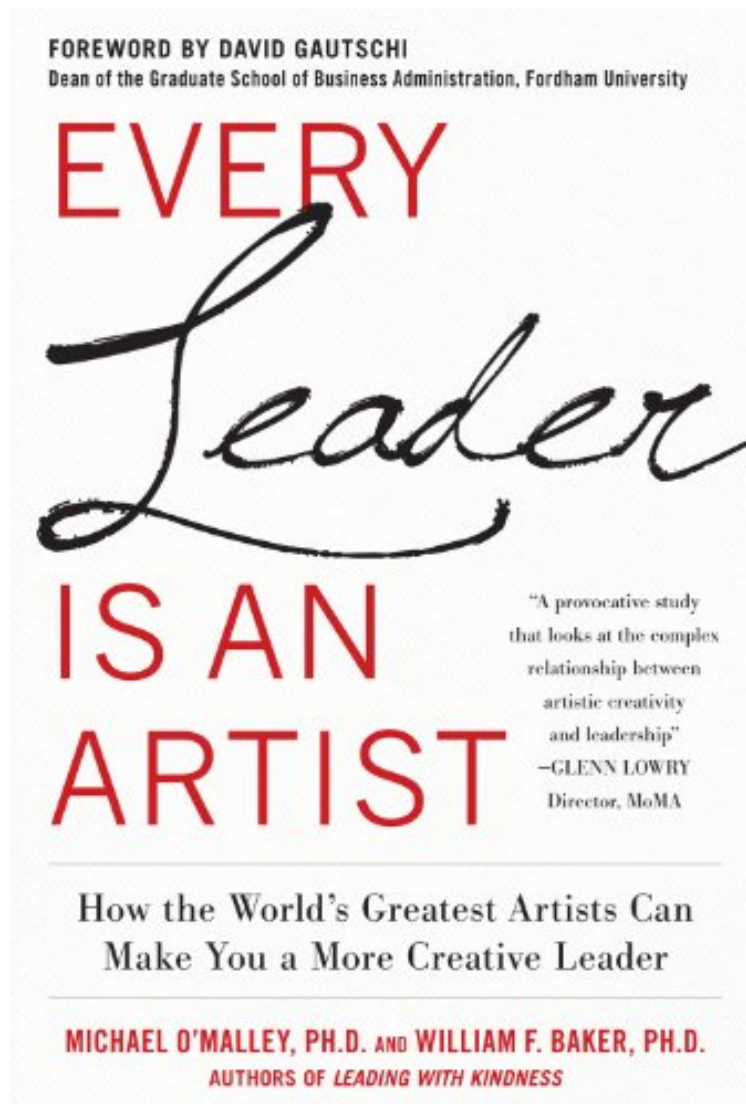


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Every Leader Is an Artist: How the World's Greatest Artists Can Make You a More Creative Leader

Michael O'Malley, William H. Baker
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Michael O'Malley, William H. Baker : Every Leader Is an Artist: How the World's Greatest Artists Can Make You a More Creative Leader before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Every Leader Is an Artist: How the World's Greatest Artists Can Make You a More Creative Leader:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. i loved it - lots of metaphors... but some academics are scared of

this By B. J. Dzomba I loved this book. I loved the metaphors and the references to art. However, I cited several areas of the book in a paper and one particular mediocre, backwards thinking hillbilly professor not only hated it, he thought the concepts from the book were stupid and cliché. I however, as a person who values people over process, thought this book was innovative and very beneficial. I highly recommend this book unless of course you need to write a paper for a mediocre, backwards thinking, bullying professor. Then you might want to avoid referencing anything in this wonderfully refreshing leadership book.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Every Leader is an Artist By Jim Estill I read Every Leader is an Artist - How the World's Greatest Artists Can Make You a More Creative Leader by Michael O'Malley and William Baker (Both PhD's). I do not consider myself to be artistic. I cannot draw worth anything. I am also highly utilitarian oriented and tend to undervalue art. But I am highly creative. This creativity has served me well in business. Leaders, like artists put their work on display every day in front of judgmental and discerning audiences. O'Malley and Baker have distilled 12 successful characteristics of artists that can be applied to leadership. They call them leadership criteria. I like that they acknowledge there is not one success formula that fits all situations or leaders. Some of the 12 criteria: 1 - Intent. Make a commitment to achieve exceptional ends. I found this inspirational. 2 - Focus. I have often had concern that my creativity has limited my focus. I often jump from idea to idea. Every successful person I know is high focus. 7 - Authenticity. This is one trait that makes a leader. Simple, easy and rare. 12 - Criticism. Constant evaluation of results and using that analysis to modify as needed. Most artists (and they include writers in this) dedicate their lifetime to their pursuit. Leadership is a lifetime pursuit as well. Part of the moral is we can all learn from any highly successful person. Most successful people in any field have applied themselves passionately to their chosen field.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A refreshing look at leadership By Robert Selden When it comes to Leadership, there's rarely a new twist on the subject; what it is; how it's developed and how to learn or acquire leadership. So, the title "Every Leader Is An Artist" is quite refreshing. The Introduction started to set the scene well in a quest for this illusive quality, trait, characteristic, role, or call it what you will. As authors O'Malley and Baker point out; "There is no common formulation, method of development, or means of evaluation for leadership". So, it was surprising to see that they then proceeded to list their 12 criteria for leadership. Starting with "Intent" and concluding with "Criticism" these may be quite admirable criteria. However, I could find no sound research or empirical evidence to support their claims. This is indeed unfortunate as their theory of how leadership can be honed through learning from some of the classic artists, is a good one. Perhaps the authors might argue that the book and its leadership criteria are not meant to be the ultimate definition of leadership or how to acquire it. Rather it is intended to act as a spur or stimulus for managers to refine their leadership skills. As the authors suggest, like artists, leaders put their work on display every day, in front of judgmental, and discriminating, audiences. Like artists, leaders strive to be better and perfect over time. O'Malley and Baker then proceed to provide twelve chapters that illustrate how artists and art can inform the development of each one of their twelve criteria. As a critique of leadership development, the authors also devote a chapter to the limitations of the MBA degree and how it might be improved. I found their four improvement suggestions admirable: 1. Mandatory instruction in human behaviour plus classes on the arts that have a business focus and are psychologically instructive to business people. 2. Identify the artlike components of certain business courses and teach them as art (e.g. organisational design). 3. Institute a two-year postgraduate practitioner-based apprenticeship (with on-the-job coaching and regular evaluation). 4. Require graduates to attend periodic leadership retreats. As O'Malley and Baker point out, leadership isn't something you wholly acquire with the receipt of a graduate degree or corporate title. Nor is leadership a skill that can be honed through osmosis: passive observation and tenure. Excellence in any craft requires greater dedication than that. So too the impact of this book will depend on the ability and willingness of the reader to relate the authors' observations and comments on how art can be used to develop one's leadership capability. I found some chapter summaries a far better tool for achieving this than others (e.g. Chapter 9 "Pleasure: Emotional Nourishment and Personal Enrichment" was well suited to this). This is a good read for the thinking manager. Unfortunately, I fear that those managers who are most likely to need it are also those who are most unlikely to read it.

Make Every Business Day Your Masterpiece Every Leader Is an Artist makes the compelling case that many of the attributes that make a person a great leader are actually those that make someone a superior artist: intention, focus, authenticity, skill, and imagination. Providing the tools and techniques for developing these qualities, Orsquo;Malley and Baker offer vignettes that draw parallels between the personal qualities of famous artists and effective leadership. Dr. Michael Orsquo;Malley is an adjunct professor at Columbia Business School and CEO of Promontory Financial Risk Management. He previously served as Executive Editor for Business, Economics, and Law at Yale University Press. Dr. William F. Baker directs the Bernard I. Schwartz center for Media Education, and Public Policy at Fordham University. He has won seven Emmys for his work in broadcasting.