



Merlina Aventurin, Florida A & M University- c/o 2017, Journalism & Mass Communication with a concentration in Print Journalism



Name : Merlina Aventurin

Your HBCU : Florida A & M University

Graduation Year : 2017

Major : Journalism & Mass Communication with a concentration in Print Journalism

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

I am from the beautiful island of Sint Maarten.



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

I choose to go to FAMU because its program in Journalism is amazing and rewarding.

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

During my time at Florida A&M University it was trying because I was so far away from home but being in the FAMU family I felt at home.

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

Culture shock, mainly a huge transition being that I grew up in the Caribbean. The shock came when I saw how freely the environment is as far as the rules. Coming from a somewhat strict environment to this led to the main shock. But my very first memorable experience was first going to "Step Friday", where I first saw the fraternity Kappas strolling, it was at that moment I knew I was home.

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

Alicia Hope through teaching me graphic design. Professor Kenneth Jones for being the best professor that the FAMU Journalism department has - he inspired me to pursue videography.

Professor Angeline Taylor who saw something special in me and appointed me to be assistant layout editor for thee FAMUAN.



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"Shooting 'b' roll for our Island Flavoring documentary trailer!"