginia**

The students enjoyed your presentation and it was very motivating for us teachers as well. Thank you for making great literature so accessible to the kids! — **Katherine Giszack, Charlottesville Catholic School, Charlottesville, Virginia**

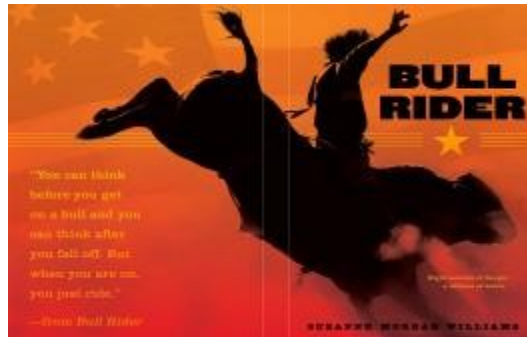
Her presentation was both informative and fascinating to our students. Our young readers and writers at the Ohio Virtual Academy appreciated seeing what inspired her to write such a great story. — **Kelly Booth, Ohio Virtual Academy**

Suzanne Morgan Williams —

Real Books for Real Kids



School and Library Presentations



Cam O'Mara's big brother Ben is a champion bull rider. When Ben is seriously injured in the Iraq War, Cam turns to bull riding and family traditions to cope with his grief and loss.

Bull Rider - from Margaret K. McElderry, 2009 (Simon and Schuster) ISBN: 1-4169-6130-5. Now available in paperback ISBN: 1-4424-1252-6

Every student has a story . . . Each story has its truth.

There is nothing more moving about a story than knowing it is true – whether that truth is in the actual events, in the details that lead us to believe it, or in a deeper human place of emotional resonance. There is no better teacher, no more straightforward way to make a point than with a story. Through stories, students become readers and writers. They remember. And they share.

Suzanne Morgan Williams is author of both fiction and non-fiction books for children. Her work has taken her to Mexico, the Arctic, backstage at the rodeo, and to teaching wigwams on Indian reservations. She's been stranded on the sea ice on Hudson Bay and dodged a bull's horns as he tried to climb out of a chute. Suzanne watches and listens – then she weaves facts into fiction or uncovers the real story in a non-fiction project.

Suzanne is a former teacher and frequent presenter in schools, libraries, museums, and to conference groups. She uses visuals, interaction, and her own stories to draw her audience into a place where detail, experience, and emotion blend to create one story that needs to be told.

About Suzanne's books and presentations:

Your presentation was fascinating and your book (*Made in China*) will be my primary resource for my China unit . . . **Cris Barry, 6th grade teacher, California.**



Suzanne has completed an excellent book on Inuit culture (*The Inuit.*) We are not always so fortunate as to receive authors who are not only willing to come into the community but to learn from its inhabitants as well. **Bev Hill, Principal, Nunavut, Canada**

Everyone really enjoyed your presentation and your rapport with the children was great! **Heather Whitehill, Pacific Science Center, Seattle, Washington**

I think the book (*Cherokee Indians*) is EXCELLENT and one of the best I have seen for children. **Lisa Stopp, Literature Coordinator, Cherokee Nation, Tahlequah, Oklahoma**

SEE INSIDE FOR MORE ON SUZANNE'S DEBUT NOVEL, BULL RIDER . . .

First find the story ~ then write it down



Ideas,
dreams,
possibilities~

Suzanne—

has been a Nevada Artist in Residence, winner of a Sierra Arts Foundation Fellowship and Nevada Arts Council Grants, and is Co-Regional Advisor of the Nevada Region of Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators.

A former teacher, she has presented to numerous schools, libraries and museums, as well as at teachers', writers', and librarians' conferences. She lives with her family in Reno, Nevada.

Bring Suzanne to your Community—

Suzanne Morgan Williams is available to work with your students and community members. E-mail: suzanne@suzannemorganwilliams.com

Visit her website at www.suzannemorganwilliams.com

Current rates: \$750 per day plus travel expenses or by arrangement.

Programs and Presentations

Fact in Fiction: Grades 4 and up: How do research, interviews, travel and site visits, storytelling and personal experience work together in creating fiction? For large groups Suzanne includes a power point presentation, student interaction, and plenty of stories and examples as well as sharing from her work. She emphasizes skills students already have that will help them create their own stories.

Grades K-3: Suzanne shares stories she has learned in her research and integrates age appropriate activities to hold your students' interest. Plenty of visuals too.

For groups smaller groups: up to sixty participants she can include some hands on activities – such as practicing interviewing skills, writing a group story, or using personal experience to create the building blocks for their own stories.

The Story Behind Bull Rider:

Middle school and high school students learn about researching the facts behind Bull Rider. Suzanne talks about the sacrifices service

people and their families make and she challenges students to support our injured veterans. A lesson in research, civics, and literature.

Suzanne also talks to students about their own unique stories that only they are qualified to tell. She encourages them to become both readers and writers

Nonfiction Too: Ask Suzanne about her non-fiction presentations including *Chinese Inventions*, *Chinese Culture*, and *North America, Sacred Land*.

About Bull Rider ~

- Junior Library Guild Selection, 2009
- represented Nevada, 2008 National Book Festival, Washington DC.
- Texas Library Association's 2010 Lone Star and Tayshas Lists
- Western Heritage Award, 2009, National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum, Oklahoma City.
- Nevada Young Readers' Award, finalist intermediate grades—2010
- Bank Street College Best Books for 2010, Ages 12—14



This first novel makes the sports details of skateboarding and bull-riding part of the powerful contemporary story of

family, community, and work – **Booklist**

The book isn't overtly anti- or pro-war so much as pro the people who are struggling with this difficult change in their lives. This is therefore a gripping read for fans of family dramas, and it's certainly high time that this aspect of the war's consequences received a sensitive and compelling exploration. -

The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books

Bull Rider, vividly captures life on a modern Nevada ranch. . . (it) is the story of real people, in real situations, that will ring true even if readers have never seen a salt lick, a chute, or the open range. - **Ellen Fockler**, library coordinator, Washoe County School District

Suzanne Morgan Williams' spare, straightforward prose lets the O'Maras speak their piece on war and sacrifice, family loyalty and courage, and reveals what it means to live in the heart of the modern West. – **Terri Farley**, author of the *Phantom Stallion* series

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