

# WENDELIN VAN DRAANEN

## Award-Winning Author | Motivational Speaker



Wendelin Van Draanen is known for giving thoughtful presentations that are high energy, funny, and touching.

She has made her way from high school teacher to best-selling, multi-award-winning author of books that are sold internationally and have been made into movies, including the Rob Reiner-directed feature film *Flipped*.

The daughter of immigrants, Wendelin's life has been riddled with roadblocks and tragedy, but her success is testimony to the merits of hard work, persistence, and the optimistic view that today could be the day.

A dynamic speaker for groups of any age, Wendelin weaves stories into inspiration to fill hearts and minds with possibility.

### POPULAR PRESENTATIONS INCLUDE:

**Keep Hope in the Mail** – Wendelin encourages us to reach higher, dream bigger, and do more as she relates how pursuing a passion saved her, and ultimately turned hardships into triumph.

**The Old Man in Red Socks** – How and why an able-bodied author was motivated to write about an amputee. Themes include overcoming barriers of fear, differences, and ignorance, as well as seeing the person, not the disability, and the invaluable benefits of friendship and teamwork.

**Patching Bullet Holes** – Laugh, cry, come away uplifted as Wendelin takes you on a wild ride through the dangerous streets of her mind and encourages audience members to pursue their dreams, even in the face of barriers, pitfalls, and seemingly insurmountable odds.

### What People Are Saying

“Wendelin was the perfect speaker. She engaged the audience with her energetic personality, stories, and humor. Participants spent an hour laughing, crying, and most importantly, thinking.” - Karen Huff, Ed.D., conference director

“Wendelin is inspiring, entertaining, and possesses an insightful perspective that speaks to both the grown up and the child that survives within each of us.” - Doug Richardson, writer, producer: *Die Hard 2, Bad Boys, Money Train*

“Wendelin's effervescence is contagious; she leaves every audience feeling like it's never too late to follow their dreams.” - Wendy Thies Sell, multi-E Emmy-winning journalist

“Wendelin has an amazing knack of speaking to the hearts and minds of adults and kids—the magic is wonderful; she just might be the Mary Poppins of the speaking world.” - Dan Angel, CCO, multi-E Emmy & Peabody winner

For more information, including bookings & inquiries, visit [www.WendelinVanD.com](http://www.WendelinVanD.com)

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