



**Michael Trés Moore, Bethune-Cookman University- c/o 2019, Elementary Education**



**Name :** Michael Trés Moore

**Your HBCU :** Bethune-Cookman University

**Graduation Year :** 2019

**Major :** Elementary Education

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

I'm from Media, Pennsylvania and I was first introduced to HBCU's by my mother.



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

I chose an HBCU over a PWI literally because of the cultural experience I would get being at a predominantly black institution of higher learning. I thought it would really help me understand more about myself and those that look like me.

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

Bethune-Cookman is special. Dr. Bethune literally started this school on what was known as the trash dump of Daytona Beach at the time. When I think about that and all I've had to endure since being here at school, it's made me more proud to go here and be a representative of her legacy. I was diagnosed with AIDS in 2014. The community at Bethune-Cookman has done nothing but embrace what is a very hard thing and hold me up to stay strong. This entire HBCU experience

has been one I'll never forget.

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

It was my first time taking Afro-American literature courses! I was NEVER exposed to experiences in school like that growing up and I'm forever grateful.

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

Ms. Karen Duncan, she is a professor in the college of education at BCU. She's magnanimous. She has helped me in so many ways. I remember first getting to BCU how unfocused and unstable I was. She sat me down one time and told me to really think about my future and how seriously I take school. That helped me really get focused and change how I performed in and outside the classroom. Dr. Louis Dunbar, who is an absolute legend at the College of Education has also helped me extremely as a black male with loads of wisdom in the field of education and how it pertains to the black male. He has helped me stay motivated to stay in school when I wanted to quit and helped me find ways to be successful even when I didn't see it in myself.

