

THE PROPEL PERSPECTIVE

AUGUST 2025

EMPOWERING FUTURES



We Played, We Prepped, Now We're PROPEL-ing Forward

This summer, PROPEL was buzzing with energy, creativity and a whole lot of movement - on the dance floor, in the ring, across the chess board and beyond. Our students didn't just stay busy, they leveled up.

We teamed up with Loibel's Dance Studio, where students brought rhythm, discipline and expression to life. Their hard work culminated in a final performance that left the crowd inspired and on their feet.

Meanwhile, things got real at the Delray Boxing Club and True Kombat Training, where our youth built strength, confidence and serious skills - with gloves on and focus sharp.

Our Chess Club strategized their way through checkmates and mental workouts, while a new crochet class had students stitching up creativity and patience one loop at a time.

We kept things cool (and soaked) on field trips to Gumbo Limbo and Sugar Sand Park, where hands-on learning and a full-on water blast brought laughter and connection. And we bounced into August with an epic finale at Sky Zone, where flips, flights and foam pits ruled the day.

One of the most paws-itively joyful moments... Puppy Yoga, led by Loibel in partnership with Heavenly Puppies - because nothing says stress relief like downward dog with actual dogs.

We wrapped it all up with a day dedicated to kindness, reflection, and paying it forward - a powerful reminder that the most important flex is compassion. Then of course, we did what PROPEL does best: turned up the music and closed out summer with a dance party full of joy, community and some seriously good moves.

From movement to mindfulness, this summer was packed with purpose and possibility. Now, with memories made and momentum built, we're ready to step into the fall... stronger, sharper and ready to PROPEL.

LOOKING AHEAD...

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Puppy Yoga... Heavenly Puppies at Loibel's Dance Studio



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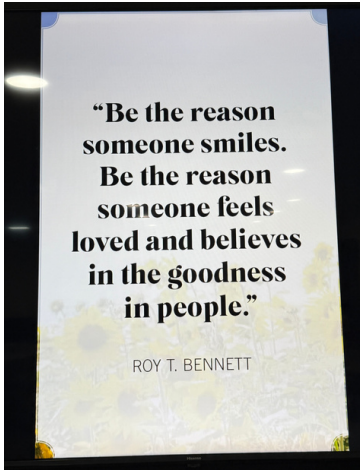
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PROPELIANS to Leaders: Stepping Up and Giving Back



This summer wasn't just about fun and learning, it was also about leadership rising from within. We're proud to highlight three high school students who stepped into the spotlight in a whole new way: Ari, Tristan and Matthew took on the role of student leaders and peer mentors, guiding our middle school students with patience, purpose and plenty of heart.

From leading activities to stepping in during teachable moments, these three showed exactly what it looks like when PROPELIANS grow into leaders. Whether helping the middle school students through a challenge or jumping in to make sure a group stayed on track, they led with kindness, confidence and that signature PROPEL spirit.

Their presence made a huge impact, not just on the younger students who looked up to them, but on the staff who watched them thrive. We saw growth, maturity and true leadership take shape... proof that when you give students the space to lead, they rise!

Fall may be here, but these three aren't done yet. Ari in entering her junior year, Tristan, and Matthew (seniors) have set the tone for what leadership looks like at PROPEL. And we can't wait to see how they continue to inspire the next wave of PROPELIANS.



This summer, Ari didn't just lead - she lit up the room. As a dance captain during our summer production with Loibel's Dance Studio, Ari brought confidence, creativity and serious leadership energy to every rehearsal. So much so that Loibel and Kevin were so impressed, they hired her to work at their Heavenly Puppies store. From choreographing dance moves to handling real-world responsibilities, Ari's got it all and now, she's officially getting paid for it. [CLICK FOR ARI'S VIDEO](#)

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Salsa, Smiles & Spotlight Moments



This summer, our PROPELIANS turned up the heat - Latin style. Thanks to the vibrant guidance of Loibel's Dance Studio, students embraced the rhythm, learned the art of salsa and brought their best moves to the stage. From hesitant first steps to spinning with confidence, their growth was incredible to watch. The grand finale? A high-energy end-of-summer performance hosted at Loibel's studio that had parents, friends and coaches cheering loud. Trust us - you'll want to see it for yourself. [CLICK HERE TO WATCH VIDEO!](#) 🖱️

Power. Focus. Respect. Our Students Found It All - In & Out of the Ring

This summer, our PROPEL students didn't just learn how to throw a punch or block a strike - they built confidence, discipline, and grit through twice-a-week training with two incredible community partners: Delray Boxing Club and True Kombat Training (TKT).



At Delray Boxing Club, a dedicated crew of PROPEL boys stepped into the ring and into a routine that pushed them mentally and physically. Guided by professional coaches, they learned the fundamentals of boxing... YES! but more importantly, they embraced structure, self-control and perseverance. Week by week, they showed up stronger, sharper and more focused than the last.

Meanwhile, across town, TKT brought together a co-ed group of students for a powerful combination of self-defense and mindset training. Led by Brandon and our own Coach Annmarie (a third-degree black belt and real-life superhero), students learned practical martial arts techniques while building strength, balance and inner discipline. The room may have been filled with kicks and combos, but the real power came from the respect and camaraderie they cultivated. [CLICK HERE TO WATCH VIDEO!](#) 🖱️



These programs weren't just workouts - they were transformational experiences. Our students left each session standing taller, speaking with more confidence and walking into the fall with a new kind of strength.

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Checkmates & Chain Stitches: Slowing Down to Level Up

Not every win this summer came from high-flying flips or dance floor spins - some came from a quiet room, a steady hand and the patience to think several moves ahead. Enter: Chess Club and Crochet Club, where PROPEL students tapped into the power of focus, strategy and creativity.



Led by our very own Program Director, Isabella, Chess Club became a battleground of brains where students learned to anticipate, plan and outthink their opponents. For some, it was their first time seeing a chessboard. For others, it was a chance to sharpen their game. But for everyone, it became a space to build confidence, practice critical thinking and enjoy some healthy competition - with Isabella cheering them on every move. [CLICK HERE TO WATCH CHESS IN ACTION!!!](#)



Meanwhile, Crochet Club, taught by the ever-patient and always-encouraging Coach Angie, offered a calm and creative outlet. Students stitched their way through new skills, turning yarn into art and learning that creativity takes time, focus and a willingness to mess up and try again. Whether it was a lopsided first attempt or a perfectly looped masterpiece, every project was a win.

Both clubs reminded us that growth doesn't always come with loud applause - sometimes it's in the quiet moments, the thoughtful planning or the satisfaction of finishing a purse or a game with pride.



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Kindness Counts: Ending Summer with Heart

As summer drew to a close, we took one final day to shift the focus inward - and outward - with a kindness and pay-it-forward challenge that reminded us what it really means to be a PROPELIAN. No lessons, no lectures... just thoughtful action, heartfelt conversations and plenty of feel-good moments.

Students were encouraged to reflect on what kindness looks like in their own lives and brainstorm simple ways to show it... to a friend, a stranger or themselves. From handwritten notes to helping hands and unexpected compliments, the ripple effect was instant.

And while the dance parties, field trips, and epic activities made this summer unforgettable, it was the acts of kindness - big and small, that truly closed the season with purpose.

Because at PROPEL, leadership isn't just about showing up it's about showing up for others.



[CLICK HERE FOR KINDNESS #1](#)

[CLICK HERE FOR KINDNESS #2](#)

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Once a PROPELIAN... Always a PROPELIAN

It's never easy to say goodbye to a beloved member of the PROPEL family... but when it's someone who's poured over a decade of love, energy and mentorship into our students, the overwhelming feeling is pride.

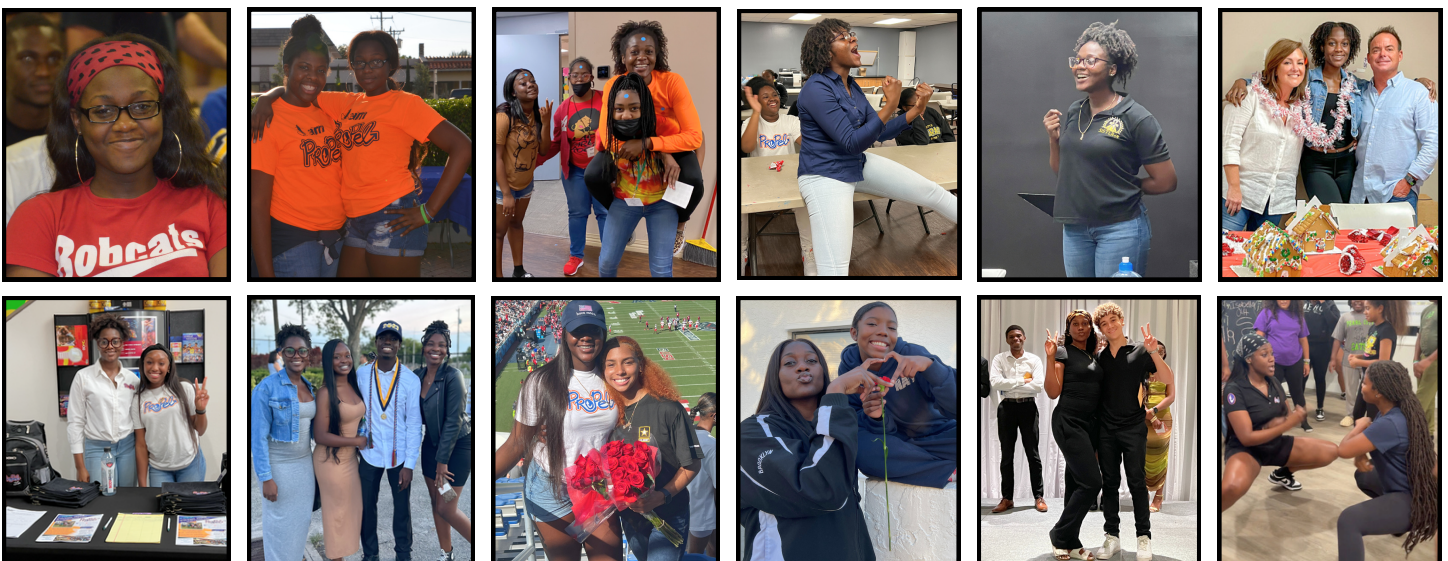
This summer, we celebrate the one and only Coach "Miss Tanisha" also known around here as Auntie, TP and the Queen of Scavenger Hunts - as she begins an exciting new chapter as a Project Coordinator with CJM Construction.

From PROPEL student to one of our most adored coaches, Tanisha has been the heart and hype of our program for more than 10 years. She's led small groups with wisdom and care, run summer programs with precision and passion and brought a kind of joy that only she can deliver. She's also been behind the wheel - literally - serving as a dedicated driver and spending countless hours connecting with students on the road, turning daily rides into meaningful moments of connection, pep talks, tough love and laughs. The kind of quality time that builds trust and lasting relationships.

Ask any student who their favorite coach is, and don't be surprised if it's Miss Tanisha. They go wild for her energy, her dance moves, her voice that can command a room or calm a storm and her ability to make everyone feel seen. Her presence lit up the space - whether she was guiding a first-time student, organizing a legendary scavenger hunt or jumping into a dance party like it was her job (and honestly, it kind of was).

Her impact is lasting and her journey is just beginning. While we'll miss her on campus every day, we know she'll continue to shine in this next chapter.

And as we always say at PROPEL... once a PROPELIAN, always a PROPELIAN.
You're family forever, TP... and we're so proud of you!!



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Once a PROPELIAN... Always a PROPELIAN

The past four years working at PROPEL has been the best experience of my life. Right before working at PROPEL my life had fallen apart, I had to move back home from where I was living to hit a restart button on my life. Everything that I knew, friends, family, beliefs, 'truths', that I'd built my life on, had proven to be faulty.

I started this job mindlessly, not expecting much. However the seed sprouted like that of a bamboo tree. The students and team at PROPEL brought me back to life. I started smiling again, found joy, became reacquainted with purity and humility. Working with them on their academic work and teaching them life skills was cool, but the one-on-one, heart-to-heart, tell-no-one testimonies and anecdotes that we shared took me to a depth I didn't know I had. Our kids are so human, so real, so capable. In them I found hope.

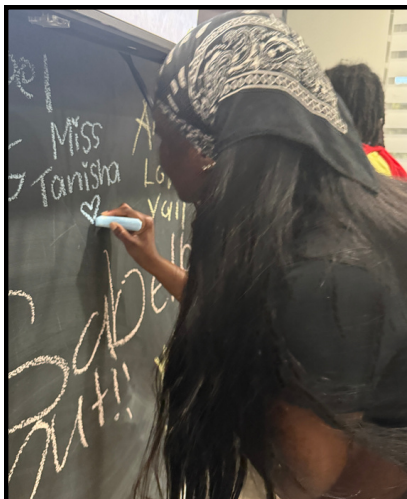
My mentors, Drew & Kristin, whew! It's been a rollercoaster. They were tough, yet so loving. Helped me gain a form of balance I'd been lacking for a while and were beyond patient with me along the way, truly real leadership.

And the team! Coaches! My brothers and sisters, they gave me room to be. To really be myself; my loud, wild, temperamental self, without judgement - ever. They've expanded my capacity to tolerate the differences in others. PROPEL is really like that. An open door policy, full of individuals with heart, depth, intelligence and humility.

Not sure what we look like from the outside looking in, but I know for fact that it's way better than what it looks like.

Leaving isn't easy but at times it's necessary. PROPEL has stamped my heart and although I'll no longer be a coach, family is forever. I suck at goodbyes.

So no goodbye, just see you later ❤️



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