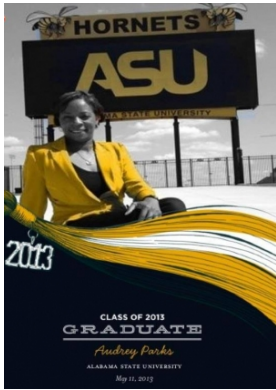




Audrey Parks, Alabama State University- c/o 2013, Print Journalism



Name : Audrey Parks

Your HBCU : Alabama State University

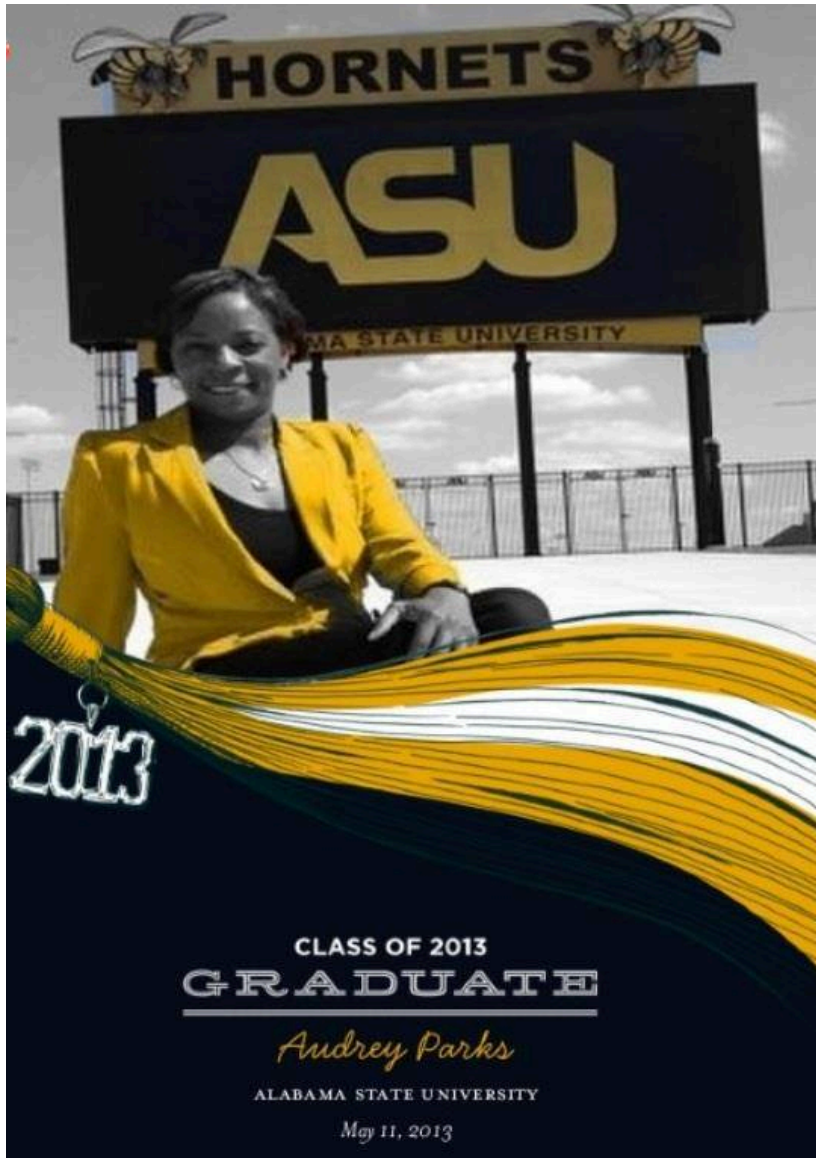
Graduation Year : 2013

Major : Print Journalism

Minor : Public Relations

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

I was born in Montgomery, Ala, but my father's military career had us traveling. I have a father and an Aunt that graduated from ASU, but I truly did not see its importance until I stepped foot on the campus. Because of that I have made it my life's work to spread the importance of having pride in and attending HBCU. My granddaughter at 1 years old knows all of the ASU chants and can identify the ASU brand anywhere.



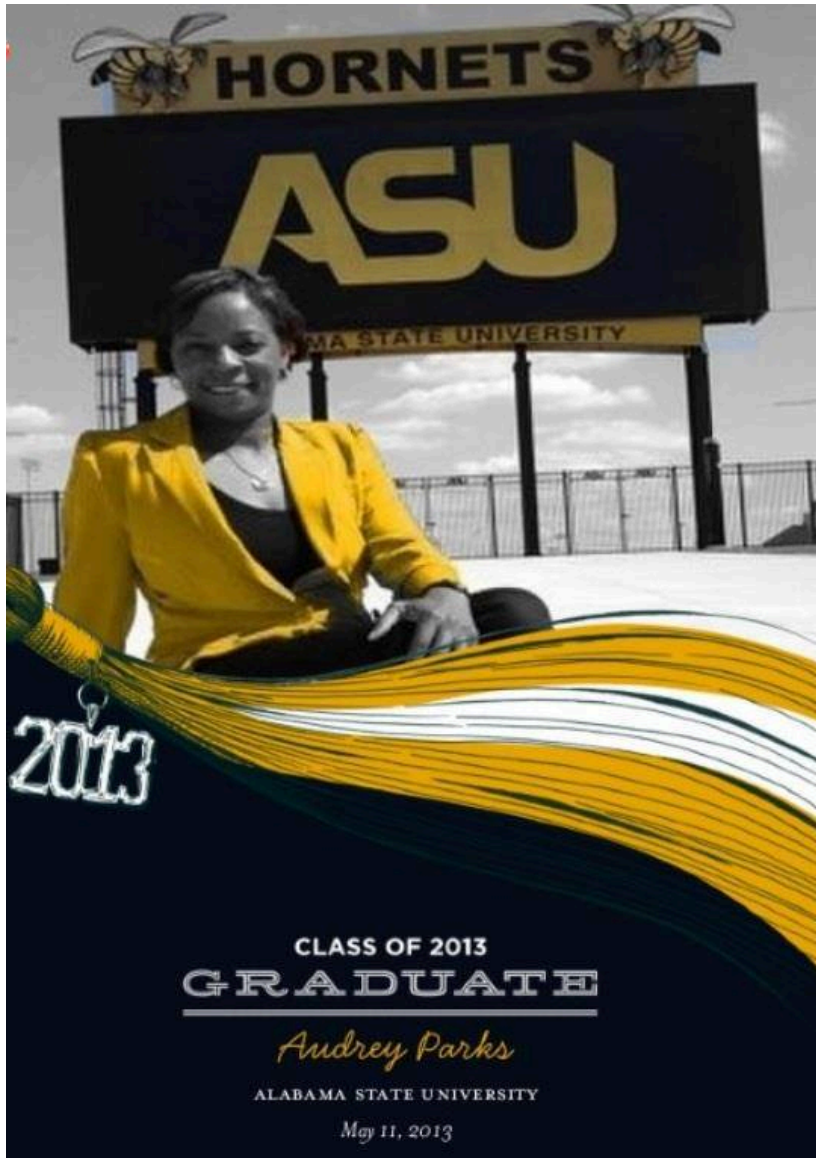
Audrey Parks, Proud Graduate of Alabama State University '13 | Image Credit: Audrey Parks

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

Honestly, I chose ASU to not seem like a hypocrite to my daughter who I talked into transferring to from a jr. college.

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

My HBCU story is one of inspiration, passion and enlightenment. I love myASU and everything it stands for. I understand the importance of a quality HBCU experience. I was inspired by the many bright and talented students. I found passion for my people and our important mark on history. I was enlightened by the many contributions of blacks and this great country and the world.



Audrey Parks, Proud Graduate of Alabama State University '13 | Image Credit: Audrey Parks

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

N/A

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

My first class at ASU was on a Wednesday afternoon. It was Intr. to Theatre and the instructor was Shanessa Sweeney ("Follow" Professor Sweeney on Twitter). That class was full of 17-19 year old freshman that were loud and rowdy. Prof. Sweeney a young woman herself came floating in class and I thought, "oh Lord what have I gotten myself into." I went home that afternoon and told my family, "I am going to hate this class." Little did I know, that class set my collegiate career up for success. Prof. Sweeney treated the students as adults and helped me to see each of them the same. I became inspired and hopeful about the future as a result of her teaching style and passion for empowerment! Prof. Sweeney helped me to see those students for their inner beauty. Her class offered opportunities for students to tell their stories of how they made the journey to ASU and the many obstacles they overcame to get to college. This helps me today to see people despite what

their exterior says. I see people, humans and potential in every young person I come in contact with. Instead of that being the class I dreaded, as I thought it would, it became and still is my favorite class during my time at ASU.

6. What sports do/did you play at your HBCU? What positions?

N/A

7.

N/A

8. Best restaurants on/near campus? Best dishes?

American Deli which has the best wings in the City!

9. College crush?

Lol! My college crush was/is my husband Shawn who supported my decision to return to school full-time and not work.

10. Who invited you to interview with us?

N/A

11. Your wildest moment at college?

N/A

12. What is your funniest college story? (everyone has one lol)

N/A