Synopsis

For 25 years, Maxine Greene has been the philosopher-in-residence at the innovative Lincoln Center Institute, where her work forms the foundation of the Institute's aesthetic education practice. Each summer she addresses teachers from across the country, representing all grade levels, through LCI's intensive professional development sessions. Variations on a Blue Guitar contains a selection of these never-before-published lectures touching on the topics of aesthetic education, imagination and transformation, educational renewal and reform, excellence, standards, and cultural diversity, powerful ideas for today's educators.

Book Information

Paperback: 240 pages
Publisher: Teachers College Press (August 1, 2001)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 0807741353
Product Dimensions: 6.3 x 0.6 x 8.9 inches
Shipping Weight: 12.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 3.4 out of 5 stars  (See all reviews (5 customer reviews)
Best Sellers Rank: #229,211 in Books (See Top 100 in Books)  #40 in Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Philosophy > Aesthetics  #138 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Philosophy > Aesthetics  #206 in Books > Arts & Photography > Study & Teaching

Customer Reviews

What a wonderful book full of inspiration and wise words for everyone that loves the arts and believes in children. My most profound gratitude to Maxine Greene. Daniel de Cordoba Big Thought - Fellow & Teaching Artist (Dallas, TX)

Boring and redundant. If you read one chapter, you have read all there is to read. These were taken from Greene's opening remarks from each of the Lincoln Center Arts forums for teachers. So the content in each chapter is the same, only slightly altered. Her message is that the arts can transform the classroom to be more interactive and interesting. There now you do not have to read or buy the book.

Over a decade ago, I was fortunate to attend one of Maxine Greene's presentations at Lincoln
Center. Physically, Ms. Greene was a frail, older woman seated in a chair onstage. Yet spiritually, she was a powerhouse of ideas and inspiration that moved many in the room to applause and acknowledgement. We were listening to someone very special and deliciously wise. I wrote furiously, taking notes as Maxine's wisdom was clearly what an educator (of any subject) needed to hear. I'm so happy to find this book ten years later. Although Ms. Greene is no longer with us, her book is like an enduring gift and I'm thrilled to be able to learn more from this extraordinary educator.

I found the ideas interesting, but the writing, that was culled from lectures, rather repetitive.

Variations on a Blue Guitar is such a creative and intriguing title for such a dry book. There’s lots of good information in the book, but it’s so academic that it's hard to get at. I much preferred Imagination First: Unlocking the Power of Possibility, which presents many of the same concepts in a much more interesting way.