Voices From the *Titanic*:

History Through a Poet's Eyes

with author Allan Wolf





What the Presentation is About

Award-winning author and performance poet, <u>Allan Wolf</u>, demonstrates how an author transforms historical fact into historical fiction. Experience the 1912 voyage of the doomed *Titanic* through poetry, storytelling, costume pieces, and historical photos as Wolf presents a special interactive author talk based on his multi-voice novel, <u>*The Watch that Ends the Night:*</u> <u>*Voices from the Titanic.*</u> With a 5' long *Titanic* model "puppet," Wolf demonstrates how the ship was constructed, struck ice, broke in half & then sank. He addresses *Titanic* myths and facts. He brings some of the *Titanic*'s passengers to life: the ship's designer, the ship's owner, the captain, a 9-year-old boy, the "unsinkable" Molly Brown, even the iceberg itself! *The Watch that Ends the Night* was named the North Carolina Young Adult Book of the Year by the North Carolina School Library Media Association. *Booklist* named *Watch* one of The Fifty Best YA Books of All Time.

How to Prepare for Allan Wolf's Visit

LEARN about Allan Wolf:

I began my writing career in 7th Grade when I began writing, nonstop, on my own bedroom walls. Now I write historical novels and collections of poems for young people of all ages. Find out more at http://www.allanwolf.com or just Google, Allan Wolf.

DISCUSS IT:

- Individually or as a group, brainstorm a list of everything you know about the *RMS Titanic*.
- Think of a list of any questions you have.
- What about the *Titanic* story makes you curious?
- What would *you* do if you found yourself aboard the sinking *Titanic* with too few life boats and just 2 and a half hours before sinking?

READ IT:

- Read *The Watch That Ends the Night: Voices from the Titanic* (Candlewick Press).
- NOTE: You do not have to read Mr. Wolf's book to enjoy the presentation. But if you *have* read the book, you should check out the complete official <u>Discussion/Classroom</u> <u>Guide from Candlewick Press</u>.

WRITE IT:

- **Imaginative Fiction**: Write a poem or paragraph in first person point of view of a character you've invented who happens to be a passenger aboard *Titanic*.
- **Historical Fiction**: Write the same poem or paragraph, but from the point of view of a person who really sailed aboard the *Titanic*. This'll take a little research.

RESEARCH IT:

- TITANIC: THE UNSINKABLE SHIP http://www.britannica.com/titanic
- HISTORY ON THE NET http://www.historyonthenet.com
- TITANIC SCIENCE http://www.titanicscience.com
- DOCS TEACH http://www.docsteach.org Special section of *Titanic* primary documents
- Allan Wolf's Poetry Palooza https://youtu.be/pAuYfoWB8qQ Episode Three: The Iambic Titanic

