Re: Recommendation Letter for Fiston Muganda

I worked with Fiston during PPLG 2021: Creating Belonging in Times of Pandemic, an international conference I founded and direct in 2017 (www.pplg.org). Fiston presented his pioneering work with storytelling and healing at the Unidos Social Innovation Center, Nakivale refugee settlement in Uganda. Connecting online directly from the refugee settlement he shared his work with hundreds of people from 52 countries and additionally took part in the Plenary of the Conference 'Creating Belonging with Young People in Times of Pandemic'. We also worked closely together before the conference as we were organizing his presentation and afterward to create further support for his initiative. Throughout our collaboration, Fiston demonstrated impeccable character and clear leadership skills. Fiston is self-motivated and is always keen to go above and beyond to achieve his dreams. His leadership skills are combined with a passion and commitment to building community and creating spaces where mental health matters. With his determination and clear vision, he managed to create his organization in very challenging conditions, identify collective trauma, and work toward healing.

Fiston has a clear desire to learn and he has demonstrated that in many ways, not least by learning how to speak English on his own through online videos. His willingness to learn was fostered even more when he had to overcome many obstacles to achieve his dreams. He has developed a particular sense of eloquence and maturity, which is a testament to his strong will and ambitious personality. A strength that is intertwined with a deep sense of responsibility for his community and the world. His ability to communicate his mission and organize others to support it has been astounding to me. I have been working for the last 20 years as a psychologist and community organizer with young people and have been impressed with Fiston's skills and humility.

Fiston acts with generosity, and compassion and has a strong desire to act for the greater good and help others in his community and beyond. His proven ability to face adversity and persevere whilst keeping a smile on his face is the best example of his strong mindset.
As a learner and a future leader, Fiston is exemplary. I believe that he will contribute meaningfully to the classes both at an intellectual and emotional level, considering his rich life experience and his generosity in sharing it. His previous rigorous academic background in Community Development, Social work, Organized ethics, and legislation as well as Entrepreneurship and Data Research combined with his strong motivation to learn and develop will make him a distinctive student and an invaluable member of the community. Fiston has my strongest recommendation.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions or need further clarification.

Sincerely,

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PPLG Founder and Director

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