

MARHS HOME IMPROVEMENT RENOVATIONS

DeAundrae Clayton's Bid for 2010-2011 MARHS Director

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The Contract (Letter of Intent)

Dear MARHS,

It is with the utmost pride and enthusiasm that I submit my bid for 2010-2011, Mississippi Association of Residence Hall Students Director. I believe that my years of experience working in various organizations throughout my educational development compounded with my knowledge and dedication to this organization demonstrates that I am the most knowledgeable and experienced candidate who is equipped to successfully continue the enhancement, reconstruction, and extreme makeover of the MARHS..

Life is often full of challenges that shape who we are as individuals. Often we find ourselves creating comfort zones; but, until one ventures out beyond his or her expectations, we lack a true understanding of what we are able to handle. These steps may be taken in different sizes, directions, and or times, but they also help to develop our character. Just as a step requires motion, moving from a place of known to the unknown requires willingness. Each leader is different, but all leaders have taken steps that have led them to where they are today.

Reflecting back upon my numerous leadership opportunities, I must say each position was beneficial in mold me into the leader I am today. Before transferring to Mississippi State University, I was actively apart of several student organizations. At Jones County Junior College, I was often described as an energetic and confident leader; furthermore, after the transition to MSU, I quickly wanted to become just as involved. The Residence Hall Association appeared to be just the organization that would allow me the opportunity to excel as a leader, and the opportunity to work with a diverse group of student leaders who desired to make a difference in the lives of others. I first became involved in RHA, by running for a position on my hall council; however, I interviewed for the position of RHA Exec Treasurer and I accepted the position without reservation. Little did I know that shortly after my appointment as an Exec Board Member I would once again accept the responsibilities of another valuable position serving as the National Communications Coordinator, representing MSU's RHA on a Local, State, Regional, and National level, while also fulfilling the duties of Treasurer. In Spring of 2009, I bid for MARHS Associate Director of Communications, but did not win the election for this position. As the semester carried on, I realized that continuing the reconstruction of MSU's RHA was more fitting therefore, I bid for the position of 2009-2010 RHA President in which I was elected to the position. Little did I know that an opportunity would arise for me to bid for another MARHS position AD of Finance, the current position I hold. Throughout the time I have served as ADF, I have desired to see Mississippi rise to its fullest potential becoming more diversified, visible in SAACURH and NACURH, and most importantly the organization that previous directors, and associate directors envisioned it to one day become in the future.

Leaders are defined as individuals who venture to excel beyond their expectations. If one was asked to described who I am as a leader, most people would have to say that I am a person who desires to excel while inspiring those around me. Momma said there would be days full of unexpected surprises, confusion, and disagreements; however, I have learned that whatever doesn't kill us, will only make us stronger. Having the opportunity to once again take steps into the unknown excites me as a student leader; furthermore, I would like to thank you for your thoughtful consideration and I hope you will help me take the next step by electing me as MARHS Director.

Sincerely,

DeAundrae Clayton

The Foundation (Personal Info)

Name: DeAundrae Antonio Clayton

Hometown: Meridian, MS

Classification: Junior/Senior

Major: Education

Concentration: Music/ Higher Education Administration

Hobbies: Acting, Singing, Swimming, Exercising, Perfecting My Musical Talents, Reading, Texting, and hanging out with friends and family.

Favorite Movie: The Blindside

Favorite TV Shows: American Idol, Law & Order, NCIS, and Glee

Favorite Song: I Give Myself Away, William McDowell

Favorite Books: Seven Habits of Highly Effective People
The Prisoner In The Third Cell, and The Bible

Favorite Music: Contemporary Christian, Gospel, Pop, and Jazz

Favorite Color: Green or Blue

Favorite Quote: It's not what someone says about you that matters but it's what you say to yourself when you walk away.

Blue Print (Resume)

(Mississippi State Campus Involvement)

Resident Housing Association

- * **Fall 2008 - current** Served as the Treasurer of the RHA Executive Board.
Served as MSU's National Communications Coordinator.
Currently Serving as the RHA President.
80 Hours Per Month, 20 Hours Per Pay Period.

Mississippi State Department of Music

- * **Fall 2008 & 2009** Marched in the Famous Maroon Band.
Required 6 hours of Performance Practice Time.
Participated in the Saxophone Chamber Choir and Quartet.
Participated in the MSU Concert Choir.
- * **Spring 2009 & 2010** Active member of the MSU Symphonic Winds.
Active member of the Saxophone Chamber Choir and Quartet.
Active member of the MSU Concert Choir.

Mississippi State Campus Activities

- * **Fall 2008- present** Participated in MSU Got Talent Contest
Participated in MSU Gospel Ensemble
Participated in MSU Idol Placed in the (Top 4)
Participated in MSU Big Dawgs Leadership Council
Participated in MSU Student Orientation

(Jones County Junior College Involvement)

Campus Activities

- Student Government Association President (2007-2008)
- Freshman Class Officer President (2006-2007)
- Sophomore Class Officer President (2005-2006)
- Jones Ambassador (2007-2008)
- Maroon Typhoon Marching Band (2005-2008)
 - Served as Saxophone Section Leader, Featured Soloist, Student Leader
 - Full Paid Music & Academic Scholarship
- Concert Choir (2005-2007)
- Select Vocal Jazz Ensemble (2005-2007)
- Newspaper/Yearbook Editor (2007-2008)
- Bobcate Brigade Peer Leaders
- Jones Onstage (2007-2008)
- Baptist Student Union (2005-2008)

Blue Print (Resume)

Continued Campus Activities

- Music Department Executive Board Member
- Outreach Executive Board Member
- Dress the Children Project Coordinator
- Vice President of Administration and Development

Honors

- Distinguished Scholarship Recipient
- Who's Who Among America's Junior Community Colleges
- President's List
- Deans List
- Outstanding Young Musician Scholarship Recipient
- Public Speaking 1st Place Mississippi Winner
- Mississippi All State Honor Band (3 Consecutive Years)
- Phi Theta Kappa Representative
(Northeast Lauderdale High School)
- Honors Graduate
- Student Government Association President, Officer, and Representative
- Yearbook Staff
- Drum Major
- Who's Who Among High School Students

Work and Community Service

- South Mississippi Special Olympics
- Relay For Life Team Leader
- Red Cross Volunteer
- Starkville Public School Gospel Singers Director/Arranger
- JCJC Administrator Assistant for Vice President of Students & Office of the President
- North Park Church of God Minister of Worship
- JCJC Department of Housing Operations Manager

Conference Experience

- SAACURH 2008 @ Clemson University
- MARHS/RADCOM 2009 @ Mississippi State University
- No-Frills 2009 @ Florida State University
- NACURH 2009 @ Arizona State University
- SAACURH 2009 @ University of Kentucky
- M REAL Conference 2010 @ University of Southern Mississippi
- No - Frills 2010 @ Mississippi State University

The Model

(Goals and Objectives)

Getting People Involved

- Recruiting is vital in order to have a functional organization each year to uphold the values and mission of any organization.
- Create a unique yet attractive affiliation and re-affiliation campaign, that will help educate institutions on the importance of connecting with MARHS, SAACURH, and NACURH.
- Work with MAHO to increase involvement of institutions that attend state conference.

Establishing Order

- Establish Robert Rule of Order for conducting all MARHS meetings. This will be a reflection upon the successful training of all officers at Summer Summit. Starting strong will allow MARHS the opportunity to end strong.

Communicating More Effectively

- Establish a clear system of communication between MARHS Board of Directors, NCC's, & MAHO representatives.
- Utilizing and maintaining the MARHS google Listserve to get the word out about MARHS Events in a timely manner.
- Begin a monthly AIM chat with all NCC's to address concerns, issues, and upcoming events; however, work to address issues in a timely and professional manner.
- Maintain communication with MAHO President through newsletters, emails, phone conversations, and etc.
- Maintain the MARHS website.
- Comprise officers reports more throughout the year.

Collaborate More With Other SAACURH Directors.

*This will allow MARHS to learn and work diligently with several other state organizations to bring more innovative events to MARHS affiliates.

Maintain Visibility

- Expand upon the MARHS promotional items.
- Create MARHS apparel for state, regional, and national conferences.
- Be more vocal in boardrooms at SAACURH and NO-Frills
- Create more cheers for MARHS.
- Utilizing the MARHS voting member schools when member schools are bidding for awards and positions.
- On a Regional and National Level work to submit award winning bids that bring attention to MARHS.

CONTINUE TO ESTABLISH A PATTERN OF SUCCESS FOR THE FUTURE OF MARHS!!!!

Contractors Review (Letter of Support)

January 20, 2010

To Whom this May Concern:

I am writing this support letter on behalf of Deandrae Clayton, who is applying for the Director of the State Board for MARHS. I have had the honor in working with Deandrae since 2008 at Mississippi State University while he has served as the Treasurer, National Communications Coordinator, and now President for RHA. Deandrae is a transfer student from Jones Community College where he served as the Student Body President during his 2 years as a student there to help improve the conditions and experience of the students at this community college.

Now, Deandrae has been at Mississippi State University for a year and half and has already impacted the student body and administrators during his small duration on-campus. He has made a huge transition from starting off as the RHA Treasurer to now serving as President to represent the students living in the residence halls. His Presidency has brought about great change including a full and efficient Executive Board, more involvement in hall councils in each building, and greater program impact through both campus and community support. Deandrae has also brought more local, regional, and national attention to RHA at Mississippi State University through his programming efforts, his constant communication with other schools, and his enthusiasm to share and support other students.

The position has Director has many responsibilities and one of the biggest obstacles that the Director faces is uniting students across Mississippi. Deandrae would be very successful at doing this because he lives for uniting and involving student's every day. Through his work in Big Dawg at MSU, Deandrae has single handily united Presidents across campus to help impact MSU in greater ways as a united front instead of each student organization out for themselves. This has brought great change but also has influenced administrators to pay more attention to the needs of students.

Deandrae is not only passionate about RHA and working to better the experience of students in the residence halls but he also has a passion for music education and volunteering in the local community to educate students about music. As you can see, Deandrae is an all around great student and would do a great job serving in this position.

If you have any further questions about Deandrae, please contact me at jmullen@saffairs.msstate.edu or 662-325-0889.

Jackie C. Mullen
Area Coordinator of Leadership and Community Development
Mississippi State University

Contractors Review (Letter of Support)

January 15, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

It is on the behalf of the Mississippi State RHA Executive Council that we count it a great joy and pleasure to recommend DeAundrae Clayton for the bid of MARHS Director. DeAundrae has served as Treasurer and the National Communications Coordinator, and is currently the President of the Mississippi State University Residence Hall Association. Since joining our staff, DeAundrae has demonstrated the characteristics that all student leaders should have in order to achieve excellence. Although we have only worked with DeAundrae for a year, it is obvious that he has a strong work ethic, understands the importance of communication, and it is obvious that he is a natural when it comes down to leading others whom he may encounter as he travels through life. So we are proud to say with credibility that DeAundrae Clayton is an outstanding and effective student leader. He has proven himself time and time again to be talented, enthusiastic and very committed to his work at Mississippi State University.

DeAundrae has represented Mississippi State University and our Residence Hall Association very well at state, regional and national conferences. He is always motivated, well informed, prepared, thorough and very creative in his approach to accomplish any task at hand. He has excellent leadership skills, infectious enthusiasm, and is a great advocate for on campus living. His organizational skills are impressive and are very obvious if one were to observe him carefully. There is no doubt that if selected MARHS Director, DeAundrae will be someone MARHS can always count on to provide an accurate perspective on the opinions and preferences of on campus students in our wonderful state association meetings.

DeAundrae is a delight to work with. He is endowed with personal characteristics that will serve him well in his future endeavors. He is a person of integrity who approaches every task with enthusiasm and diligence. He has realistic and practical ways of dealing with his work and world. He has a wonderful sense of humor, values, and embraces his past experiences.

MSU RHA Executive Council can say without a doubt that DeAundrae will be an asset to MARHS as Director. We recommend him to you without reservation.

Mississippi State University Executive Council
Bryan Snow, Justin Childs, Patrick Ellis, and Neisha Johnson

Contractors Review (Letter of Support)

January 16, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to recommend DeAundrae Clayton for the position of MARHS State Director. DeAundrae deserves this position alone for the work he has done to revamp his RHA and create a presence for them in our region. Mr. Clayton was also very instrumental in supporting and preparing the bid team from Mississippi State that won the right to host NO Frills 2010, presenting a Top 20 Program at SAACURH 2009, and helping his host institution capture the SAACURH 2009 Most Spirited Large School Delegation Award.

Not only has DeAundrae been involved with his RHA, he has also been a willing delegate with the rest of Mississippi to No Frills 2009 and NACURH 2009. He has truly been a great ambassador on behalf of the state to these conferences always remembering who he represents. He was always very friendly and professional at these conferences and is one of the reasons why he has been such a great representation of MARHS. This is evident in the relationship that he now has with all Kentucky schools, who absolutely adore him. If given the chance to hold this position, I know DeAundrae would improve MARHS relationships with the other seven states as well as schools in other regions.

In conclusion, I can say nothing but good things about DeAundrae Clayton. DeAundrae is the right man for the job and if chosen will get the job done. He is a definite asset to the state and should be rewarded with this prestigious position. I respectfully submit this letter in support of him for MARHS State Director. If you have any further questions about Deaundrae, please contact me at www.stateassociations.org/~karh or 601-420-1024.

Sincerely,

John Whitt

University of Kentucky

KARH Co-Director

