

"As a leader of a community of practice of entrepreneurs, I had Gresham speak to our group about websites, blogs, social media, SEO, and all the online stuff that we don't necessarily realize is important as small business owners. Gresham provided a very professional, polished presentation that was packed with easy to digest nuggets of wisdom for our group. Participants were raving about the knowledge they had gained and left the presentation eager to implement new strategies to take their businesses to the next level. I'd recommend Gresham to anyone looking for an individual with expert knowledge in increasing one's online presence."

~ Christina Eanes



GRESHAM HARKLESS

BLUE 16 MEDIA + CEO BLOG NATION

"Gresh" is the founder of Blue 16 Media and CEO Blog Nation. Blue 16 Media is a digital marketing company focusing on website design, SEO and social media. CEO Blog Nation is a community of business blogs for entrepreneurs and business owners. He can address the following topics:



Online & Digital Marketing:

Including but not limited to Website Design, SEO and Social Media



Authority Positioning:

Using Blogging as a way to build your status as an expert.



Entrepreneurship:

Trends in entrepreneurship and millennial entrepreneurship



Blogging:

The impact that regular blogging can have on your business.

AS FEATURED IN



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Gresham W. Harkless Jr. is an entrepreneur and blogger. "Gresh" is the founder and Blogger in Chief for CEO Blog Nation (CBNation.co) and is the founder and digital marketing specialist behind Blue 16 Media. His other past ventures include founding Exemplary Editing, Kidz Sports Drill and co-founding Men of Character of Virginia. As a child, he started a monthly family newspaper and sold everything from necklaces on the playground to potato chips and candy. He currently works to help support small businesses and entrepreneurship with Blue 16 Media and CEO Blog Nation (CBNation.co). Blue 16 Media is a digital marketing company providing digital marketing services to small to medium-sized businesses and organizations. Central to his marketing philosophy is that You Are a Media Company: Developing a Marketing Strategy to Connect with Your Target and Reach Your Goals. Blue 16 Media also donates services to nonprofit organizations through its Blue 16 Gives program. CBNation.co is a community of niche blogs for entrepreneurs and business owners.

He was also an adjunct professor at Northern Virginia Community College. He is a former member of 2 BNI chapters in Northern Virginia serving as secretary-treasurer, membership committee and the communications chair for each chapter. He also is a member and founder of the \$1M Club in BNI Northern Virginia South by passing a referral for over \$1M. He served on the marketing committee for Alexandria's West End Business Association (WEBA) and more recently served on the Board of Directors. He also serves on the Boards for the West End Condo Association. He recently served on the Board of Directors for Path for Her and Better Educational Skills (BEST) for Technology. He currently serves on the boards for the West End Condo Association and The Dream Queen Foundation.

He is a member of Alpha Phi Omega National Service Fraternity, Zeta Phi Chapter, Sigma Tau Delta International Honor Society and the AmeriCorps Heads Up program. He has been on the grant writing team for Men of Character of Virginia (\$1,000), Capital Cause (\$3,000) and American Humanics (\$100,000). He has been featured on WOL 1450 AM and 93.9 WKYS, Business Rockstars and has been published on All Business Experts, Fox Small Business, Patch.com, Prince William Business Magazine, The Atlanta Post and Under 30 CEO.

He completed a short book for aspiring entrepreneurs and business owners called Lil' Bessie Starts a Business: How One Girl Started a Business You Can Too! and hosts podcast interviewing entrepreneurs and business owners called CEO Chat and the I AM CEO Podcast which launched in late 2018. Finally, he hopes to donate a portion of proceeds from CEOGear.co to nonprofits supporting youth entrepreneurship. He has a Bachelor of Arts in English from Howard University, Washington, D.C., and a Masters in Professional Studies in Sports Industry Management (Business, Management Operations concentration) from Georgetown University, Washington D.C. He also recently graduated from Leadership Center for Excellence Young Professionals Program and is a co-ambassador for his class. He is also a member of the inaugural class of the Alexandria Amplify program through the Alexandria Small Business Development Center (SBDC).

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