

PASADENA STAR-NEWS

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AT HOME / BOOKS

Tips offered to perk up teaching

By Michelle J. Mills Staff Writer

"See! Believe! Achieve!: A Book for Discovering the Heart & Soul of Teaching" (Tate Publishing, \$15) was a labor of love for **Robert Grossi**. The work is full of tips and ideas to perk up teacher's classrooms and inspire learning. It also includes chapters on planning a career in education and motivation for working educators. Grossi spent 37 years in teaching and administration in San Gabriel Valley and San Fernando Valley schools. He had been slowly preparing to write a book sharing his expertise in education when he was diagnosed with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, then the work became his passion. Grossi lives in Pasadena.

"Arts in Store: Rethinking the Relationship Between Art and Business" (Lulu, \$8) by **Michael Markowsky** contains interviews with entrepreneurs and artists on how they achieved success, as well as what each career path can learn from the other and more. Markowsky lives in Pasadena and is a graduate of the Art Center College of Design in Pasadena. He is an established artist and



Grossi



Markowsky



Lendroth

lecturer, who has won numerous awards, including the "Power of Art" award from the Robert Rauschenberg Foundation for his work with children with learning disabilities in 2007.

Children ages 4-8 will be charmed by "Maneki Neko: the Tale of the Beckoning Cat" (Shen's Books, \$18) by **Susan Lendroth** and illustrated by **Kathryn Otoshi**. The book shares the traditional tale of how a lucky cat brought together

a poor monk and a noble samurai and why Japanese businesses still display cat statues with upraised paws today. Sierra Madre resident Lendroth has previously written two children's books and is already working on her next one. She works for The Planetary Society, a non-profit space interest organization in Pasadena. Otoshi is a writer and artist in Northern California.

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