



Central Park East and Its Graduates: "Learning by Heart" (series on school reform)

David Bensman

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In 1974, Central Park East Elementary School (CPE) in East Harlem opened its doors with a mission to provide inner-city children with the finest educators and pedagogy available. Instead of saying that the old neighborhood had to be torn down and students more rigidly tracked, the reformers dared to ask the question, What would happen if we gave inner-city students the best education the country has to offer? The results of this bottom-up reform were astounding, and to this day, Central Park East is known as one of the most academically enriching schools in the United States. David Bensman gives voice to the extraordinary young adults who emerged from poverty as a result of the powerful educational experiences they received at CPE. A rich compilation of stories, this account establishes the power of public schooling and the value of community.

“With rich data, Bensman carefully details for us what it means to be respectful, thoughtful, democratic, and intellectually demanding—what it means, in short, to be a good school. This is the story of CPE, but for anyone willing to see beyond the particulars, it is also a map of possibility, a guide to what our schools could be.”

—**Mike Rose**, author, *Possible Lives: The Promise of Public Education in America*

“This is that rare thing, a long-term study of the graduates of a first-rate inner city elementary school. This is a school in which democracy and the life of the mind are inseparably intertwined. Policymakers, write that last sentence down one hundred times.”

—**Joseph Featherstone**, Michigan State University

“Was the fame of CPE due to hype or yet another example of wishing trumping realities? This conceptually and procedurally honest research effort clearly answers the question in the negative. We have very good reason to be grateful to Debbie Meier, her CPE colleagues, and, of course, to Dr. Bensman for this remarkable follow-up study.”

—**Seymour Sarason**, Professor Emeritus, Yale University

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From reader reviews:

Preston Sloan:

Spent a free time for you to be fun activity to complete! A lot of people spent their leisure time with their family, or their own friends. Usually they performing activity like watching television, likely to beach, or picnic from the park. They actually doing same thing every week. Do you feel it? Would you like to something different to fill your current free time/ holiday? Could possibly be reading a book may be option to fill your no cost time/ holiday. The first thing that you'll ask may be what kinds of publication that you should read. If you want to attempt look for book, may be the publication untitled Central Park East and Its Graduates: "Learning by Heart" (series on school reform) can be good book to read. May be it could be best activity to you.

Jon Cerrone:

Precisely why? Because this Central Park East and Its Graduates: "Learning by Heart" (series on school reform) is an unordinary book that the inside of the book waiting for you to snap it but latter it will zap you with the secret it inside. Reading this book alongside it was fantastic author who also write the book in such awesome way makes the content within easier to understand, entertaining means but still convey the meaning entirely. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this any more or you going to regret it. This amazing book will give you a lot of positive aspects than the other book get such as help improving your ability and your critical thinking means. So , still want to postpone having that book? If I ended up you I will go to the e-book store hurriedly.

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Are you kind of occupied person, only have 10 as well as 15 minute in your day time to upgrading your mind ability or thinking skill perhaps analytical thinking? Then you are receiving problem with the book in comparison with can satisfy your small amount of time to read it because all of this time you only find guide that need more time to be go through. Central Park East and Its Graduates: "Learning by Heart" (series on school reform) can be your answer mainly because it can be read by you actually who have those short time problems.

Kathy Norvell:

What is your hobby? Have you heard this question when you got scholars? We believe that that concern was given by teacher for their students. Many kinds of hobby, All people has different hobby. So you know that little person similar to reading or as examining become their hobby. You should know that reading is very important along with book as to be the matter. Book is important thing to provide you knowledge, except your current teacher or lecturer. You see good news or update about something by book. Different categories of books that can you go onto be your object. One of them is actually Central Park East and Its Graduates: "Learning by Heart" (series on school reform).

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