Diane Wilson Onwuchekwa, Hampton University- c/o 1978, Business Marketing

Name : Diane Wilson Onwuchekwa
Your HBCU : Hampton University
Graduation Year : 1978
Major : Business Marketing
Minor : Business Management

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

My hometown is Danville, VA. I am blessed my cousin was finishing his freshman year at Hampton and his sister was entering in her Freshman year that fall. My family was visiting my cousins, my last year in high school. My uncle of two Hampton students told my parents I should attend Hampton after high school. I spent 4 years at Hampton with six cousins. I graduated with one of my cousins. She received her Master's and I received my Bachelors.

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"At Hampton was the first time I felt free to be me."

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

When I graduated there were not a lot of choices, at my HBCU was the first I saw free Black people. At Hampton was the first time I felt free to be me.

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

The best experience was working at Hampton Museum. I was a student docent and curator. I was introduced to the art of Jacob Lawrence, Archibald Motley, Augusta Savage, William H. Johnson, Henry O. Tanner and wood carving from Kuba people of Congo, West Africa.

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

Exposed to African and African American artists. Hampton was an HBCU that educated Native Americans. I was exposed to the culture and art at our college Museum.

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

My Humanities professor, Dr. McGee took our class to the college museum our freshman year. The museum was a game changer.

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"My uncle of two Hampton students told my parents I should attend Hampton after high school."

6. What and where are the historical places on campus?

College museum

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