

# **Leonardo Q. Williams, MSA**

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**A Curriculum Vitae Presentation**

**406 Blackwell Street**

**Durham, NC 27701**

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## **PHILOSOPHICAL STATEMENT**

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**I believe relationships are our most valuable currency. They are the foundation on which communities are strengthened, diversified and enhanced. Within any congregation of people, one must first submit to a common vision that embraces them all. I channel these ideals through the concept of intellectual appreciation and selfless contribution. In turn, the inception of beneficial outcomes evolves.**

## **SKILL SET INVENTORY**

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- Leadership strategist and developer
- Small Business Innovator
- Knowledgeable in the *teaching & learning* process
- Experienced in community advocacy and transformation
- School & Community Based Turnaround Specialist
- Policy Influencer & Advocate
- Social Capacity Builder
- Experienced in non-profit development and sustainability

## **EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE** *(2015 to Current)*

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Master of Education Leadership, North Carolina Central University, Spring 2015

Bachelor of Arts in Music Education, North Carolina Central University, Fall 2005.

Mayor - City of Durham, NC

Zweli's Inc – Full-Service Restaurants & Catering Operation (Owner)

PHASE 3 Group, Inc. - Education, Business & Community Development (Owner)

Senior Consultant – North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

Executive Director – College & Career Services – Warren County Schools, NC

Executive Director – The Silltrist Foundation of North Carolina

Education Grants & Program Coordinator (Consultant) – NC Department of Transportation

Senior Administrator – Durham Public Schools (Principal)

Teacher – Durham Public Schools

## **Prominent Experience Expounded**

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### **Elected Official**

As a servant and transformational leader, I serve as a Durham City Councilman, leading the Triangle on transit, fine & performing arts, housing, economic development, solutions on safety, festivals, community engagement, and efficient government policies. My involvement was consequential in passing one of the city's most historic budgets for the 2023-24 fiscal year; touting a \$31 million dollar surplus, record sales tax, 6% to 8% raises for city staff and more.

### **Small Business Innovation**

As the world is facing a global pandemic, it became evident just how many small businesses were on the brink of collapse. Small businesses began closing weekly. As a co-founder of the Durham Small Business Coalition, I developed formal channels of communication amongst small businesses across several industries, encouraged cross-agency communication and information sharing, and developed a public/private partnership that produced \$3 million, halting the closure of any additional small businesses in the Durham community due to COVID-19.

### **Education Consulting**

Serving as a *Senior Consultant* for the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, I mounted the responsibility of analyzing and structuring legislation to provide enhanced resources for North Carolina public elementary schools identified "high risk." Elements in this role required a keen understanding of policy, the ability to meet vital deadlines, generating extensive data analysis, culturally-appropriate communication and writing skills, the establishment of strategic relationships and effective use of external resources such as media, marketing and community assets.

The foundation of my skillset is embedded in practical engagement. The process of *teaching & learning* is the most sacred human transaction in society. From Teacher of the Year to Small Business of the Year, I have been inspired to formalize components of my leadership philosophy into a consulting platform that encompasses creativity and innovation in the areas of Education and Small Business advocacy. The *PHASE 3 Group, Inc.* (Providing Helpful Accountability Strategies Effectively for Community, Small Business and Education) consists of a group of committed professionals with diverse backgrounds, invoking their expertise for the betterment of our clients.

I have written curriculum that supports innovative learning in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics. I created the *OASIS Project* (Optimizing Academic Standards for Innovative Students). Success was defined by developing a strategic plan that provided a stable infrastructure, obtaining and sustaining a revenue of \$330,000 annually for funding the OASIS Project, a staff of 30, and providing a robust internal

evaluation of the organization.

## **LEADERSHIP**

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**Board Chair**, NC Central University College of Arts & Sciences Advisory Board  
**President**, The Flood Group of North Carolina; Current  
**Fellow**, North Carolina Institute of Political Leadership; Current  
**Director of Strategic Planning**, The Flood Group of North Carolina 2016-2017  
**Board Chairman**, North Carolina Foundation for Public Schools Children 2011- 2016  
**Vice President of Operations**, N C Showstyle Band Directors Association – 2012 - 2014  
**Lead Teacher for Secondary Music Teachers**, Durham Public Schools; 2012 - 2014  
**Education Policy Contributor**, Global Leadership Institute, 2010 – 2013  
**Regional President**, North Carolina Association of Educators (NCAE); 2010 - 2013

## **SPECIAL TRAININGS**

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**Cultural Responsive Leadership**, Dr. Timothy Siegler, Esq. – NC Central University  
**Education Law & Policy**, Dr. Timothy Siegler, Esq. – NC Central University  
**Instructional Design**, Dr. William Logan - Durham Public Schools  
**Organizational Leadership & Management**, Dr. Stacey Wilson-Norman, Durham Public Schools

## **PRESENTATIONS**

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**North Carolina Retired School Personnel** – guest speaker to state conference  
“The State Of Our Public Schools – Standing for what’s right”  
**North Carolina Teaching Fellows Junior Conference** – *sponsor*  
Teaching Beyond Technology of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century  
**North Carolina Social Studies Conference** – *sponsor*  
Building Communities Through Schools Durham/Dominican Republic Partnership  
**University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill** - *sponsor*  
Latin American Studies Consortium, The Study of Immigration and Its Impact on Schools  
**World View** – *sponsor*  
Utilizing The Arts as an Enhancement to Core Classes  
**Duke University Caribbean Studies** - *sponsor*  
Building Communities Through Schools Durham/Dominican Republic Partnership  
**North Carolina Central University Education Symposium** – *sponsor*  
“Stand Up, Speak Out” Advocacy for Public School Education  
**We The People** – *sponsor*  
Frontiers National Youth Leadership

## **AWARDS**

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**Durham Public Schools Top 10 Semi-Finalist Teacher Of The Year – 2013 - 14**

**Teacher Of The Year – The Southern School of Energy & Sustainability 2013-14**

**The Triangle Business Journal 40 Under 40 - 2012**

NC Central University **Inaugural 40 Under 40 - 2012**

The City of Durham, NC **Keeper Of The Dream Award 2012**

Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Inc. **Community Essence of Achievement Award 2012**

Durham Public Schools **Teacher of the Year Selection Committee 2009**

J. E. Shepard I.B. Middle School **Teacher of the Year 2008**

**MENC National Composition Competition Winner**, National Association for Music Education Conference, Salt Lake City UT, Spring 2006