



Eric Flowe, Johnson C. Smith University- c/o 2021, Sports Management & Becoming a Pro-Athlete



Name : Eric Flowe

Your HBCU : Johnson C. Smith University

Graduation Year : 2021

Major : Sports Management & Becoming a Pro-Athlete

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

I'm born and raised out of the low-income projects in Charlotte, NC. My first memorable experience was as a youth on a community trip to Johnson C. Smith for Halloween. Also, as a field trip during my middle school days to Smith as well. This is where my dream started!



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

Well actually an HBCU chose me! I was serving my time in the local county jail where I was fortunate enough to earn my GED along with other accomplishments. Due to my persistence and will to better myself I had the opportunity to meet the Dean of Metropolitan College at Johnson C. Smith as well as the enrollment manager. They ensured me that my application will be considered and that my past will not affect their decision. I'm now taking classes as a adult student!

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

My HBCU has given me the confidence that I lacked after years of facing adversity. Also, being a felon they've as well given me a chance to make something out of my life. There isn't enough I could say to show my appreciation for Johnson C. Smith University. Battling chronic homelessness as well as other stressful situations as a youth kept me from finishing school. It brought unwanted anxiety and stress in my life in which I was at a very low stage and did not really care about myself. My HBCU now has given me life to the point where I want to help other people in my community and spread the words of: Perseverance is key, Don't give up!

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

I must say my first time experience as a adult student was the most gracious thing I ever felt in my life. Actually being a part of something and around people who have bright futures was dominant to any feeling I've ever encountered. Community resources and the many buildings of learning were excellent. The history behind Johnson C. Smith was very detailed and aspiring. I recommend an HBCU to people of all colors and different walks of life!

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

I would like to give a huge Shoutout to the Dean of Metropolitan college : Dr. Laura Mclean as well as Mr. Damon Miller the Enrollment Specialist. Without them I wouldn't have the opportunity to have a brighter future. Resources were given to me to make sure I'm able to better myself through professional attire and food sources. Also, to my Advisor and Professor Lawson-Williams she has given me the will to succeed as a Sports Management Major! I would love to thank Johnson C. Smith for allowing me to be a part of a HBCU!

