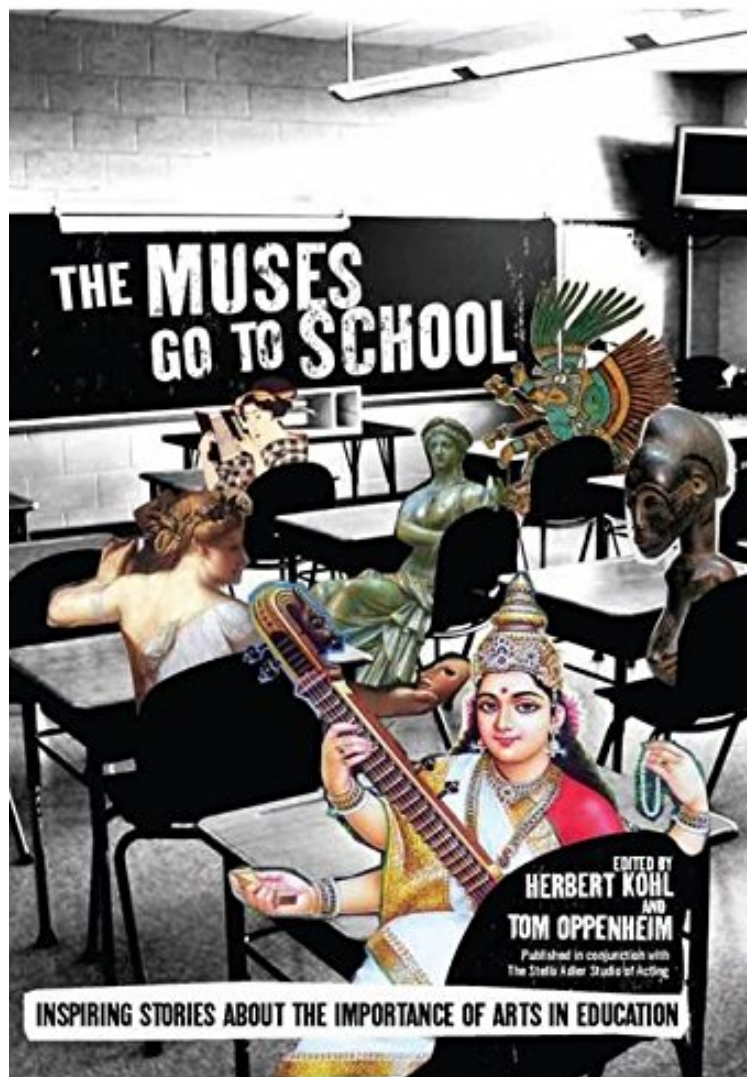


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## The Muses Go to School: Inspiring Stories About the Importance of Arts in Education

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**From The New Press : The Muses Go to School: Inspiring Stories About the Importance of Arts in Education** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Muses Go to School: Inspiring Stories About the Importance of Arts in Education:

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following review helpful. Fascinating views to cure what's ailing public education By Gary S. Stager Legendary educator and prolific author, Herbert Kohl, along with Tom Openheim, asked leading artists to describe the profound learning experiences they enjoyed as a result of school arts programs. After each artist interview, progressive educators were asked to respond and situate the anecdotes in terms of learning, teaching and education policy. Includes interviews with: David Amram Whoopi Goldberg Phillip Seymour Hoffman Bill T. Jones Moiseacute;s Kaufman Frances Lucerna Mike Medavoy Rosie Perez Phylicia Rashad And commentary by: Bill Ayers Lisa Delpit Michelle Fine Maxine Greene Colin Greer Shirley Brice Heath Deborah Meier Diane Ravitch Steve Seidel Gary Stager Kevin Truitt I am enormously proud to have been invited to make a small contribution to this important book. After you finish, "The Muses Go to School," you only have a few dozen other Herb Kohl classics to read!

What do Whoopi Goldberg, Phillip Seymour Hoffman, Rosie Perez, and Phylicia Rashad have in common? A transformative encounter with the arts during their school years. Whether attending a play for the first time, playing in the school orchestra, painting a mural under the direction of an art teacher, or writing a poem, these famous performers each credit an experience with the arts at school with helping them discover their inner humanity and putting them on the road to fully realized creative lives. In *The Muses Go to School*, autobiographical pieces with well-known artists and performers are paired with interpretive essays by distinguished educators to produce a powerful case for positioning the arts at the center of primary and secondary school curriculums. Spanning a range of genres from acting and music to literary and visual arts, these smart and entertaining voices make surprising connections between the arts and the development of intellect, imagination, spirit, emotional intelligence, self-esteem, and self-discipline of young people. With support from a star-studded cast, editors Herbert Kohl and Tom Oppenheim present a memorable critique of the growing national trend to eliminate the arts in public education. Going well beyond the traditional rationales, *The Muses Go to School* shows that creative arts, as a means of academic and personal development, are a critical element of any education. It is essential reading for teachers, parents, and anyone who really cares about education.

"Powerful narratives that put a human face on the often-dry statistical studies... a passionate and personal reflection upon the effects of America's educational policies."—*The Washington Independent of Books*