

Children's Author and Illustrator Program for Elementary Schools

Gordon Fredrickson and Douglas Wood were selected for the traveling author visits for the 2018 Children's Author and Illustrator Program coordinated by SWWC's Student Activities Department. This program brings children's authors/illustrators into local elementary classrooms and gives students a chance to connect with a published author/illustrator. Presenters show what it takes to become a writer, how to generate ideas, inspirations, challenges and successes. The residencies were held during the weeks of March 19-23 and April 9-13.



Douglas Wood (pictured at left) has been called "Minnesota's renaissance man". Author, artist, musician, naturalist, wilderness guide, he is the creator of thirty-five books for adults and children, with over two and a half million copies in print. His first book, *Old Turtle*, was hailed as a "profound work" and an "instant classic". Translated widely, it has received many honors. Douglas is the recipient of many honors and awards, and has performed and read his books at the White House, at New York's famed Lincoln Center, and many other extraordinary venues across the country. His two widely anticipated new releases, *Old Turtle: Questions of the Heart* and the memoir *Deep Woods, Wild Waters*, were released in May of this year.

Gordon W. Fredrickson (pictured at right) is former farm kid, soldier, English teacher, play director, and farmer with a goal to encourage farm pride, increase agricultural literacy, and preserve farm heritage by writing illustrated stories about a farm family in 1950. Gordon and his wife Nancy have published twelve books for children and adults and have many more titles planned. Gordon takes occasional tap dance lessons, and he performs his poetry for adults at public spaces around Minneapolis.



Over 2,300 students from the following schools took part in this year's program:

- Edgerton
- Ellsworth
- Fulda Memorial Library and Fulda Elementary School
- Holy Redeemer, Marshall
- Hutchinson Park Elementary and West Elementary
- KMS
- Marshall Park Side Elementary and West Side Elementary
- Redwood Area
- Wabasso Public Library, Wabasso Public School and St. Anne's

More information about the Children's Author and Illustrator Program can be found at www.swsc.org/caip.

