

CREW PROFILE



JADA FRANK

SCHOOL DIRECTOR

**UNIVERSITY PREP
ART & DESIGN
HIGH SCHOOL**

University Prep Schools provides a culturally responsive educational experience for our scholars that builds that academic competence, habits of work and scholarship, and self-actualization empowering them to successfully accomplish their post-secondary plans, as well as socially and civically engaged as change agents for themselves and their community.

Please share what, or who inspired you to go into education?

I was inspired to enter education by my children. I wanted my children to be exposed to the best possible educational experience. I soon realized that the experience I desired for them was to be launched by me and my husband as their “first teachers”. The care with which I tended to their needs in learning I wanted to duplicate for others. So, I entered education to be a voice for students as well as an advocate in building a school space that I would want for my own biological children—a space that is full of love, joy, objective empathy, and values respect.

How long have you been in education?

I have been in education for over 17 years.

Please share a memorable experience during your tenure at U Prep?

A memorable experience at U Prep is being able to have an in-person graduation after a tough virtual learning season. The excitement for our students and parents was invigorating. Each student was appreciative of the opportunity to walk across the stage. Their smiles, laughter, and cheers from their village at the Detroit Opera House was a “heart” moment in this “heart” work.

What advice would you give a new teacher?

My advice for new teachers is to give yourself grace, set clear goals for the 1st year, and understand that you will make mistakes. I think we often beat ourselves up for not being perfect. The fallacy in that is that we are imperfect beings. For new teachers, it is important to know that mistakes will occur, but they are not permanent hindrances. We should learn from those experiences and grow in the process.

What activities do you enjoy in your free time?

I enjoy singing, kick-boxing, painting, and dancing.

Is there a philosophical saying or belief that you live by?

We must embrace each moment of time that we have.