LaTanya ONeal, Grambling State University- c/o 1993, Office Administration

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Name: LaTanya ONeal

Your HBCU: Grambling State University

Graduation Year : 1993 **Major :** Office Administration

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

I was born in Chicago, Il and grew up in Mansfield, La. My mother and some of my elementary and high school teachers are Gramblibites.

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HBCU Alum, LaTanya ONeal, a proud graduate of Grambling State University '93 | Image Credit: LaTanya O'Neal

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

I have always wanted to be a Gramblinite every since my mother would take me to the Grambling games in Shreveport, La. [How did you decide to become a student at Grambling State University?] After checking out my major and it offered a lot of business classes I was interested in. My major was office administration.

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

I got a chance to get to know people from different parts of the US and other countries.

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

I got a chance to work for legendary coach Eddie Robinson and coach Fred Hobdy who was once the winningest coach in La college basketball.

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

I do not remember his name but he was from Africa and that was the first time I had met someone from Africa.

6.

N/A

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

Future Business Leaders of America and Future Homemakers of America.

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

I did a lot of cooking in the dorm before I moved off campus.

9. College crush?

I did not have one.

10. Who invited you to interview with us?

N/A

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

Learn all you can. Keep God first.

12. What advice would you give high school students filling out college applications for the first time?

Go to Grambling. It is located in a small town with low crime.

13. How did your HBCU prepare you for a diverse workplace?

Because there were White people and other people at Grambling, I got a chance to learn how to accept others at school that carried over in the work place.

14. If you could speak to those family members that have risen but that live forever through you, what words would you speak?

Thanks for praying and supporting me.

15. How did you overcome your nervousness about going to college?

I was never nervous. I got a chance to visit Grambling on high school day. Plus there were a lot of homies there.

16. What's your take on life (in the philosophical sense)?

Live life like it's golden.

17. When and how did you discover your passion in life?

My grandmaw started me to taking organ lessons. I am now the Sunday School musician.

18. How do you deal with racism when you encounter it?

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19. What situation in your life made you feel like you had arrived into woman/manhood? Having my two daughters.

20. What to date has been your saddest moment at your HBCU?

Leaving my friends but thanks to facebook we now keep in touch.

21. What and where are the historical places on campus?

The different buildings that were named after famous black people.

22. Where is the "yard" located?

Grambling, La.

23. How are you positively active on campus? (e.g. clubs, SGA, etc.)

Baptist student union choir, student union board.

24. What are the chants heard most often at the sporting events?

GSU rocks the house.

25. Where are the spots to go to if you wanted to cuddle with your boy or girlfriend?

In the lobby of the dorm.

26. What to date has been your proudest moment @ Your HBCU?

Being accepted and graduating.

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

Office Administration. I love the business world.

28. Ghost stories involving buildings or spots on campus?

No.

29. Are you a member of a sorority?

I did not pledge AKA like my mother. I became an Eastern Star (sister to the masons) like my grandmaw.

30. How did your HBCU help you to transition into your careers workforce?

One professor would tell us to dress up and wear heels to class to get use to it so we will already

be use to heels.

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