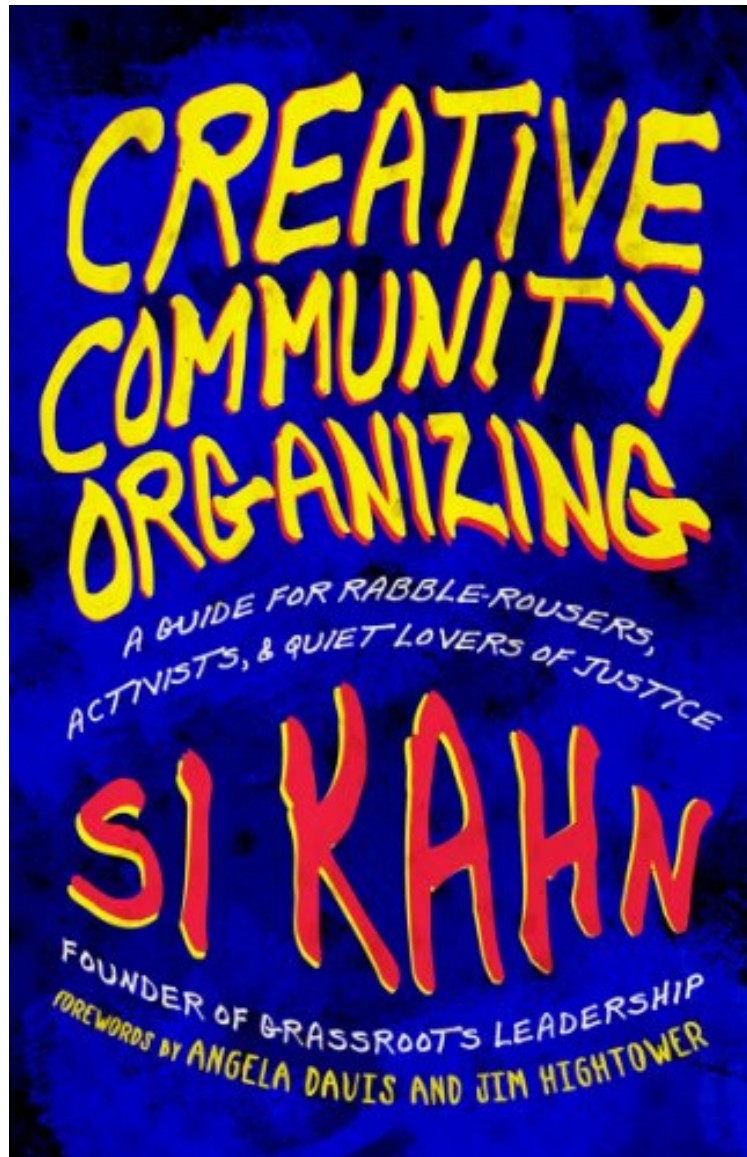


[Free pdf] Creative Community Organizing: A Guide for Rabble-Rousers, Activists, and Quiet Lovers of Justice

Creative Community Organizing: A Guide for Rabble-Rousers, Activists, and Quiet Lovers of Justice

Si Kahn

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Si Kahn : Creative Community Organizing: A Guide for Rabble-Rousers, Activists, and Quiet Lovers of Justice before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Creative Community Organizing: A Guide for Rabble-Rousers, Activists, and Quiet Lovers of Justice:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. It was really interesting and gave me a great perspective on what

community organizing really looks like

By Dee Ordered this book for a class I took. It was really interesting and gave me a great perspective on what community organizing really looks like. It made me feel like it was something that I could do. The author wrote in a way that makes it easy to relate to. It was a nice change to read this for a class instead of just a textbook too.

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Delightful, often moving insider's view of organizing for social change

By Mal Warwick There's a little something for just about everybody in Si Kahn's delightful little memoir, *Creative Community Organizing*. In the space of a couple of hours of reading, you can gain a front-row seat on history from the vantage-point of SNCC (the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, one of the most militant elements in the civil rights struggle) to the UMWA (the Mineworkers Union) to the recent nationwide campaign to end immigrant family detention. You'll learn about music and art and their central role in what Kahn calls "creative community organizing," with folksong lyrics prefacing every chapter. You'll learn about Si's remarkable rabbi father and radical mother. You'll even learn the meaning of the puzzling word "hod," as in "hod carrier."

Si is a 45-year veteran of organizing in the civil rights movement, the labor movement, and through the scrappy little nonprofit organization he founded 30 years ago to work for social and economic justice in the South and Southwest, Grassroots Leadership. He is also a writer and singer of folksongs, most of them on radical themes tied to his organizing work. Oh, and by the way: he's a really nice guy.

This book, subtitled *A Guide for Activists, Rabble-Rousers, and Quiet Lovers of Justice*, can also be read as a primer on creative community organizing. The material is organized into chapters that correspond to the guiding principles of Si's craft. And I can testify to the wisdom of those principles, having worked as a community organizer myself for several years in the 1970s -- operating more from the seat of my pants rather than the solid experience Si has gained through a lifetime of organizing.

Note well: Si hasn't just organized and run campaigns. He has helped win a number of notable victories over the years. He knows whereof he writes. And our country is much the stronger for Si's tireless efforts on behalf of justice, equality, and freedom.

(From Mal Warwick's Blog on Books)

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Si Kahn gives us some great insight on organizing a community and spreading awareness on ...

By Ekimmel Si Kahn gives us some great insight on organizing a community and spreading awareness on a multitude of issues. With a story one chapter, a song in the next, and a poem after that, you stay interested. His personal narratives opened my eyes to issues and solutions I never knew existed. He also gives you 10 guidelines to being a creative community organizer, and as a student in the environmental field, I found these most helpful.

A unique approach -- uses stories, lyrics, and poems to inspire and energize both new and experienced organizers

Offers sage insights into aspects of community organizing not addressed by more conventional manuals

Written by a veteran activist and musician with over forty-five years of experience working for progressive causes

This latest work by legendary activist, musician, and author Si Kahn is a different kind of community organizing book. As with other books, including some by Kahn himself, it does describe many of the practical tactics organizers use. But it's also about community organizing as a way of thinking and a way of life.

For Kahn, it has been a way of life. He has been intimately involved in some of the most important progressive struggles of the past fifty years -- the civil rights movement, the Harlan County miners' strike, the fight against prison privatization, and many more. In this unique and moving book he uses his experiences and those of the women and men he's worked with to illuminate critical aspects of organizing not touched upon by more conventional manuals. The stories Kahn tells are entertaining, funny, sad, and inspiring, but they're more than that -- they're examples of creative community organizing in action. And like the secular rabbi he calls himself, Kahn lays out the specific lessons each tale is meant to teach -- not only strategy and tactics, but advice on how to deal on a personal level with the demands of a difficult but vitally important job.

Creative Community Organizing will help established organizers become more innovative and encourage them to question established principles and decide whether or not they still work. Aspiring organizers will discover a whole new way of looking at the world -- they'll gain a sense of empowerment, understand that they can live and work in ways that help make the world more just and humane.