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Dean K. Simonton

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The research oeuvre of Dean Keith Simonton has propelled the field of creativity studies into new territory and brought with it a raft of critical insights. For over 50 years, Simonton, by applying a scientific lens, has interrogated some of the most important phenomena in the history of creativity studies, such as leadership, genius, talent, giftedness, and expertise. He has pioneered the application of quantitative methods to the work of the great composers, to the film genre, to visual arts and to creative writing. His application of historiometry, interrogation of the age-achievement relationship and the mad-genius paradox, and exploration of combinatorial processes as applied to creativity is ground breaking, particularly in terms of his work involving artists. While not without his critics, Simonton has offered the field of creativity studies a wealth of evidence-based insights and directions for future research. Importantly, his research often considers potential future realities for societies. Simonton is a generous scholar; he acknowledges the work done by pioneers in the field and that of his contemporaries. In addition, he seeks to make his often complex work accessible to a wide readership and to further the field of creativity studies.

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