

Using their Gifts

by Ty Williams

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“Repairers of the breach, Restorers of the streets” - Isaiah 58:12.

That is the key mission verse for Restoration Academy. For nearly 30 years, hip hop and rap music have been the heartbeat of the urban streets. Recently, it has been amazing to witness how students from Restoration Academy have taken that art form of the streets and use it to spread the gospel of Christ back to the streets through their Christian rap.

Three RA seniors (Rakeem “Rock” Knight, J’Michael Morgan and John Walker) performed for several church and youth groups during the school year. These



J’Michael Morgan and Mrs. Sciacca on graduation.

students perfected their craft over the year through working with fellow classmates, rapping and writing in class, and performing in the community. J’Mike Morgan said that it was because of fellow senior Rock that he pursued Christian rap. “I grew up listening to Lil’ Wayne and Eminem and other rappers and knew that was something I could do. But it took God using my friends to show me that I can do it to inspire others for Him.” John Walker has been performing for nearly 5 years as a member of a local gospel/church performing arts group singing, dancing and rapping around the country.

Restoration Academy was blessed to be able to offer venues for the

students to perform around the city. The children's minister at First Baptist Church of Trussville stated, "These guys are able to reach kids through their rap. It is great to see them use their gifts this way to spread the word of Christ." RA is prayerful that additional opportunities for students to express their gifts and talents will be available in the future.