

How To Watch This Series



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For boys and young men of color, feeling safe and understood in schools is an important aspect to forging successful pathways into adulthood. In today's schools, how does one navigate power, privilege, identity, and relationships? What does it mean to truly build a relationship centered school? The following videos will help mentors support boys and young men of color navigate a system that is not intentionally built to see them thrive. MENTOR California is proud to present 5 phenomenal "Master Mentors" that have already and continue to provide intentional love, freedom and inspiration to our boys and young men of color.

Get to know you first by asking yourself these guiding reflection questions:

- How do your attitudes about boys and young men of color shape your speech and actions?
- How has the way you were taught influenced the way you teach today?
- How intentional have you been to understand cultures that aren't your own?
- Read the questions asked of each "Master Mentor" and answer them for yourself.

- What do you mean by putting youth at the forefront of our work? Youth Voice?
- Is mentoring an essential part of one's development, if so, why?
- What is a key tool you have used, and has been effective in mentoring youth?
- Is there a word, phrase, or lesson that was shared with you, that has inspired you on this journey of mentoring? Who was your mentor?
- How can you tangibly and effectively make the young men of color in classrooms feel like more than just a body in a chair?
- What sparked the light on your road of mentorship?
- Who is that young man of color that showed you that you were doing this work the right way?
- Has there ever been a time when you had to go against the traditional norms of the school system to help a young man of color?
- Past our school boards, past these types of interviews, what has to systematically change for our young men of color to thrive in our educational system?

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Model and celebrate healthy behaviors:

- How can you interrupt all forms of disproportionate discipline towards boys and young men of color in schools?
- How can you practice and normalize new narratives about our boys and young men of color in schools?
- How can you practice and teach healthy opportunities/behaviors in your classroom/school?

Engage the young men in your life:

- How are you building authentic relationships with boys and young men of color of diverse cultures, races, genders, sexualities, and abilities?
- Discuss power and privilege. What advantages or disadvantages do you believe boys and young men of color navigate in schools?
- What are strategies you can create on how to hold each other accountable in being an ally to boys and young men of color?
- How are you asking boys and young men of color what they need to thrive in schools?

<https://bit.ly/blackjoyalbumkoo> = **Black Joy Album by the Kingmakers of Oakland**

