

Leonardo Q. Williams, MSA

A Curriculum Vitae Presentation
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PHILOSOPHICAL STATEMENT

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

- 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)*

Master of Education Leadership, North Carolina Central University, Spring 2015
Bachelor of Arts in Music Education, North Carolina Central University, Fall 2005.

City of Durham, NC – City Councilman Ward 3 (Elected Official)
Zweli's Inc – Full-Service Restaurant & 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

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

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

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

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 21st 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

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

GRANTS

After School Quality Improvement Grant \$330,000 Annually

Author 2015-2017

United Service Foundation \$2,500 2017

The Kennedy Center Supportive School Boards Grants \$10,000

Co-write: Durham Public Schools Fine Arts 2011

The National Endowment of the Arts \$250,000

Co-write: Dr. LeAnne Disla, Duke University 2011

PUBLICATIONS & MEDIA *(viewed in or contributed on syndicated sources...)*

Articles

National Educators Association “*Marching To A New Beat*” 2010 March/April edition

The Durham News: “*A New Band In Town*” 2010

The Herald Sun: “*A Cadence On High Stepping*” 2011

Commercials

Durham Together for Resilient Youth (T.R.Y.)

Viewed in the Southeastern region of the United States, 1 million viewers

Documentaries:

The Fox Network in conjunction with Adrian Carroll Entertainment and Farrow Productions: “A CADENCE UNHEARD”

Viewed on the East coast of the United States, 4+ million viewers

RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS *(2012 – 2018)*

The Flood Group – Successfully converted a community volunteer group of community advocates to a non-profit 501 c3 organization, established a governing body, raised over \$5,000 for community engagement and lastly, authored an Advocacy Manual for Parents and Community Members on Supporting Children in the Southeast Wake County community.

AFLS (Associated Family & Life Services) – As a community consultant, successfully

worked with 6 mental health agencies on streamlining resources to better support their local schools in an effort to increase social and psychological resources during and after school.

The O.A.S.I.S. Project (Optimizing Academic Standards for Innovative Students) – Created and implemented this successful after school program within two Durham Public Schools. Student showed tremendous growth in Reading, Writing, and Math.

The Literacy Movement – Led an initiative that directly impacted students in North Carolina who struggled with reading by allocating \$20,000 worth of grant funds to creative teachers with ideas of literacy programs to incorporate within in their schools.

1st and 2nd Annual Champions for Children Gala – Chaired the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Foundation for Public School Children as produced one of the largest events for public school children yet. We raised close to \$300,000 with just the first two combine.

Operation Graduate – I accomplished the milestone of securing graduation status for all seniors affiliated with my PHASE 3 advocacy group. Of the 14 senior high school students, six have secured full financial grants and scholarship support for college.

Triangle Business Journal 40 Under 40 – Amongst the largest class of applicants in history for the Triangle Business Journal's 40 Under 40, I have been selected as the *only* educator amongst business owners, non-profit organizations, community activists, etc. to be named in this year's TBJ 40 Under 40 Leaders of Tomorrow for North Carolina.

Finalist for Teacher Of The Year – Being named as the first Arts Education teacher to be named Teacher Of The Year at Southern High School was a major achievement. However, making it as a Top Tier Semi-Finalist reigned as the source of a new pride for my students, colleagues and the Durham community.

North Carolina Central University 40 Under 40 – Of the thousands of graduates of NC Central University, I was selected, honored and recognized as an impactful young leader in our nation in the inaugural 40 Under 40 class.

References:

Dr. Dudley Flood – floodspeaker@bellsouth.net

(Retired) First African American Deputy State Superintendent. Current community advocate for children, their families and their state of literacy. Founder of the Flood Group

Dr. Terrance Ruth – terranceruth@gmail.com

Professor: NC State, former Principal of AMIKids NC, Partner at PHASE III Educational Consulting, Writer and Researcher for Emerg-NC, Writer and Educational Contributor for EdNC.

John Wilson – wilson5007@att.net

Columnist for Education Weekly, Immediate Past Executive Director for the NEA, the National Education Association. Currently serving as Vice Chair for the NC Foundation for Public School Children.

Omari Hicks – omanh20@yahoo.com

Former student, now a Senior at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. A phenomenal student leader.