

## Set the Foundation to Build a House

Independent Study Mentorship

Weekly Report 2: August 28- September 1, 2017

In the first week of ISM, students were taught to capture and pursue their dreams. Thanks to the guidance of guest speakers and self assessments that required you to analyze your motives in life, a realization appeared by the closing of the first week; it is possible to chase your dreams even when you cannot see them clearly.

With this new horizon ahead, the second week came with the ease of building; building your brand, colors, motives, outlooks, and future. With each individual student attempting to sell themselves into the professional world, the emphasis on branding has been made quite clear. If you want to be recognized and chosen to take part in an otherworldly experience, you better be confident in yourself. Where does this confidence come from though and how do you build it?

This is exactly what was covered this week in ISM. Two assignments were given that helped reiterate what the goal was for each individual and how we wanted to go about achieving it professionally and stylistically. The first assignment was to discover what we wanted our brand to be; whether this meant preparing color palettes and life quotes, it is clear that the assignment was designed to push students to evaluate themselves and their wants in regards to public criticism. Secondly, at the end of the week, students had to prepare an individual presentation that was supposed to reflect who the student is and what their future entailed. This seemingly little speech was what most thought to be just another “get to know you” activity, but it was soon revealed that the assignment had more within. The speech was supposed to be composed in a manner that included your goal, what inspired it, and how you would go about achieving that goal throughout the year. This proved to be quite difficult as many students still didn't know exactly what they wanted to do for this year. Additionally, the speech was revealed as being an even larger challenge since it was to be the foundation for the rest of our speeches throughout the year. This information put into perspective the fact that the work that is being completed today will be the foundation for what will be built tomorrow; by the end of the year we will want to have created a house built upon the foundation we set in the early stages of construction.