



Sainna Christian, LeMoyne-Owen College- c/o 2021, Accounting



Name : Sainna Christian

Your HBCU : LeMoyne-Owen College

Graduation Year : 2021

Major : Accounting

Minor : Computer Science

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

I am from Clarendon, Jamaica and I was first introduced to HBCUs when I was looking at attending college in the US. I had not at the time made a clear distinction between wanting to attend an HBCU vs PWI, but in hindsight choosing to attend LeMoyne-Owen College has been one of the best decisions of my life.



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

I primarily chose LeMoyne-Owen College because it took a chance on me when a lot of other colleges (PWI's) did not. My only way to afford college was through a scholarship, and while I got scholarships from a lot of the other colleges that I applied to, none of them offered me the full-ride which LOC did. What that means to me is that my HBCU recognized something in me that others did not, and as such was willing to invest in my education.

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

Lately, whenever I speak about my HBCU I talk about an experience I had this past semester. It was finals week and I was too busy doing my last minute reading (10/10 would not recommend) to have breakfast. I walked into one of my professor's office to ask for a snack and she opened a whole drawer and told me to choose whatever I wanted. That encounter is my HBCU experience in summary. I believe the two strongest traits of my institution are the people and the history. Our rich, long-standing history demands that we meet the holistic needs of our students and every year since 1862 LOC has been doing just that. Not only that, but the fact that we have professors who are willing to build personal relationships with their students speak loudly to the culture that we have on campus.

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

My first time going to a yard show was at my HBCU. Of course this is a night that is forever etched in my memory as it was unlike anything I've ever seen, and unlike anything I'd ever expect.

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

Dr June Chinn-Jointer has been one of the biggest influences on my life since I started at LOC. She has assisted me with the transition from a Jamaican education system to an American education system and has always ensured that I am settling in well with my classes, etc. She is always willing to give a listening ear- I can go to her office, put all her chairs together and lay on them while pouring out my problems to her. I believe this openness is highly characteristic of HBCUs in general. Dr. Singh (my Econ professor) has also been a huge influence. She is a subject matter expert and there is absolutely nothing that anyone could ask her in her field that she doesn't have an answer to. When I look at how confident she is in her field it pushes me to ensure that I am the same. Dr Singh also takes a huge interest in my holistic welfare- she asks about my internship, the conferences I attend, etc. She's the epitome of what a good professor looks like.

