



Anne Brooks, Kentucky State University- c/o 1993, Music Education



Name : Anne Brooks

Your HBCU : Kentucky State University

Graduation Year : 1993

Major : Music Education

1. Where are you from? Who introduced you to HBCUs?*

I was born and raised in Louisville, KY. When I was younger, I didn't know about Kentucky State until the summer I was to leave for college.



Richies Fast Food in Kentucky | Image Credit: yelp.com; Lee P.

2. Why did you choose an HBCU over a pwi?*

I chose KSU because of my neighbor Mrs. Ratliff was an alumna of the school who paved the way to me getting the scholarship opportunity, being away from home, small classes and the beauty of the campus. [How did you decide to become a student at Kentucky State University?] I was excited about the fact I received a music scholarship to go to school was the deciding factor and the opportunity to travel with the concert choir.

3. What is the story of your "experience" at Your HBCU given its heralded status as a stellar and prestigious institution?*

Attending KSU was the next chapter of my development as a young woman who had dreams of becoming an educator who gave back through teaching music. This including building relationships with other students outside of Louisville who have become life long friends to this day. I had the opportunity to travel and perform with my classmates, recruit students to attend KSU. I am thankful for the college change in 1987 to attend and graduate from the HBCU on the hill. I am proud to be a Thorobred! KSU4LIFE!

4. "First time" experiences at your HBCU?*

N/A

5. Who are the professors that have impacted your life in and out of the classroom? How did they do that?*

Dr. Smith, my former choral director. Doc as we call him held a high level of expectation in the performance of choral music. Which has led into my classroom teaching and the expectation of what my students should display. I was honored to have him rate my chorus when I taught in Louisville at the district choral assessment. It was great to have him see and hear what I learned

from him. Dr. Shelton and Dr. Johnson were my band directors who pulled more out of me as a musician and student. Although they had their different views of the direction of the band program they believed that there was a level of excellence that had to be displayed in our work.



Talented and Beautiful, Anne Brooks of KYSU | Image Credit: Anne Brooks

6. Best restaurants on/near campus? Best dishes?

Ritchie's it was the pink lemonade, 2 piece and wedges

7. College crush?

Keith Jackson freshman year

8. What is your major? and Why did you choose it?

My major was music education and I selected it because I knew I wasn't going to work with Stevie Wonder at Motown.

9. Where are the spots to go to if you wanted to cuddle with your boy or girlfriend?

We have our dorm rooms, the practice rooms in the music building

10. What are the chants heard most often at the sporting events?

The Tubas playing "Talking out the side of your neck" that was the hit at the games and with the band.

11. How are you positively active on campus? (e.g. clubs, SGA, etc.)

College I was a member of the Concert Choir, Marching and symphonic bands, Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, INC., High school basket ball, office aide.

12. How did you overcome your nervousness about going to college?

Having a circle of friends who encouraged, laughed, and cried with when things got tough.

13. How did your HBCU prepare you for a diverse workplace?

I believe that it gave me the opportunity to gain a greater understanding of the traditions and sacrifices made by those who fought for an equal education for African-Americans. My student teaching experience was also a eye opening experience because I taught in some rural areas of Franklin and Anderson counties. However all my teaching experiences has been in urban schools.

14. What advice would you give high school students filling out college applications for the first time?

For high school students do your community service , do your homework and stop playing around.

15. If you could only speak two sentences to the youth coming after you what would you say?

In order for you to be successful, you can not expect everything to be handed to you. You have to instill and maintain a work ethic to become who you are meant to be.

16. How did your HBCU help you to transition into your careers workforce?

I liked how Kstate provided job fairs for educators to get teaching jobs. My first job was in Louisville, teaching at a historically black highschool band. Now band was not my strong point, Dr. Johnson and my band friends ensured that I had some help in making the transition easier.