

Speech, along with reading and writing, is the third miracle of language, that mysterious human process of communication that we alone as a species possess. Though we speak every day as one of life's most quotidian activities, public speaking ranks annually at or near the top of fear-inducing experiences. It's a curious thing. Why should we be afraid of an activity we do all the time in the course of daily life? In *Taming the Terror of Talk: Becoming a Confident Speaker*, veteran writer, teacher, and broadcaster Dan Valenti shares both the external mechanics and the internal nuances that go into successful presentations, including, as the subtitle says, calming your butterflies enough to fly in formation. This book is a must for anyone who for whatever reason must step on stage or behind the podium and give a speech.

In his latest book, *Taming the Terror of Talk*, Professor Valenti once again delivers advice and relevant examples, guiding his readers in becoming more confident and comfortable public speakers. In his usual engaging, informal tone, he leads us through the various aspects of public speaking, from *what* we say, to *how* we say it, and how to look good doing it! Professor Valenti's writing style is direct but conversational, and packed with information. Whether you are a student worried about presenting in class or a professional in the boardroom, you will surely find answers to your questions in this book.

—Dr. Alison Jefferson, Editor and Independent Researcher, Peter Lang Publishing.

# TAMING THE TERROR OF TALK

BECOMING A CONFIDENT SPEAKER

TAMING THE TERROR OF TALK

DAN VALENTI



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