

Jeremy Bolden  
He/Him/His

## Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Statement

My name is Jeremy Bolden and I am a white, cisgendered, straight male from a small rural town in Tennessee. Currently I am a Cinematographer and the Instructor of Motion Picture Production at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio.

I am aware of the privilege I have by being a white, cisgendered, straight male.

I grew up in a small town, with little to no exposure to anyone different than myself with the majority of my town's views and ideals being small, dated, and often hateful.

In 2009 I enrolled at Watkins College of Art, Design & Film, a small art school in Nashville, TN where I would be continuously in a room/class/on-set/working on projects with people different than me. It took no short time for me to realize that people are simply people and that differing people and their perspectives are most important in life and in the creation of art.

From this point on, I have always made the conscious choice to work with people who are different from myself. Most of my greatest professional collaborators, and the most important people in my life are women, people of color, and members of the LGBTQIA+ community.

As a Cinematographer, when I book a job the first calls to fill department head positions are to a gay man, gay woman of color, and a woman of color - a group of people that I refer to as my film family. Collaborating with these people, and supporting their own endeavors has done nothing but enrich my life and creative works.

As an Educator, I work daily to create an inclusive environment in the classroom and throughout our program, to support and provide opportunities to women, members of the BIPOC & LGBTQIA+ communities. I have put extra emphasis on updating my classroom content to reflect a more diverse range of people on screen and off screen. When students work in groups, I work to ensure the greatest exposure to diversity within the groups.

I strive to continue to fight for anti-racism and for the equality of all. I will continue to educate myself in ways to stand up for, support, and provide opportunity for women and members of the BIPOC & LGBTQIA+ communities.

I am constantly working to educate myself, as well as maintain a level of humility by holding myself and others accountable when mistakes are made. I will make mistakes. I will hold myself accountable. I will be thankful when corrected.