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Join us in welcoming Leah to the PG team!

Profound Gentlemen [profoundgentlemen@gmail.com]


Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 9:59 AM

To: [Steve Johnston](#)

[View this email in your browser.](#)

This week Profound Gentlemen welcomes the newest member of Profound Gentlemen's team, Leah Rapley. Leah brings with her a wealth of experience in Education, a uniquely global perspective, and a riveting passion for PG's mission and vision. Below she shares a bit of her story and what brings her to her new role as Community Development Manager at Profound Gentlemen.

I have served eight years in the social sector, but my advocacy work began in high school campaigning for Invisible Children, an organization focused on ending the recruitment of child soldiers in Uganda. Since then, I have not stopped being a voice for underserved communities and preparing others around me to do the same.



In 2008, I moved from Texas to the East Coast to attend Davidson College. I participated in a variety of service opportunities at Davidson; however, my study abroad experiences in Bolivia solidified my commitment to highlighting voices that are silenced. After Davidson, I served as an Educator in Japan, an experience that cultivated my passion for providing access to quality education. Before returning to Charlotte, I received my Masters in International Education Development at George Washington University and with the International Youth Foundation (IYF) on their youth social entrepreneurship youth development program. My work with IYF strengthened my desire to grow and empower young people to garner social change in their communities. I carried that interest into my role as a Youth Development Coordinator at Communities in Schools in Charlotte, where I learned firsthand the challenges our children experience at school and the systems of oppression that continue to work against the success of black and brown children. Serving as an Assistant Director of Civic Engagement/ Director of Freedom Schools showed me the importance of operating within my purpose and sent me on a path of rediscovering my natural gifts and aligning those with the things I care about and my

vision to positively impact my community. I can confidently say that I will be doing just that in my role as the Community Development Manager. I am thrilled to continue my journey as an advocate for change at Profound Gentlemen; let's do this work and continue to build a more equitable and just society.

Fun Facts: I am a mom of a toddler, affectionately known as Flash, who pretty much hazes us (he loves him but he really does run us). I enjoy learning about new cultures and traveling. Food is pretty much my second best friend (I exercise so that I can eat good food). Nature and writing/journaling energize me. I value deep conversations and genuine connections with people. I love all things African Diaspora. I started an organization called Threaded Histories and write stories about cultures from the African Diaspora. I am in the process of publishing a revised edition to my children's book about Afro-Bolivians and working on the second book. My favorite podcasts are Code Switch, The Stoop, and Side Hustle Pro. Historical Fiction is my favorite genre to read.

Join us in welcoming Leah at Leah@Profoundgentlemen.org.

More PG Updates

- [Local school gets an extra \\$25K donation after principal goes on Ellen Tube](#)
- PG receives [COVID-19 Relief Fund grant](#) for summer programming to support emerging and beginning male educators of color
- PG was featured on [VoyageATL](#)
- [Haberdish](#), a charlotte restaurant in NODA, is currently featuring a specialty craft cocktail with proceeds going to Profound Gentlemen

- Call for Educator Stories:



Our Executive Director, Jason Terrell, has made a call to action for male educators of color to share their stories about how we're impacting social change in and out of classrooms. We're encouraging male educators or color interested in participating to connect with this movement. Please email your stories to jallen@profoundgentlemen.com.



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