



Donovan Beck

Communications & Storytelling Specialist

Donovan Beck is a multifaceted storyteller – an author, filmmaker, and advocate committed to reshaping dialogues around mental health and creativity, particularly on digital platforms. Through poignant poetry and evocative films, he crafts a sanctuary on social media platforms like TikTok and Instagram, promoting authenticity and purpose-driven content. Donovan Beck’s background originates in the film industry as a documentarian and commercial filmmaker. He transitioned to the digital creation realm in 2020, leveraging his skills as a communications researcher at the California State University Northridge and as an advocate to craft compelling stories.

Boasting a community of half a million followers spanning TikTok, Instagram, and YouTube, Donovan has transformed the perception of poetry online. His content, fusing his filmmaking roots with his passion for narrative and verse, is akin to deep, late-night conversations about life’s essence. A significant turning point came in 2021 when his poem, “A Friendly Reminder,” garnered over sixteen million views on TikTok and propagated across various media. This acclaim paved the way for the self-publication of his inaugural poetry compilation, “A Fool’s Guide to the Universe,” selling over 10,000 copies globally.

Beyond personal achievements, Donovan champions other creators, focusing on amplifying voices and broadening resources for mental health discussions. He’s collaborated with prominent organizations like The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, The JED Foundation, and Meta, breaking ground for diverse and underrepresented creators. Recognized by Meta’s WeTheCulture Class of 2022, Donovan is pioneering a shift in how communities of color and youth perceive poetic narratives and mental health awareness. He’s also been instrumental in national campaigns like Seize the Awkward and the 988 Launch, directing youth toward vital mental health resources.

Building on his robust background in storytelling and digital creation, Donovan has now expanded his horizons as the Communications Coordinator at the Legatum Center at MIT. Unwavering in his dedication to democratize the realms of art, storytelling, and creation, Donovan eagerly collaborates with the Legatum Center, championing growth markets and nurturing the entrepreneurial spirit globally.