

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



Bull Rider 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. **ISBN:** 978-1-4169-6130-5. paperback 978-1-4424-1252-6

Sierra Blue When Magic's best friend tells her secret, Magic escapes to her great-aunt's ranch in the Sierra to avoid constant teasing. She never imagines she might do the same to someone else, who her real friends will turn out to be, or that one horse could make such a difference to all of them. **ISBN:** 979-8-9890255-0-3



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 workshops 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**

Suzanne has wonderful knowledge of writing that she shares with the students. Her exercises always inspire good ideas for me. **Linda Kay Hardie, adult workshop participant**

Suzanne is organized, friendly, encouraging and knowledgeable. Loved the class. **Anonymous evaluation adult workshop participant**

First find the story ~ then write it down



Ideas,
dreams,
possibilities~

Suzanne—

Is a Nevada Arts Council teaching artist for school and community groups. She has won a Sierra Arts Foundation Fellowship and several Nevada Arts Council Grants, and is a Regional Advisor

Emerita, Nevada Region of Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators. She was honored as an SCBWI Member of the year.

A former teacher, she has presented at dozens of schools, libraries and museums, as well as at teachers', writers', and librarians' conferences. She lives in Reno, Nevada.

Bring Suzanne to your Community—

Suzanne Morgan Williams is available to work with your students and community members. E-mail: suzannemorganwilliams@charter.net
Visit her website at www.suzannemorganwilliams.com

Current rates: \$900 per day plus travel expenses or by arrangement.

Programs and Presentations

Fact in Fiction: (can be adapted to all grade levels.) 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 as well as sharing from her work.

For smaller groups: writing workshops – teaching from classroom tested lessons, Suzanne encourages students to become both readers and writers with their own unique stories to tell.

Different Isn't Weird; Take-aways from Sierra Blue: (grades 4-9) Learn how the characters evolved, how they connect to Suzanne's world and yours, and how writing can help students find their own gifts and 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.

About Bull Rider ~

- Junior Library Guild Selection,
- 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
- Missouri Truman Award Finalist 2011—2012
- Indiana's Hoosier Award Finalist
- Wyoming's Indian Paintbrush Award finalist



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, . . . a sensitive and compelling exploration. -

The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books

Bull Rider, vividly captures life on a modern Nevada ranch. . . 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 Schools

About Sierra Blue ~

A perfect tale for young horse lovers, brimming over with adventure and magic, found family and the mysterious power of healing." –**Rosanne Parry**, author of A WOLF CALLED WANDER and A HORSE NAMED SKY.

An original and fun read from start to finish, "Sierra Blue" by novelist Suzanne Morgan Williams will have a special appeal for young readers ages 9-15 with an interest in unique coming-of-age stories, horses, a bit of fantasy, and happy endings. "Sierra Blue" is especially and unreservedly recommended for elementary school, middle school, high school, and community library YA Fiction collections. – **Midwest Book Review**



There's so much to love about SIERRA BLUE! Not only for horse lovers, this book touches on betrayal by a friend, bullying, magical auras, building self-confidence, and more in a believable story brought to life in a setting rich in details. Suzanne Williams deftly steps into her characters' minds and hearts!
Edith Hemmingway—reader review

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