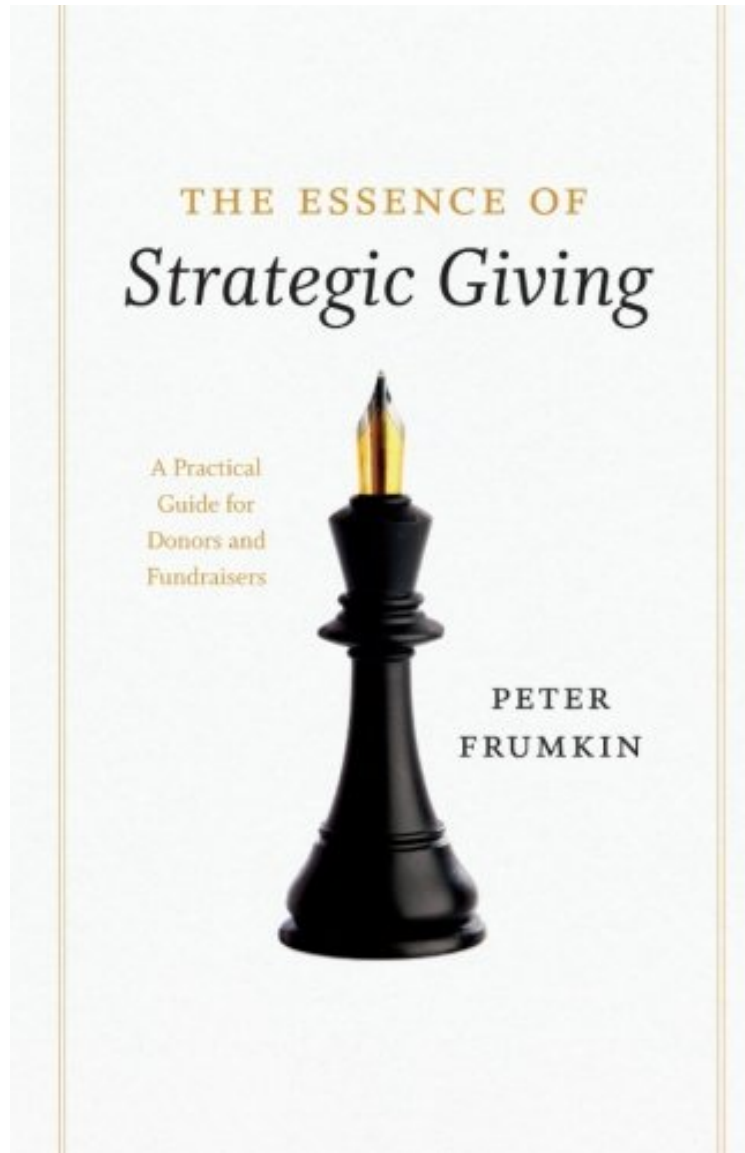


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Peter Frumkin

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Peter Frumkin : The Essence of Strategic Giving: A Practical Guide for Donors and Fundraisers before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Essence of Strategic Giving: A Practical Guide for Donors and Fundraisers:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Useful framework for those concerned about their giving's effectiveness. By Kalen CapI found this book helpful for framing various considerations in how to make giving more strategic. The vast majority of books out there are targeted to those with substantial means only. This book is more accessible to those having more modest resources, though not exclusively so. For me, I found the topic of timing donations to be the most enlightening, though I would guess any single donor might find any of the five primary concerns as instructive depending on where they are in their giving concerns. Overall, this was worth the read and adds something important to the resources on giving available. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. This book is assembled backwards. By DisappointedI ordered this book for grad school and when it arrived, the pages are backwards. The index is in the front and the pages go from 179-1. So frustrating. 7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Philanthropy is a complex and nuanced art. By John GibbsRather than just giving charity to the poor on an ongoing basis, philanthropy aspires to do something more lasting and radical, according to Peter Frumkin in this book. Philanthropy allows donors to use private funds to create social and political change, or locate and support important social innovations, or achieve a small measure of equity through the simple redistribution of resources. The act of giving inevitably raises questions of effectiveness, accountability and legitimacy. Effectiveness depends on the extent of the donor's success in achieving their goals. Accountability is a complex matter because giving is often done in private, but this may make the process non-transparent to many different stake-holders who are affected by the results of the giving. Legitimacy involves the difficult question of whether anyone has the right to complain about how donors spend their own money, or alternatively whether wealthy people should be allowed to exercise power on their own pet projects in an undemocratic manner. The author discusses ways in which philanthropic value is created, theories of change, leverage and scale, different styles of giving, short-term versus long-term giving, different types of foundations and vehicles through which philanthropy can be conducted, and ways in which the strategic value of giving can be maximised. The book is likely to be of interest to anyone who wants to make a difference in the world through giving, but has encountered at least one situation in which the outcome of giving has not matched up to the expectation. While giving at first seems to be a straightforward matter of handing over money, philanthropy is in fact a complex and nuanced art that requires a great degree of research and strategic thinking if you want to maximise the effectiveness of your efforts. I highly recommend this book as the best one on the subject that I am aware of.

Peter Frumkin has long been one of our leading big picture thinkers in the world of philanthropy. In this terrific short book, Frumkin marries his vision of great philanthropy with strategic giving with myriad real-world case studies. It is Frumkin at his best: pushing our thinking forward and speaking to donors of all kinds, individual and institutional, large and small. If you want to give money away wisely, read this wise book.