



Illuminating Leadership

A Self Portfolio About Leading
Jordan Brown



01 Introduction

This section will provide insight into what this portfolio is about, provide a brief autobiography, and information about myself.

02 Ideology

Vision; Mission; Goals. What do these things mean to me, and how do I conceive them?

03 Leadership

What motivates me? How do I approach leadership? What do I believe makes an effective leader? This section answers all of these questions and more.

04 Closing

Final thoughts, tools, resources, and more are shared here.

Agenda

Introduction



Abstract

Leadership is a like snowflake; each has a unique, individual style. When you step back though, one sees how each individual piece builds upon another, and forms a singular unit. Leadership is common to all, yet is approached uniquely for everybody. All situations are unique and call for a different type of approach to best address what the circumstance deems best. Some leaders are charismatic and go with their gut feeling; others take a more analytical and tactical approach. In this presentation, I will elucidate how I define leadership, what skills and traits an effective leader should exhume, and how share helpful information for any leader.



Autobiography

Growing up with two hardworking parents and three competitive brothers helped push me to always do my best with all endeavors I engage in. Born in Washington D.C. and raised in Maryland, I grew up with two hardworking parents, and three competitive brothers. From a young age, I have been greatly engrossed in team sports, which I have learned many lessons from. I was taught the importance of discipline, work with a team, leading by example, and always giving your my best effort for all endeavors I engage in. As important, I understood that one cannot simply accomplish every task on their own. I have taken these important lessons and transitioned them into my current management, leadership, and operational styles both personally and professionally.

I currently am in my final semester at EGCC for my Associates degree in Business Management – Information Systems Focus. I intent to pursue my Bachelor's Degree in Business Management at Columbia University beginning in 2021. I am an Operations Analyst/Systems Administrator at Deltek in charge on a platitude of SaaS services, asset development, and oversight engagement.



Ideology





Vision

To encourage and influence others to be the best versions of themselves

Everyone has a unique journey of which they shall traverse through their lives. Being able to help cultivate others into their superlative selves along their journeys is something which I have done, and shall continue to do. Those who strive for constant improvement strove for greatness.

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Mission



Time Management

Knowing that there is limited time in a day, I work with others to help organize their agendas, and make better use of their “usable time”



Collaboration

Accomplishing tasks alone can be done; working in congruency with others makes it easier. I strive to lead others in group efforts, while challenging their independent efforts



Self-Understanding

Success is unique to each individual. I make it my mission to help others understand their meaning of success, and how to unlock their potential selves



Marathon

Life is not a race to the end; everyone is running their own marathon, and can always be a winner in unique ways. Understanding and unlocking this concept in others is of importance

Goals



Scrum Master



**Business
Consultant**



Life Coach

Each of these goals share a central commonality: to help others achieve their goals cohesively and independently through effective leadership, individual empowerment, effective dialogue, and a better understanding of self. The culmination of these objectives will allow me to share my skills and talents with society, while emboldening others to reach their potentials, and helping others along their journeys.

Leadership



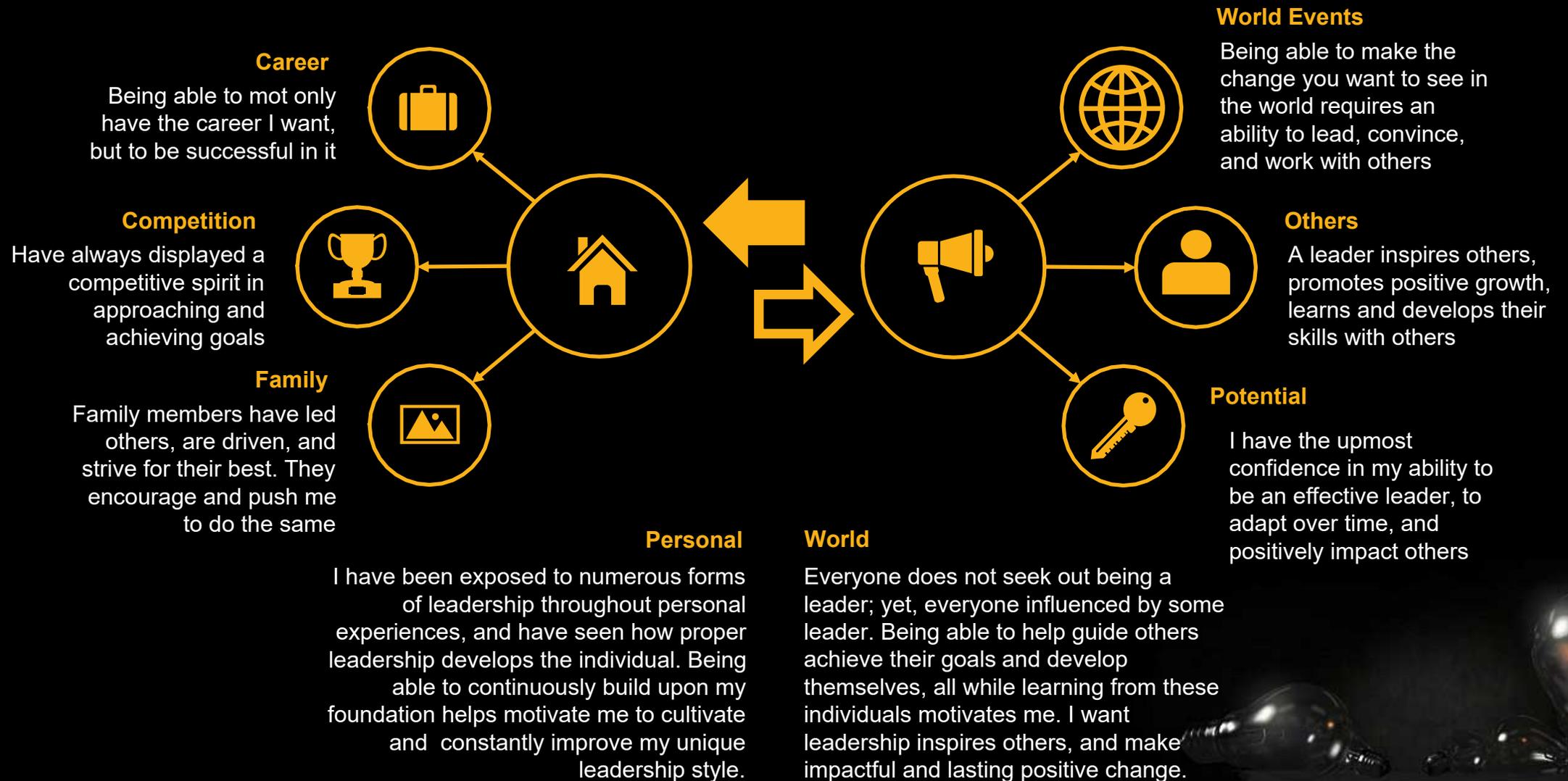
A glowing lightbulb is positioned on the left side of the image, casting a warm, golden light. To its right, a human hand is shown with fingers spread, reaching towards the light. The background is dark, making the lightbulb and the hand stand out prominently. The overall mood is one of inspiration and enlightenment.

Leadership Philosophy

Leaders Improve and Empower

A great leader is one who is open, honest, aware, and vulnerable. This applies not only to the self, but also to one's peers. Having an unyielding willingness to learn, open channels of communication with cohorts and contemporaries, being honest and accepting with all communications and feedback, and having a high degree of emotional awareness are key to a great leader. Applying a keen focus on continuously striving for improvement and advancement of oneself and their followers will eradicate stagnation, inspire and influence those surrounding a leader, help develop the best possible solutions. Empowering others shows confidence in not only the individual skills of the team, but also displays the leader's confidence in their ability to lead others, and instills self-confidence. A team is only as strong as its weakest link. Having awareness that one will need to rely on others is a key trait of effective leaders and team building.

Leadership Motivation

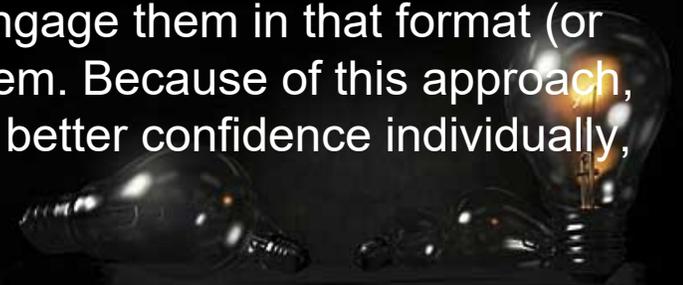


Leadership Feedback

Giving feedback is something which everyone has provided to others at some point in their life. Leaders must do this with their teams as part of their roles. Effective and influential leaders ensure to provide constructive feedback, also referred to as constructive criticism, to their followers and colleagues. These leaders want to instill improvement, awareness, honesty, and open communication with their peers in order to cohesively achieve their goals. Good leaders provide constructive criticism in a manner which is not meant to disrespect or hinder, and is delivered in a manner which is easy to digest, comprehend, and apply.

Giving this kind of feedback is only half of the equation; the other half is receiving feedback. Great leaders are able to open lines of communication for feedback about themselves, their leadership techniques, how effective or ineffective they have been, and other critiques. Great leaders do not [always] seek to justify themselves; instead they use that information to adapt and improve.

In my current role, I am in charge of several operations and departments. I reach out to my peers and teams not only to seek their input on certain items and ensure that they are involved, but also to seek their feedback about my approach to leading them. I always ensure that everyone is heard, respected, and engaged in projects. Knowing some of my peers tend to do better in one-on-one settings, I ensure to engage them in that format (or whichever works best for them at the time), and have meaningful sessions with them. Because of this approach, my peers continue to show the utmost confidence in my leadership styles, display better confidence individually, and greater confidence cohesively.





Relationship Development

Connecting With Others

It is essential to develop healthy and positive relationships with others; there are several approaches one may take in order to help with their efforts.

I tend to have a general conversation with those whom I first meet, and try to get an understanding of how to best engage with them. Some people are very outgoing, and are willing to share and open up about themselves. I have found that most people tend to be more reserved at first, and open as they feel more comfortable. Because of this, I generally open up about myself, and speak on commonalities which helps others feel comfortable, willing to engage, and share in dialogue. I allow others to open up at their own pace, and never force any topic upon them.

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Conflict Management

Timing

Evaluating the situation at hand, and knowing when to engage the conflict is of great importance to a leader. Effective leaders intervene at the right time.



03

Reading the Room

Everyone has a unique background, differing experiences and opinions, and will not think the same. Being able to not only understand this concept, but apply it, and respecting these differences is the first step in resolving many matters



01



04

Decision-Making

Effective leaders seek outcomes which work in favor of both the individual and the team. In situations where that is not possible, a leader does what is best for the team, and the end goal



02

Removing Personal Feelings

An effective leader will remove personal feelings regarding the matter from the equation, and their decision making. The problem must be perceived in the perspective which is best for the team and goal(s) which are to be accomplished



Closing Thoughts

A hand is shown holding a large, glowing, textured sphere. A trail of smaller, similar glowing spheres extends from the hand towards the right side of the frame, creating a sense of motion and depth. The background is dark, making the glowing elements stand out.

My personal philosophy is incomplete; rather, it is always evolving. This has been formed over several years of first-hand knowledge, experience, adaptations from mentors, and other areas. I hope that you too always grow, adapt, listen, and understand the importance of what you and others bring to the table. It is through collaborating with others that we better understand ourselves, and achieve unlimited goals.



Resources

The following are personal resources I use for my personal and professional development:

Books:

- Sam Walton – Made in America
- Johnathan Haidt – Happiness Hypothesis
- Gary Keller – The One Thing
- Simon Sinek – Together is Better
- Dale Carnegie – How to Win Friends and Influence People

Websites:

- [LinkedIn.com](https://www.linkedin.com); [LinkedIn.com/Learning](https://www.linkedin.com/learning)
- [Pluralsight.com](https://www.pluralsight.com)
- [Mentoring.com](https://www.mentoring.com)

Personal Leadership Agenda

Personal Leadership Agenda			
	Behavior I wish to change	Support I have or can find	Barriers
1	Being more flexible	Management and Peers	Deadlines, clients, resources
2	Better conflict management skills	Peers, family, friends, mentors	Immediacy to resolve certain issues
3	Staying focused on singular matters	Management, colleagues, friends, family	Multiple issues and topics are given to me; all with high importance
4	Delegation of tasks	Management, colleagues, friends, family	Need to ensure tasks are completed accurately and timely
5	More opportunities to engage in communication and dialogue	Friends, family, mentors	Time restraints on projects; availabilities of others





Thank You

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