

# VISIBLE MEN, KEYNOTE PRESENTATIONS

for Educators and Schools

The mission of **Visible Men** is to elevate Black boys and men to new heights of achievement, fulfillment, happiness, and social contribution.

Founder, Neil Phillips, fulfills the **Visible Men** mission through the following presentations:

## Expect Success – See to Be!

This multi-media presentation for school age black boys answers the question: What does it take to be successful? By revealing the full breadth of black male accomplishment in America, this dynamic presentation celebrates black male role models from all walks of life and fuels black boys toward the path of happiness, fulfillment, and social contribution. The presentation is based on the theme “we know the answers”. It emphasizes the importance of visualizing success as the first step to achieving it, and encourages a sense of self-reliance, empowerment, and control over one’s life path.

## Building Visible Men: Raising Black Boys to Find Success

This presentation for **educators, parents, and mentors** of black boys focuses on raising black boys to embrace the path that leads to success. It emphasizes the need for caring adults to create an environment of high expectations and stresses the idea that success is a decision that, once made and committed to, empowers black boys with a sense of self-reliance and control over their life path. The presentation highlights what is possible for black boys and invites them to find and access black male role models through the Visible Men Success Network.

## 2020 Vision: The Success Plan for Black Fathers and Sons

This presentation for **black fathers and their sons** focuses on this critical relationship and the need for a committed partnership. It emphasizes the need for fathers and sons to establish an environment of mutually high expectations and stresses the importance creating and embracing shared responsibilities. The presentation highlights what is possible for black boys and stresses the idea that success is a decision that, once made and committed to, empowers black boys with a sense of self-reliance and control over their life path. The **2020 Vision** presentation positions black fathers and sons as mutually beneficial sources of inspiration in the quest for happiness, fulfillment, and social contribution.

## Becoming Visible: Sharing Success to Elevate Others

This presentation for **accomplished black men** celebrates their accomplishment and encourages them to become models for others to follow. It is based on the themes of commitment and possibility, and it reveals the need for accomplished black men to become Visible. This presentation highlights the avenue, the **Visible Men** Success Network, through which they can pass on success principles to aspiring black boys, helping to elevate them to new heights.

TO SCHEDULE THIS PRESENTATION,  
CALL 301.646.4759 OR EMAIL INFO@VISIBLEMEN.COM



THE SUCCESS NETWORK  
FOR BLACK BOYS & MEN

To schedule Neil for your event call:  
301.646.4759 or email  
info@VisibleMen.com

This program is for:

**Black boys,**  
inundated by images of black male strife and failure.

**Parents & guardians,**  
eager to see their sons recognize and realize their potential.

**Educators,**  
frustrated because they can’t solve the riddle that keeps their black boys from reaching new heights of achievement.

**Community leaders,**  
exasperated that too many of the black boys in their neighborhoods never find the path to success.

**Accomplished black men,**  
who need to be elevated so they can serve as role models to our boys.

“I’ve worked with black boys for over 35 years as a parent, educator, mentor, and coach. I’ve seen many who found success, but also, too many who didn’t. Neil’s unique approach to this critical issue is uplifting, celebratory, and inspiring. His message hits the major issues that confront our boys on their paths to becoming accomplished men. The Visible Men movement is the right thing at the right time.”

Johnnie Foreman  
Director of Diversity, Gilman School  
Baltimore, MD

“Visible Men provides meaningful examples of the real world achievements - large and small - of real black men from all walks of life. In this way, Visible Men helps chart a pathway for boys who may not see a clear direction or have role models to follow. Visible Men can make a powerful difference in the lives of today’s youth.”

Laura McGiffert Slover  
Washington D.C. Board of Education

## ABOUT NEIL PHILLIPS

Neil Phillips is passionate about the character development of young people. “Our most important job is to help children grow into young adults with integrity, self-worth, and respect for others.”

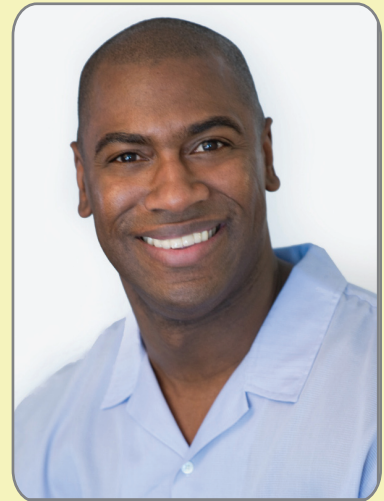
Neil moved from Jamaica to America with his parents when he was three years old and was heavily influenced by his parent’s values, attitudes and work ethic. “My parents bought into the American dream, and they passed that on to us,” Neil reveals. “We were taught to believe that, as long as we were good citizens who stayed positive and worked hard, we would achieve.” Both of Neil’s parents worked by day, and Neil’s father went to night school to earn his bachelor’s degree.

While Neil excelled in sports throughout high school and college, he wasn’t satisfied to strive for a career as a professional athlete as his crowning achievement. “While I really enjoyed sports, I grew up with a taste of how good it felt to perform well beyond the athletic field, to contribute to the world around me in any way I could,” Neil recalls. “I came to be convinced that the people who are most fulfilled in their lives are those who serve others and who have a strong sense of self.” After graduating from Harvard in 1989, Neil played basketball professionally in Australia and for the Jamaican National Team.

Neil has a long personal and professional history of working to improve the lives of young people. “Self-actualization in young people doesn’t just happen,” Neil asserts. “We all need to experience some successes throughout our lives, however small, to feel like we’re capable of achieving and contributing. I believe our most important job as adults is to put young people in positions to see and feel success, so that they’ll want more and develop the skills to get more. Once a young person believes in themselves, their world expands and their options become limitless.”

Neil has a tremendous amount of gratitude to those people, particularly African-American men, who paved the path to success. “A lot of people before me did some very hard work to create the opportunities that I’ve had. I am grateful for that, and I feel obligated to honor their efforts. The best way I can do that is by working hard and helping others.”

Today, Neil is committed to empowering and inspiring young black boys by exposing them to role models who can help them see and realize their potential. “I grew up with a sense of worthiness and purpose that caused me to expect success” Neil observes. “I’m dedicated to sharing what I’ve learned about success with young people, especially black boys, and the urgency has grown since I’ve had a son of my own,” Neil explains. “Each day, I’m more committed to helping to create a better world for our black boys.”



Neil Phillips, Founder

**Harvard University,**  
Bachelor of Arts in English and  
American Literature

Athlete of the Year,  
**Harvard Independent**

All-Ivy-League honors in  
basketball and football,  
**Harvard University**

Professional basketball player,  
**Kilsyth Cobras** in Australia and the  
**Jamaican National Team**

Coaching Education Manager for the  
**Positive Coaching Alliance** based  
at Stanford University

Athletic Director and Head  
Basketball Coach, **Landon School**

Head of the Upper School, **Landon  
School**

“Neil has a rare ability to connect with youth and adults from diverse backgrounds and situations. He is one of the most dynamic and effective speakers I have had the privilege to see in action. He is also a truly good person. You simply can not go wrong putting Neil in front of any audience involved with youth development, including the toughest kids you can find. He will win them over and leave them with a message that will enhance their lives.”

Jim Thompson, Executive Director  
Positive Coaching Alliance  
Stanford, CA.

The Success Network  
For Black Boys & Men  
For information on  
Neil Phillips and  
Visible Men, visit  
[www.VisibleMen.com](http://www.VisibleMen.com)