

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Diquan Edmonds Named SHIFT(Shaping How we Invest For Tomorrow) Emerging Leader

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Raleigh, North Carolina- - The North Carolina Recreation and Park Association (NCRPA) is proud to announce that Graduate Assistant Diquan Edmonds has been selected as a 2018 SHIFT Emerging Leader. SHIFT (Shaping How we Invest For Tomorrow) is an annual festival held each Fall in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. The festival explores issues at the intersection of conservation, outdoor recreation, and cultural relevancy.

This year's SHIFT Festival's theme is "Public Lands, Public Health": How natural allies in outdoor recreation, conservation, and land management can help the healthcare community advance and promote the benefits of time outside on our public lands.

Diquan will be in Jackson, Wyoming for the Emerging Leaders Program and the SHIFT Festival, where he is serving on a panel entitled "Activation: Cross-Sector Collaboration". The Emerging Leaders program trains a culturally diverse group of young outdoor recreationists to lead conservation work at SHIFT and in America. This year, 30 participants were selected from around the country to take place in the festival. In conjunction with The Teton Science Schools, participants receive three days of training in advance of The SHIFT Festival, which prepares them to help lead the proceedings.

Diquan hopes to bring back a wealth of knowledge and resources to share with NCRPA members. "I'm extremely fortunate to represent NCRPA and North Carolina State University at this year's SHIFT Festival," says Diquan. "As an Emerging Leader program participant, I'm excited to learn more about the intersection of health and wellness with recreation and parks. I hope to make the most out of this opportunity to help make a bigger impact in our great State."

To reach Diquan directly, you can email him at Diquan@ncrpa.net.

About the North Carolina Recreation & Park Association: Founded in 1944, the North Carolina Recreation & Park Association (NCRPA) is the premier nonprofit education and advocacy organization, dedicated to the advancement of the park, recreation and leisure professions in our state. NCRPA empowers park and recreation professionals and citizen board members through educational opportunities that enhance their ability to change lives and impact communities on a daily basis for the citizens of North Carolina. For an overview of the programs and services offered by the organization, visit <http://www.ncrpa.net>.

About the SHIFT: A Program of the Center for Jackson Hole(a 501c3) the 2018 SHIFT Festival will highlight the health benefits of spending time outside: how outdoor recreation on our public lands creates a healthier citizenry, attracts new advocates to the outdoor industry, promotes stewardship and advances quality of life in communities across America.SHIFT will feature the innovators, early adopters and thought leaders at the forefront of the "Nature Rx" movement with an agenda that creates a stronger connection between — and thus a stronger argument for — public health and public lands. This year's SHIFT Festival will be held from October 16th - 18th. For more information and tickets, please visit <https://shiftjh.org/>.

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