



# The Cambridge Handbook of Creativity (Cambridge Handbooks in Psychology)

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The Cambridge Handbook of Creativity is a comprehensive scholarly handbook on creativity from the most respected psychologists, researchers, and educators. This handbook serves both as a thorough introduction to the field of creativity and as an invaluable reference and current source of important information. It covers such diverse topics as the brain, education, business, and world cultures. The first section, "Basic Concepts," is designed to introduce readers to both the history of and key concepts in the field of creativity. The next section, "Diverse Perspectives of Creativity," contains chapters on the many ways of approaching creativity. Several of these approaches, such as the functional, evolutionary, and neuroscientific approaches, have been invented or greatly reconceptualized in the last decade. The third section, "Contemporary Debates," highlights ongoing topics that still inspire discussion. Finally, the editors summarize and discuss important concepts from the book and look to what lies ahead.

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

"The handbook is an indispensable guide to one of contemporary psychology's most fascinating fields."

**- Malcolm Gladwell, staff writer for The New Yorker and author of Outliers: The Story of Success**

"This volume serves very well not only as a thorough introduction to the study of creativity but also as an invaluable source for more debates, discussions, and future research. For anyone with an interest in current creativity research and theory, this book offers a fascinating reference point and wide-ranging perspectives in creativity across many domains such as the brain and creativity, art, education, everyday life, organizations, society, and world cultures. The book focuses a timely spotlight on functional, evolutionary, and neuroscientific approaches that have developed in the last decade, and the final chapters provide enlightening discussions on the ongoing theoretical issues."

**- Soon-Mook Lee, Sungkyunkwan University, Korea**

"Name your question: What is creativity? Can it be tested? Are there creative personalities? Can neuroscience explain creativity? This wide-ranging volume offers engaging accounts of what's known and illuminating debates about what's not."

**- David Perkins, Harvard Graduate School of Education**

"....an encyclopedic collection of all the major chunks of knowledge connected to creative behavior.... the contributing authors do a superb job of capturing the coherence and the theoretical and thematic developments of their respective areas.... The Cambridge Handbook is one of three potentially important compendia on creativity to appear in a span of two years.... Overall I would recommend The Cambridge Handbook of Creativity to serious researchers in creativity and anyone who wants to be seriously creative. Psychologists and educators are advised to keep a copy close by."

**-Stephen J. Guastello, PsycCRITIQUES**

"Truly a "handbook on creativity," this volume offers a comprehensive review of the relevant research in the area. An impressive reference manual, it not only synthesizes current research but also raises new and interesting questions for future research.... the volume will be useful in a variety of academic arenas. The topics are considered thoroughly.... This comprehensive review of the history, theories, and functions of creativity is a necessary read for anyone interested in exploring this consequential topic.... Highly recommended...."

**-T. A. Brown, Savannah College of Art and Design, CHOICE**

"....This robust companion to contributor Mark Runco's 2006 Creativity: Theories and Themes incorporates several perspectives and is a vital resource for enhancing subject understanding." **-Library Journal**

#### About the Author

James C. Kaufman, Ph.D., is a Professor of Psychology at the California State University at San Bernardino,

where he directs the Learning Research Institute. Dr Kaufman's research focuses on the nurturance, structure and assessment of creativity. He is the author or editor of more than 200 publications, including 22 books either published or in press. These books include *Creativity 101* (2009), *Essentials of Creativity Assessment* (with Jonathan Plucker and John Baer, 2008) and *The International Handbook of Creativity* (with Robert J. Sternberg, 2006). His research has been featured on CNN, NPR and the BBC and in the New York Times, the Los Angeles Times and New Yorker. Kaufman is a founding co-editor of the official journal for the American Psychological Association's Division 10, *Psychology of Aesthetics, Creativity, and the Arts*. He is also the associate editor of *Psychological Assessment* and the *Journal of Creative Behavior*, the editor of the *International Journal of Creativity and Problem Solving* and the series editor of the *Psych 101* series. He received the 2003 Daniel E. Berlyne Award from APA's Division 10, the 2008 E. Paul Torrance Award from the National Association of Gifted Children, and the 2009 Early Career Research Award from the Western Psychological Association.

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