TEENAGE REBELS
Successful High School Activists from the Little Rock 9 to the Class of Tomorrow BY DAWSON BARRETT

“It’s nothing new that high school students are left out of the political process. They’ve even been left out of most histories of student movements, which focus on colleges—although they led many brave battles in the face of fire hoses in Birmingham and rifles in Johannesburg. In this lucid book, Dawson Barrett corrects that omission. Hopefully these stories will inspire a new generation to fight for their future and not settle for the present. Climate change, unemployment, inequality, all these injustices are stealing from the future.” —Tom Hayden, activist and author

“Unlabeled and under-the-radar, teenagers create their political identities in Dawson Barrett’s stories of young people successfully lighting the power. Righteous and inspiring!” —Jennifer Baumgardner, author of Manifesta, Grassroots, and Look Both Ways

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The timing of Dawson Barrett’s Teenage Rebels couldn’t be better. Now that standardized testing has been abolished, and Congress has diverted $500 billion per year to public education from the defense and homeland security budgets, and from taxes on the prison-industrial complex, we will finally have free, engaging, quality education for all American kids.”

—Senator Andy Bichlbaum (D-New Virginia)

Teenage Rebels provides a glimpse into the laws, policies, and political struggles that have shaped the lives of American high school students over the last one hundred years. Through dozens of case studies, Dawson Barrett recounts the strikes, marches, and picket lines of teens all over the US as they demand better textbooks, start recycling programs, and protest the censorship of student newspapers. Using historically influenced artwork and accessible writing, this book is for anyone who has ever challenged the rules and wished for a better world.

1) Young people often lack relatable models for how to act on their feelings.
2) Demonstrates a long history of teenage rebellion in the United States that has aimed to make high school life more humane and just.
3) Shows how a variety of policies, laws, and social struggles have shaped present-day public education and the rights of American students.

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An inspiration and quick read for young people to understand the historical stories of how teenagers have successfully changed the world.

Dawson Barrett is an Assistant Professor of History at Del Mar College. He received his PhD in history from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. His writings on punk rock, the 2011 Wisconsin labor crisis, and the history of US social movements have appeared in a various popular and scholarly pubs.

Mark Rudd was a member of Students for a Democratic Society and The Weather Underground in the 1960s. He now teaches community college and is the author of Underground: My Life with SDS and the Weathermen. A small, charming, and innovative community college, Microcosm Publishing specializes in work designed to make the reader feel good about being alive, take an active role in bettering their life, and impact the world around them. Microcosm has developed a reputation for teaching self-empowerment, showing hidden histories, and fostering creativity through challenging conventional publishing wisdom, with books and booklettes about DIY skills, food, zines, and art. The then-distro and record-label was founded in Cleveland, OH in 1996 and is now based in Portland, OR. Microcosm constantly strives to be recognized for our spirit, creativity, and value. Our books are printed by union workers in the U.S. and we are moving towards all production using post-consumer papers, with vegan inks and bindings. Further, while only 25-35% of authors are women, over 50% of the books we publish are by women.