



"John Deere, That's Who!"

The Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation and Ag in the Classroom Program presents a companion lesson and activity booklet for the 2018 Book of the Year. Order forms for the book can be found by visiting www.wisagclassroom.org.

Meet the author- Tracy Nelson Maurer

A dirt road climbs the long hill to the home where Tracy Nelson Maurer grew up outside of Superior, Wisconsin. Lake Superior looks like a thin blue line in the distance from the hilltop. Tall evergreens and clustered poplar trees guard the driveway. She spent hours playing in the woods there. Living in the country helped forge her lifelong love for quiet places, books, gardens and writing.

Tracy has researched and written more than 100 informational books, ranging from pre-kindergarten A-B-C books to middle/upper-grade hi-low titles on crafts, sports cars, extreme sports, cheerleading, and other fun topics. Her picture-book biography "**John Deere, That's Who!**" (Henry Holt, 2017) was named a Junior Library Guild Selection and received the first Frances and Kermit Rudolf Nonfiction Scholarship Award from Hamline University. Another nonfiction title, "**Noah Webster's Fighting Words**" (Millbrook Press, an imprint of Lerner Publishing, 2017) received the Nonfiction Work-in-Progress Grant from the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators. Her picture book "**Storm Codes**" won the Northeastern Minnesota Book Award Children's Literature Honor in addition to other recognition. Her nonfiction books for schools and libraries have received favorable reviews from Booklist, ALA and VOYA; some served as examples in Models for "**Teaching Writing-Craft Target Skills**" by writing expert Marcia S. Freeman (Maupin House, 2005).

Tracy with the award presenters at the Northeastern MN Book Award Honor for Children's Literature for "Storm Codes." A professional writer for more than 25 years, Tracy also develops, writes, and edits for business publications and websites, as well as marketing and advertising materials. She has led workshops and writing groups, and served as the writing mentor for the Minnesota chapter of SCBWI. Tracy has appeared on the Minneapolis KARE-11's morning talk show and the PBS-affiliated "Venture North" program. She's also been a guest presenter at special events, workshops, schools, and libraries throughout Minnesota and as far as Nebraska, Colorado, and California. Tracy holds an MFA in writing for children and young adults from Hamline University and lives near Minneapolis, Minnesota with her family.

Contact Tracy Nelson Maurer for more information
about school and library visits.
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