Awards & Recognition

A Letter to Mrs. Roosevelt

- Marguerite de Angeli Prize for Historical Fiction
- Keystone to Reading Award
- Nominated for 10 State Book Awards
- Teacher's Choices 2000 by International Reading Assoc.

Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM) Public Speaking & Leadership Award

Toastmasters International District 53 2009-10 Area Governor of the Year 2010-11 Division Governor of the Year

2008-09 National Hobo Queen

2003 Seton Hill University Distinguished Alumna Leadership Award

2000-2001 Keystone to Reading State Book Award

1997 and 1998
First Place
Connecticut Press Club Award

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WORKSHOPS

- FOR AUTHORS
- "Making the most of your School Author Visit"
- FOR EDUCATORS
- "The Power of Stories," tailored to the needs and interests of your school.
- FOR STUDENTS (AUTHOR VISITS)

"Make Way, Sherlock: How To Nab Your Main Character"

"That's a Wrap, Watson: The Detective Work of a Great Story"

• FOR COST CONSCIOUS ORGANIZATIONS Skype-enabled Author Visit saves Travel Fees

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A NOTE from the AUTHOR

As I write, I often find myself in the realm of nonfiction, dusting off long-forgotten books and files to peruse the crumbling yellowed pages for key bits of information. These facts are woven into the pages of my books, or detailed in presentations as the "ah-ha" moment that stroked the imagination.

Fiction intrigues me and fulfills a sense of "wOnderlust" as I extrapolate, building the ordinary into the extraordinary.

As an author and public speaker, I have two goals: to utilize my experience as an author and former educator for the benefit of readers and aspiring writers of all ages; while also honoring the art of writing.

Nationwide invitations as a keynote speaker at educational conferences, book talks, and writing workshops are especially gratifying.

More importantly, these events grant me the opportunity to meet and speak with readers and aspiring writers of all ages, enabling us to connect on common ground.

Picture: As guest speaker in Bangkok, Thailand





Picture: Keynote Speaker at Connecticut Educator's Event

Audience reactions ...

"I most highly recommend Ms. De Young as a keynote speaker, a classroom speaker, and/or a breakout speaker at a conference... she totally captivates the group no matter what their age."

Dr. Darla Shaw,
 Western Connecticut State University

"Through creative drama, and relevant visual aids, Ms. De Young maintained the attention of our students, teachers, parents, and even grandparents!
State-of-the-art methods of involving young children in this historical time make learning come alive for the audience...equally as important is her personable nature, making it a joy and pleasure to work with our inter-disciplinary staff."

- Suzanne Terrio,

P.T.A. Program Coordinator

"Thank you for coming to my school. You have energy, pep, and great spirit. Your book inspires many young people and your presentation blows people away."

Joey, Grade 5