



## **Maya Howard, Tennessee State University- c/o 2021, Business Administration with a Concentration in Marketing**



**Name :** Maya Howard

**Your HBCU :** Tennessee State University

**Graduation Year :** 2021

**Major :** Business Administration with a Concentration in Marketing

**Minor :** Communications

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

Born and raised in the Queen City of Cincinnati, OH. I was introduced to HBCU's by many different family members as well as family friends. My grandmother went to Central State University in Xenia, OH, and many family friends went to Tennessee State University. I was introduced to HBCU's at a young age attending the Circle City Classic in Indianapolis, IN as well.



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

Choosing THE Tennessee State over a PWI was the only option for me. Something very important to me is knowing my culture, heritage, and being around those who look like and can relate to my life experiences. Tennessee State also has one of the best business programs out of all HBCU's.

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

I am Maya Howard a rising Junior majoring in Business Administration with a Concentration in Marketing and a minor in Communications. Tennessee State University has pushed me beyond the limits I had created for myself. In my two years at TSU, I have been a member of the 77th, 78th, and now the 79th administrations of The Student Government Association, I serve as the 2019-2020 Miss Junior, I am a member of The National Association of Colored Women's Clubs, Incorporated, Women of Empowerment, The Frankie J. Pierce Federated Chapter, I am also a Tiger Tour Guide where I give tours Monday-Friday to prospective students.

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

Attending TSU has been the first time I have been around so many individuals who are willing to fight for their dreams and goals and not let anyone discourage them.

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

Dr. Lee Williams, who is a professor for African American Experience. The class has made me

more aware of who I am and has taught me things about African American history as well as TSU's history that I would have never known if I had never taken the class.



**6. What factors did you look at to choose the HBCU that was best for you? Why did you feel your HBCU was a good fit for you?**

When picking what HBCU I was going to go to I looked into, distance from home, cost, and if the school offered my major and if I would be successful growing into who I wanted to be. My HBCU ultimately chose me, but I felt TSU was the best fit for me because of the family atmosphere that is so important. Family is the biggest part of my life, so a school that embodies that same principle is so important.

**7. What sports and/or extra curricular activities did you do in High School? And why?**

My high school experience wasn't normal. I graduated from a K-12 performing arts high school. Everyday I practiced my talent to the white end. Aside from piano, I volunteered with The American Red Cross Leadership Development Camp, as well a sisterhood organization known as The Sisters of SCPA.

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

My major is Business Administration with a concentration in Marketing. I chose this major because throughout high school I held jobs and internships that were in this field and I fell in love.

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

Don't sweat the little things. In 3 years they won't matter.

**10. What advice would you give to other high school students thinking about their future?**

Make the decision you want. Do NOT fall for what everyone else is doing. Make the right decision for you.