Dimensional's 2022 Summer Reading List

The New York Times Book Review's summer reading list is 125 years old this year. With the emergence of a middle class that could afford to take a break from work, innovations in book production, and the birth of the cultural tradition of the summer vacation, "summer reading" took off around that time, and the Times began publishing an annual list. Categories in those early years included "group of female novelists" and "novels by some new men." A lot has changed (including the categories) since the late 1800s, but our appetite to learn, to be entertained, to seek new ideas, or even to challenge our own thinking has not waned.

So it seems fitting—in fact, if you'll pardon the library reference...overdue—that we publish our first Dimensional Summer Reading List. Here are just some of books that employees in various areas of the business have enjoyed both professionally and personally.

Biography and Nonfiction

Path to Power by Robert Caro

Superhuman drive. Urge to Power. LBJ.

The Food Explorer by Daniel Stone

The adventures of globetrotting botanist, David Fairchild.

Leading by Alex Ferguson and Michael Moritz

Greatest soccer coach. Life lessons.

Greenlights by Matthew McConaughey

Success and failures. Joys and sorrows. Laugh out loud.

Appetite For Life by Noel Riley Fitch

The French Chef. Julia Child.

The Ride of a Lifetime by Robert Iger

Vision. Quality matters. Disney.

The Biggest Bluff by Maria Konnikova

Luck. Poker. Master class.

South: The Endurance Expedition by Sir Ernest Shackleton

Quest for survival. Man vs. the elements.

Business

Trillions by Robin Wigglesworth

Secret history. Wall Street.

Good Strategy, Bad Strategy by Richard Rumelt

Better thinking leads to better strategy.

The Responsible Company by Yvon Chouinard & Vincent Stanley

Environmental. Step by step. Patagonia.

Alchemy by Rory Sutherland

Behavioral science. Storytelling. Big ideas.

Linchpin by Seth Godin

Make an impact. Become indispensable.

Drive by Daniel Pink

Human motivation. Put into action.

Superbosses by Sydney Finkelstein

Exceptional leaders. Mastering talent flow.

Bury My Heart in Conference Room B by Stan Slap

Effective management. Emotional commitment.

Nines Lies About Work by Marcus Buckingham

Team strength and cohesiveness are key.

Values of the Game by Senator Bill Bradley

Basketball learnings to life lessons.

Your Essential Guide to Sustainable Investing by Larry E. Swedroe and Samuel C. Adams

Making investments that make an impact.

The Signal and The Noise by Nate Silver

Why some predictions fail. And some don't.

Moneyball by Michael Lewis

How one of the poorest MLB teams won so many games.

The Challenger Sale by Matthew Dixon and Brent Adamson

Successful salespeople don't just build relationships.



Personal Development and Leadership

A More Beautiful Question by Warren Berger

Mastering the art of inquiry.

Quiet by Susan Cain

Introverts and the extrovert ideal.

Treating People Well by Lea Berman and Jeremy Bernard

The power of civility and social skills.

Talking to Strangers by Malcolm Gladwell

What to know about people we don't know.

How to Win Friends and Influence People by Dale Carnegie

Impacting and influencing others.

How to Live On 24 Hours A Day by Arnold Bennett

Pocket philosophies. Message of hope.

Range by David Epstein

Daily organization of time.

Astronauts Guide to Life On Earth by Chris Hadfield

Make the impossible possible.

GRIT by Angela Duckworth

Modern experiments in peak performance.

Atlas of the Heart by Brené Brown

87 emotions and experiences that define us.

Never Split the Difference by Chris Voss

Nine principles to become more persuasive.

How Will You Measure Your Life by Clayton Christensen

Forge your own path to fulfillment.

Dimensional Leadership Select

Members of the executive team at Dimensional also provided recommendations. Catherine Williams, Head of Practice Management, recently had the chance to talk with Lisa Dallmer, COO, and David Jones, Head of our UK and Ireland Advisor Group, on our Managing Your Practice podcast series about the books that had an impact on their lives, both personally and professionally. You can find their suggestions and other leadership recommendations below, and listen to the full podcast episode here.

Recommended by Dave Butler, Co-Chief Executive Officer

Atomic Habits by James Clear

Framework for daily improvement.

The Little Book of Talent by Daniel Coyle

A faster brain and better you.

Recommended by Lisa Dallmer, Chief Operating Officer

Blue Ocean Strategy by W. Chan Kim and Renee Mauborgne

How to create uncontested market space.

The Media Relations Department of Hizbollah Wishes You A Happy Birthday by Neil MacFarquhar

Stories of people and culture in the Middle East.

Recommended by David Jones, Head of UK and Ireland Advisor Group

The Psychology of Money by Morgan Housel

Lessons on greed, wealth, and happiness.

Influence by Robert Cialdini

Why people say yes.

The One Thing by Gary W. Keller and Jay Papasan

Fewer distractions. More productivity.

Turn the Ship Around! by L. David Marquet A true story of turning followers into leaders.

Recommended by Aaron Marcus, Global Head of Human Resources

The Years of Lyndon Johnson by Robert A. Caro

LBJ's four-volume biography.

Recommended by Steve Clark, President of Dimensional International

The Boys in the Boat by Daniel James Brown

Nine Americans. The quest for gold.



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