



What Others Have To Say About Educator/Artist Gary Dulabaum...

"I first met Gary at the Tennessee Reading Association's annual conference in Gatlinburg a few years ago. He was showing teachers how to engage struggling readers through the use of music, but he was demonstrating **MUCH** more. Gary is not only a living celebration of **LITERACY**...he is a celebration of **LIFE**. My promise: You will meet few people in your life like Gary and you will never forget him!" **Dr. Pam Petty, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, Kentucky**

"**Dear Ms. Graddy (of Maupin House Publishing, Gainesville, Florida)**, I had to take a moment to let you know how incredible Gary Dulabaum's presentations at our school were! From Head Start to fifth grade, the students were drawn into the magic of Gary's songs and humor. His ability to reach into every child's heart and give them a few moments of fun, was so good to see – all while teaching them about writing! I was prepared to enjoy Gary's visit based on your recommendations and the comments I had read, but I was not prepared to be blown away! Every child in our school was totally engaged in his presentations, and to see them have a piece of what childhood should be about given back to them by this man, was the most heartwarming experience of my 31-year teaching career! After his presentation to the first graders, the applause was so enthusiastic and so deafening, I almost expected them to pull out their lighters and demand an encore! It was beautiful! And the fifth graders have invented a new dance to go with the "Macaroni and Cheese" song – remember the "mash potato"? I'm thinking this new dance could catch on.....! Please let me say thank you for recommending Gary! He is an inspiration to us all! And in Plain language, it was the most fun day I've had at school in 31 years!" **Cecile J. Longfellow, Writing Specialist, Knights Elementary School, Plant City, Florida**

"Gary's performance at North Elementary was "dynamic to say the least. He had "non-readers" reading and performing poetry. Gary's keynote address for Young Author's Night was "outstanding". There was something for everyone – administrators, teachers, parents and students – a message with sincerity and humor. He clearly showed how phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary can be developed through the use of music and the rhythm and rhyme of language. Gary Dulabaum is a dedicated and caring educator as well as a very talented and entertaining musician." **Kate Corkery, Coordinator of Language Arts, Brentwood Union Free School District, Brentwood, New York**

"(Dulabaum's) His sense of humor is a key ingredient of his success with the kids. When he helps them write songs about dinosaurs, liver and lizards it's funny and fun. It is increasingly difficult for teachers to hold the attention of students in the classroom. Adding music to the experience of learning is a technique kids respond to. This is not entertainment for the kids, it is specifically geared to language and reading skills. The students prepare for their session with Dulabaum by listing information on a specific topic and they think creatively during the whole process. That's the hardest thing to get students to do." **Jan Golla, Title I Reading Teacher, Lewiston, Idaho**

"Gary, I just wanted to say thanks again for the great assemblies. Students and staff alike shared how much they enjoyed your presentation. I appreciated how you were able to switch gears and capture the various age groups so effortlessly. As I watched the older students watching you, I noticed that some of our most struggling students were absolutely mesmerized by you. It's a gift to be able to touch lives in such a positive manner. Thanks again for making us laugh and challenge the status quo. Last night at our board meeting I had the opportunity to share the fun and excitement your visit generated among students and staff alike. You managed to leave quite an impression on our tiny school. " **Roz Morris, Principal, Weaverville Elementary, Weaverville, California**

"Gary Dulabaum's ability to sing like Elvis, celebrate reading with catchy tunes and connect with kids left a lasting impression on more than 3,000 Minnesota students. Prior to delighting the Thursday night audience with his account of becoming a teacher, Gary performed in several schools around the state. At his first session during the conference, Gary spoke from experience about some of the most endearing reasons teachers teach. He kept us laughing with his personal recount of learning to read and of working with kindergarteners." **Anne Redfern, President Minnesota Reading Association**

"Particularly, let me commend your careful attention to your audience, both to myself, as I attempted to communicate my vision for the children, and to them as you presented a truly interactive program in which rapt engagement was experienced by both the leader and the young composers. You have a unique ability to set aside Gary Dulabaum, the performer and the composer, except when what you share of yourself enhances and enriches the audience of parents and students alike. You truly do speak and sing to all ages and levels of musical advancement. The world is richer for your music." **Ann Boultinghouse, Consultant, Keystone Area Education Agency, Dubuque, Iowa**

"I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for what you gave at the Word's Worth Symposium. You offer more than you really know. You're living proof that grownups can have fun, be zany, be artists for a living and actually care for kids of this age (middle school). Besides you are living proof that people actually write for the love of it." **Sheryl Lain, Director of the Wyoming Writer's Project, Cheyenne, Wyoming**

"Dear Gary, Thank you for sharing your love of literacy and learning at our recent literacy conference on Saturday, March 24th. Your enthusiasm and positive outlook towards life and learning are infectious. To be sure everyone left energized after spending the day with you, and hearing what you have to say about integration and not segregation in teaching and learning. Everyone who attended your presentation spoke very positively about what you shared regarding literacy.

The conference was made successful by your attendance and your teamwork with Mike Artell. "**The Teachers' Blues**" certainly was reflective of the winter teachers, students, and faculty, have endured this year. It was good to laugh at the joys of teaching and mutual experiences we share as professionals in a wonderful career! Thank you for bringing a smile to our hearts and minds!!" **Dr. Mary Howe, IRA Faculty Sponsor and Lynette Van Meter, Bobcat Student Council President, Peru State College, Peru, Nebraska**

"Dear Gary, What can I say but that as always you were more than wonderful (if that's possible). Everyone loved the Breakfast with the Poets session. You, Brod and Steve worked together so well even though you hadn't been able to have time to practice – you just naturally performed like the pros you are. What a treat for all attendees. We certainly enjoyed having you and I hope you had a little time to enjoy Savannah. Come back to Georgia soon." **Dr. Sheree Bryant, 23rd Southeast Regional IRA Conference, Savannah, Georgia**

"Gary, Thank you again and again for the fantastic presentations you did for the Missouri Music Educators State Conference this past week. Your humor, attitude, and outlook provided a most refreshing and needed change of view for all of us as teachers. I've already felt a shift in my perceptions of student-actions in my classes and know others have, too. Thank you for sharing your time and talent with us." **Jeanette Engelhart, Missouri Music Educator's Association, Cape Girardeau, Missouri**

"Dulabaum's songs, including 'My Teacher Thinks He's Elvis' and 'Homework Blues' have kids instantly engaged and mesmerized. He will sing on any subject the classroom is studying. He's an extremely positive person and knows how to handle himself with kids." **Julie Johnson, Henderson School PTA, Cheyenne, Wyoming**

"Dear Gary, It was delightful meeting you at C.C.I.R.A.!! Your enthusiasm, generosity, sharing, and genuine caring, is hard to match!! I can hardly wait for school to start tomorrow and share your songs with my students. They will probably want to sing all day!! !! I wrote on the evaluation that you should **DEFINITELY** be invited back to another workshop." **Mary Kaiser, teacher, Arvada, Colorado**

"A workshop with Gary Dulabaum is a day that will energize your teaching. You will return to your classroom with this dynamic educator's enthusiasm, humor and love of children. You will have a variety of ideas to engage your students with fun-filled musical adventures! **Dr. Mary Bigler, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, Michigan**

"Your sense of humor, versatility, musical skills and talent, and your ability to encourage others to appreciate the value of rhythm and melody...combine to make you an outstanding presenter!"

Joy Haggart, 3rd Grade Teacher, Nevada City, California

"The staff and students of Noblesville Schools greatly enjoyed Gary's visit. Gary's versatility and flexibility allow him to move easily from an entire school presentation to a single classroom workshop. He does a great job maintaining student interest in large groups, and adopts quickly to what is being taught when working in classrooms. Gary's presentations to teachers are entertaining, but also warm and from the heart." **Dave Wallace, Assistant Superintendent, Noblesville, Indiana Schools**

"It was fun, and we even got a good laugh, but these are things that will capture a child's attention. When you can make learning fun, you can reach students in a way you never imagined. Music and humor is the perfect tool to help learning blossom." **Judith Goodman, Instructional Specialist for first and second grades, Pasadena ISD, Pasadena, Texas** (after attending a day-long Gary Dulabaum workshop for teachers)

"Dear Gary, Your presentation to our chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma last night was wonderful! You not only entertained us, you also provided food for thought. As teachers we try to see the world through the eyes of children. You inspired us to do more. Thank you so much. **Pat Williams, Epsilon Delta, San Luis Obispo, California**

"The staff and students of Governor's Harbour All-Age School would like to thank you for your excellent programme of music. The students which range in ages of 5 through 15 all enjoyed the wide variety of songs and activities. To be able to captivate an audience of such a large age range is a tribute to your abilities." **Kathleen Burrows, Governor's Harbour All-Age School, Governor's Harbour, Eleuthera, Bahamas**

"Gary, I would like to thank you for one of the best assembly programs ever held at William P. Tatem School. The assemblies and workshops got the same message across regardless of the age level of the audience. The assemblies were both entertaining and educational. I was amazed at the job you did in the workshops with my students who took part in the evening show for their parents. In a short amount of time you were able to turn these boys and girls into first class performers. They managed to get your message across in an extremely enjoyable format. **Joseph A. Sambuco, Principal, William P. Tatem School, Collingswood, New Jersey**

"After Gary's visit to our school, some third and fourth graders continued writing songs, poems and stories for weeks. Before his visit, these students had not been writing at all. Gary's energetic style and his acceptance of all the children's ideas encourages even the most reluctant and inhibited students to participate with gusto – kindergarten through sixth grade. Gary shares his extensive repertoire of playful and serious songs in such a warm way, the children sing them for weeks after. Wonderful assemblies, empowering workshops!" **Susan Baker, Teacher, Duxbury Elementary School, Waterbury, Vermont**

"Dear Gary, I just wanted to let you know how much everyone enjoyed your program at Wyoming Library Association. I received lots of compliments from those who attended – and from those who had to go to other programs – well, they heard how much fun we had at your program and wished they'd been there, too! You are a great inspiration to us all. Have a safe tour." **Jerry Jones, Outgoing Chair, Wyoming Library Association, Children's/Young Adult Section**

"Dear Gary, thank you so much for "wowing" our students and teachers with your visit to our school on November 2nd. We still talk about the event! It was truly a very beneficial and worthwhile event. We are incorporating more music, rhythm, and rhyme in our teaching and the students love it!" Thanks for inspiring us! **Patty Lawson, teacher, Underwood Public School, Underwood, North Dakota**

"Dear Gary, It was a pleasure to meet you and fun to watch you work with children and adults. You do a "super" job! You really worked into our Multiple Intelligences. Thanks again for sharing, entertaining, teaching and educating us. Keep up the good work!" **Don Hooper, Principal, Rumsey Station Elementary School, Papillion, Nebraska**

"Dear Gary, On behalf of the students, staff and parents at Frank School, we wish to send our thanks for the marvelous programs you presented at our school on February 9th. We all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. One parent came up to our principal following your evening concert and said, "This has been the best program I have ever come to at this school." **Linda Lyman, PTA Vice President, Frank Elementary School, Guadalupe, Arizona**

"Dear Gary, Thank you so much for visiting our school this week. We enjoyed your presentation and interesting way methods of reading to music and rhythm that you showed us. Following are some of our comments the following day: 'Thank you for your entertainment', 'Thanks for coming', 'Thanks for teaching us a new reading technique', 'We enjoyed your impromptu student-character description songs', 'It was great the way you sang what you read', 'He didn't like school either; he thinks like us', 'You showed us an easier way to write about our lives', 'You made writing fun', 'Your method helped me do my English homework', 'in writing English sentences that related to your favorite song, I used your beat method (assignment)', 'I liked the music'." **Mrs.Olney's Reading Classes, Monadnock Regional High School, East Swanzey, New Hampshire**

"Dear Gary, What can I say that you haven't already heard from so many other conferences—how about—we love you in Montana! Your keynote was fabulously energetic! You touched the hearts of many educators and parents who needed to hear your message and learn to better understand each and every child for who they are and how they learn." **Melody Nansel, Montana State Reading Conference, Billings, Montana**

"Your presentation was absolutely **Fantastic!** Boy, can all of us relate to EVERYTHING you portrayed! I especially liked the last song/hip-hop "chant" everyone was involved in. You helped us to remember how much fun reading is! Thanks again and we hope you come back to Knights." **Anita K., Teacher, Knights Elementary School, Plant City, Florida**

"Hi, I was reading through the posts about songs and thought of someone who you might enjoy reading. I really enjoyed the book **My Teacher Rides A Harley** by Gary Dulabaum. It comes with a CD full of great songs about things that happen in the classroom every day, including using reading strategies. Gary is a fun author to read and if you ever get a chance to see him speak or watch him perform, bring a hankie because he will make you laugh until you cry! His music "Rocks!" **Bonnie Parish, Houston, Texas**

"I've always been struck by how much joy and humor you bring to everything you do. You have struggled enough in school to establish instant rapport with kids who struggle in schools (and their teachers). Because you inject ad-libbed humor into every presentation I've ever seen, audiences are always straining to find out what you're going to come up with next. That's why your performances come across as "fresh" no matter how many times you've done them in the past. It always knocks me out when I learn how many performances you can pack into a year. You are motivated to visit the next school and next teacher conference because you love planting "seeds" of musical and poetic inspiration into the minds of students and their teachers." **Bruce Lansky, Poet and Anthologist, Creator of GigglePoetry.Com, Minneapolis, Minnesota**

"Thanks for everything that you have done for Wyoming Indian Elementary School. You have touched a lot of hearts and souls. We hope we can see you again soon. **Owen St. Clair, Principal, Wyoming Indian Elementary School, Ethete, Wyoming**

"The Fifth Wyoming Whole Language Conference was another successful conference due to your participation as a presenter. As coordinator, a big thank you to you for your presentation during the conference. You charmed the audience during the Whole Language Conference. Most participants liked starting off the day with singing. It was interesting how you "converted" those few who didn't into plans for using more music in their classroom curriculum. Some of the non-singers even decided to include your tapes to help give them a boost! Your enthusiastic love of music helped the group become inspired. You were a tremendous help throughout the conference" **Roseine Church, Wyoming Whole Language Coordinator, Cheyenne, Wyoming**

"Dear Gary, Thank you so much for spending the day at Juniata Elementary School with the staff. We had fun, laughed a lot, and you even got me to sing which I NEVER do. Hope you are having fun wherever you happen to be. You brought sunshine to this school. We needed that very badly!!!!" **Kathy Jensen, SPED Teacher, Juniata Elementary School, Juniata, Nebraska**

"Dear Mr. Dulabaum, The purpose of this letter is to thank you for participating in our annual Language Arts Festival, which is so capably organized by our own Mr. Albert Kaiman. His efforts in this regard have inspired students for several years now. Mr. Dulabaum, by all reports, you customized your presentation according Mr. Kaiman's carefully crafted pre-program instructions, and you moved kids, which is what this kind of activity is all about. Again, thanks for your kind and creative contributions to our kids' literacy and love of writing. Respectfully and with appreciation," **Timothy P. Crowley, Principal, Barre Town Middle and Elementary School, Barre, Vermont**

"Our library is filled with good books to read. We have books in English and books in Spanish. My wish for all our students is that they all become "Razzle-Dazzle Readers" as in the song by Gary Dulabaum. Mr. Dulabaum sings, 'Read every day. Read all kinds of books. Reading sitting up, standing up, or lying on your bed. Read on the school bus, or standing on your head. Read fiction, history, short stories and prose.' Be a "Razzle-Dazzle Reader" all your life'." **Mrs. Louise Cooper, Librarian, Mission View Elementary School, Tucson, Arizona**

"Gary, on behalf of the students and staff, I would like to thank you for your **fantastic** musical performances on March 3rd. All of us thoroughly enjoyed your songs, stories and activities. I found you and your life experiences to be quite exciting. I compliment you on your philosophy of education and your deep concern for students. I hope that we will see you at Uniontown Elementary Again. Thank you for the joy & excitement for music!" **Sue Ellen Swik, Principal, Uniontown Elementary School, Uniontown, Ohio**

"Gary Dulabaum is one of those unique and inspirational speakers that one never forgets about. I thoroughly enjoyed listening to Mr. Dulabaum's presentation and in the process learned a lot about the creative process of songwriting in the classroom. The most important message conveyed during this session was that songwriting is not only simple, but it's a fulfilling, cooperative process that is extremely motivating for students." **Debbie Carpenter, Teacher Midland Elementary School, Poway, California**

"Dear Gary and "Dad", Thank you so much for your delightful performance Monday evening for our Garaway ARTSWEEK Celebration. We enjoyed meeting you throughout the week, hearing you sing (especially 'My Teacher Thinks He's Elvis'), and laughing with you as you told your stories and emceed on Friday evening, Gary. You made the evening flow smoothly and enjoyably. You both seem to have such fun making music together! We appreciate your making the effort to come. PS Gary, thank you for sharing your talents with all of us here at Garaway! The elementary students voted you as # 1 on their student evaluations! Thanks again! **Jo Ely, Garaway Schools ARTSWEEK Celebration, Sugarcreek, Ohio**

"Dear Gary, Tons of thank you's to you from SLO town! Your visit this time was the best ever. The kids and teachers and Cal Poly students were magically inspired by you. This weekend I talked to two teachers—(one I didn't even know!) who spoke of your marvelous talents and how much they appreciated getting to be part of your visit." **Dr Susan McBride, Cal Poly State University, San Luis Obispo, California**

"Dear Mr. Dulabaum, Thank you for coming to Cody to work with our students. Our Wapiti kids thought you were great, and they learned so much. They are making up songs all of the time. It is great to see them wanting to write so much. They decided to write a song for you. It is about our small, rural school. We only have 28 students, and we have a bear fence around our playground to keep out any "extra students" (BEARS!!). Thank you for providing this unique experience for our students." **Wapiti School Staff, Wapiti, Wyoming**

"I know I'm a little belated in sending this out, but I wanted Gary to know what an honor and privilege it was to have him perform for the Southwest Iowa Awards Night on April 17th. Everyone in attendance had a wonderful time!! The students and teacher from my school that went to Graceland the next day came back with glowing reports about Gary's performance there. It was fun to see their faces light up when I asked how their day went!! THANKS AGAIN!!" **Wendy Ackerberg, Southwest Iowa I.R.A., Essex, Iowa**

"Thank you for coming to our school and getting the kids excited about songwriting and music. They had a super time and are still talking about the fun day they shared with you. I'm sure everyone involved will hold fond memories of their extra special day and evening! It was a blast and everything went very smoothly! Thanks for all your help and sharing your expertise with all of us." **Tricia Regelin, K Teacher, Pershing Elementary School, Lexington, Nebraska**

"Dear Gary, The children are still talking about your fun presentation at Rockwell!!! Your references to Mari Sandoz and Aaron Copland were a fantastic link back into the curriculum for the 5th grade music class!!"
Mary Sayre, Teacher, Rockwell Elementary School, Omaha, Nebraska

"You were awesome. I am a music educator for k-6. I found your workshop refreshing, inspiring, and I want more. Thank you so very much!" **Donna Kintzi, California Reading Conference, Sacramento, California**

"Hi, Gary, Thanks so much for your very kind message. I'm so glad you enjoyed your time at Hamilton- the good feeling is very mutual. Students and faculty were very excited about seeing you, and people raved about your visit and were still talking about it when school let out in June. I enjoyed working with you very much, and appreciated being able to talk with you at the Young Author's Luncheon. Your enthusiasm is contagious! **Cindy Guntharp, Library Media Specialist, Hamilton Elementary School, Lancaster, Pennsylvania**

"Hola brother Gary, I keep telling my kids that I have a brother in Vermont and his name is Gary and he wrote the music which we sing to once a week. Gary, my teacher rides a Harley is one bad book and CD. Your music is the kindling upon which we build a fierce fire for the love of poetry. Macaroni and Cheese is a classic, Razzle Dazzle Reader, and of course my favorite which goes like this:" I go to the library or the book store, I find a good book that I want to explore," it is the bomb brother my students love it too. I'm using your material and promoting you and your book all the time..adios," **Jaime Cuello, Teacher Mary Van Buren Elementary School, Guadalupe, California**

"Hi, Gary. This is Suzie Olson from the Rapping Reading Crew that won the Poetry Slam at the Minnesota Reading Convention last week. I am writing to request copies of the poems and songs that you shared at the convention. I was very impressed with all of your work with children and teachers around the country. I would love to add some of your ideas into my classroom practices. I enjoy having a classroom filled with humor and think children are missing out, if we as teachers can't share our love of books and learning with students in a way that grabs them and pulls them in. I play a lot of music throughout the day in my room and I got some more good ideas from your breakout sessions to try in my classroom. I am even thinking about getting a guitar and learning how to play to "kick it up a notch". Thanks for all that you do to make learning more exciting for children. Good luck with your band and record label." **Suzie Olson, Teacher, Minnesota**

"Gary, My name is Lisa Hughes, and I attended one of your sessions at MRA in Rochester. I am a kindergarten teacher at Riverside and I have to tell you that my kids and I loved your stand up comedy and music that you shared. I have purchased the Dr. Dre Instrumentals 2001, but would love to have some copies of the younger versions of songs that you shared at the workshop, along with any of the handouts you mentioned. More of my colleagues are interested as well, so anything you are graciously willing to share, we would love to try! Thanks for the inspiration! Your timing was perfect as I am finishing up a graduate course on differentiating instruction and multiple intelligences. This is a new avenue for me. Thanks for sharing!" **Lisa Hughes, Kindergarten Teacher, Riverside Elementary School, Rochester, Minnesota**

"Hi Gary, You were very well received at our school. What a gift you gave the boy in 4th grade who sang solo. He has a VERY lot to deal with and that will affect him always... Also, a parent who attended our evening performance was telling me how much fun she had and how she couldn't explain to her husband why the experience was so good, but it made an impression.. Thanks again for the great school visit!!"
Janis Chamberlain, Teacher, Barton, Vermont

"Gary, I really enjoyed your sessions- and I know that you opened a lot of teacher's eyes. I still am doing the Macaroni and cheese song - almost every day and the kids remember the ch-ch-ch part with their hands!! Your name will not be forgotten in Schuyler! Thank you for spending time with us!!"
Barb Kudera, Teacher, Schuyler, Nebraska

"Just wanted to let you know I tried the poetry and music idea which was presented at our last in-service using some of Shakespeare's soliloquies. Students really enjoyed it as did I." **Carol Livingston, Teacher, Warren, Pennsylvania**

"Barb and Carol, Thank you for your effort in bringing Gary Dulabaum to the WCSD last Friday. After so many years of treating language arts as a science, an exploration into the art of reading and writing was refreshing. The "art" of language is what attracted many of us to be language arts teachers!" **Mark Lindberg, High School English teacher, Warren, Pennsylvania**

"Dear Mr. Dulabaum, I can't tell you how much you inspired me this last week. You are certainly a blessing to all that hear you speak. I came home so full of zest...I may burst into song. And I can't carry a tune in a bucket with a lid on it but I may try anyway! I would like to request the information you have to share." **Nancy Dopp, Teacher, Missouri**

"It was great having Gary in Brentwood—the children at North are still talking about him—you know an impression is made when this happens. It was a pleasurable day for all. I have seen many of his performances and all are unique. What a great talent and message." **JoAnn Tomasino, Brentwood Schools, Brentwood, New York**

"Dear Gary, Thank – you so much for being a part of the Nebraska Reading Association's 35th Conference. Your presentations always bring laughter and joy to the hearts of teachers and students. Thanks for sharing your passion about teaching through the magic of song!" **Nebraska Reading Association 2008 Conference Committee, Kearney, Nebraska**

"Dear Gary, It was delightful meeting you at C.C.I.R.A.!! Your enthusiasm, generosity, sharing and genuine caring is hard to match!! I can hardly wait for school to start tomorrow and share your songs with my students. They will probably want to sing all day!! !! I wrote on the evaluation that you should DEFINITELY be invited back to another workshop." **Mary Kaiser, Teacher, Loveland, Colorado**

"Gary Dulabaum: Our workshops were terrific today! I think this man is just wonderful. I wish I could go to a workshop that he has for teachers, too. He is really inspiring. I just wanted you to know that the children loved Gary. I took ideas from him and I think it was one of the most inspiring days I have had in quite a while!" **Wendy Heying, Teacher, Leavensworth, Kansas**

"Mr. Dulabaum, I was fortunate enough to attend a workshop you gave this past Saturday at Ysleta Independent School District in El Paso, Texas. I want to thank you for the inspirational and enriching presentation. You are a true example of what "standard" education should be all about involving all the senses. Thanks for sharing the knowledge." **Juanita Esparza, El Paso, Texas**

"The K-4 students at Coffee Creek were invited yet again to a wonderful assembly with the Lewiston Elementary School. It was the most fun assembly experience yet! The author/songwriter, Gary Dulabaum kept the crowd laughing, singing, and dancing non-stop!" **Coffee Creek School Staff, Trinity County, California**

"Hi Gary, I'm Rick Marlatt. I met you this weekend at the conference in Kearney. First off, I just want to say again what a pleasure it was listening to you present and what an honor it was reading with you at the open-mic. Your words, energy, spirit, and ideas are truly inspiring. Thank you!" **Rick Marlatt, Language Arts, Reading, Geography, Horizon Middle School, Kearney Public Schools, Kearney, Nebraska**

"Dear Gary, You were a "hit" during the June 1st Summer Reading Kick-off at the North Dakota Heritage Center. All ages who attended enjoyed your songs and audience participation. Many thanks for being with us and sharing your musical gifts and your love of books and reading. You were a special treat for a special day and touched thousands of kids lives with your talent. Sincerely, from your North Dakota friends." **Marvia and Summer Reading Committee, Bismarck Public Library, Bismarck, North Dakota**

"Dear Gary, Thank you! Your day with us was entertaining, engaging, and invigorating! I believe every school has a spirit, and that our school has a great one. Yet, in the spring, the long hours of dedication to teaching and learning begin to take their toll on that spirit. Your day with us was a shot in the arm; a welcome lift! It is through wonderful people like you, Roland, and Marie that our students have seen models of adults enjoying their work (in addition to their teachers). You created a connection to their future that is hopeful and delightful. You also demonstrated how much fun you have sharing yourself with others, something of a risk for them. Your presence added to their courage to take those risks. You are a welcome and honored guest at our school anytime. Again, thank you for sharing your day and your songs with us. It was a very special time for all of us here." **Glenn, Gelbrich, Principal, Wilsonville Primary, Wilsonville, Oregon**