

Back to School: Why Everyone Deserves a Second Chance at Education

Mike Rose



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Back to School: Why Everyone Deserves a Second Chance at Education Mike Rose The statistics come as a total surprise to most: 45 percent of postsecondary school students do not enroll directly out of high school. Many are part-time students, people who are returning to school after life intervened, or otherwise "nontraditional" learners—and this segment is growing. *Back to School* is the first book to look at this population of "second chancers," in a work that Make magazine calls "optimistic yet simultaneously realistic."

Writing in the anecdotal style of his bestselling *Possible Lives*, veteran educator Mike Rose paints a vivid picture of the community colleges and adult education programs that give millions of Americans a shot at reaching their aspirations. Chapters treat topics from remedial education and bridging the academic-vocational divide to the economic and social benefits of returning to school, the importance of second-chance education for democracy, and the college-for-all debate. Throughout, Rose combines what *Education Digest* calls "rich and moving vignettes of people in tough circumstances who find their way" with what *Publishers Weekly* calls "highly practical areas for improvement in higher ed, such as orientation programs, occupational schools, physical campus layouts, and pedagogical training for new teachers."

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