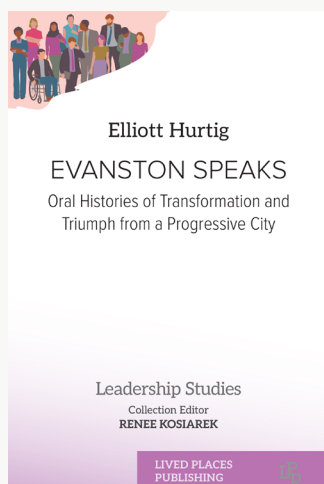




Evanston Speaks: Oral Histories of Transformation and Triumph from a Progressive City

AUTHOR Elliott Hurtig
COLLECTION EDITED BY Renee Kosiarek

COLLECTION
Leadership Studies

EDITION
1st edition

MARKET
College/higher education
and Professional and
scholarly

This course reading...

- Features compelling oral histories from diverse community leaders—including educators, activists, artists, and public officials—who have shaped Evanston's civic life.
- Offers an intimate portrait of how a progressive American city evolves through leadership, collaboration, and community engagement.
- Highlights real-life stories of resilience, social change, and civic responsibility that resonate with readers interested in local history and urban development.
- Provides valuable material for courses in urban studies, American studies, civics, and oral history.
- Ideal for students, educators, community leaders, and readers interested in urban communities, civic engagement, and contemporary local history.

What can the stories of community leaders reveal about the spirit and transformation of a city?

Evanston Speaks: Oral Histories of Transformation and Triumph from Community Leaders in a Progressive City by Elliott Hurtig brings together powerful personal narratives that illuminate the evolving identity of Evanston, Illinois.

Through a series of candid interviews, Hurtig captures the voices of educators, activists, artists, business owners, and public officials whose lives have been deeply shaped by the city. Each story reflects the challenges, achievements, and shared commitments that have helped define Evanston as a progressive and engaged community. Together, these oral histories form a collective portrait of a city where leadership, collaboration, and civic participation drive social change.

Drawing on decades of experience as an educator and storyteller, Hurtig presents narratives that highlight how individuals from diverse backgrounds contribute to the cultural, social, and political life of their community. The book not only documents the personal journeys of its contributors but also traces the broader transformation of Evanston over time.

Ideal for students and scholars in urban studies, civic studies, American studies, and oral history, as well as educators, community leaders, and residents interested in understanding how local voices shape the identity and future of their cities.

Elliott Hurtig is a retired high school English and creative writing teacher, Fulbright scholar, and founder of the Evanston Unity Soccer Festival who has spent decades fostering storytelling, education, and community engagement.

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