

Hospitality Gazette: The Spotlight Edition

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STHM & ASSOC.

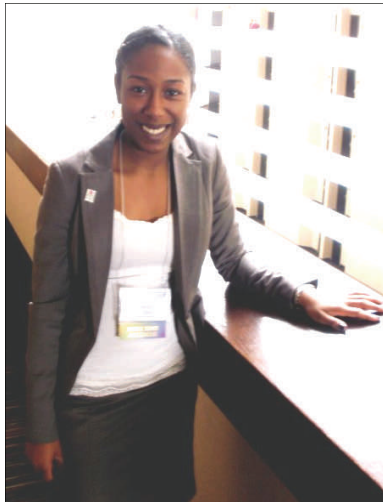


Photo by Alicia Nace

Photo taken at the Hyatt Indianapolis during the 2010 National Minorities in Hospitality Society Annual Conference.

Interesting Facts About Taylor:

- I am CPR and First Aid certified
- I have travelled to over ten different countries. My favorite pastime is traveling and I will accept any opportunity to visit new places and experience new customs
- I won the Greater Philadelphia Hospitality Association Scholarship Award in 2008 and 2009

Involvement, Intelligence, and Dedication

Engagement in industry learning experiences sets me apart from many other students. I currently work at the Omni Hotel at Independence Park as a front desk agent. I am also a member of the Professional Conference Management Association and the National Society of Minorities in Hospitality.

While I value involvement in extracurricular activities, I also excel in academic studies. My dedication to learning has helped me achieve the Temple Dean's list for seven straight semesters and allowed me to keep a 3.77 cumulative GPA.

I chose the hospitality industry because I love seeing happy people. I enjoy watching guests have fun and sharing memorable experiences with family and friends. When people return to the hotel from dinner thanking me for the recommendation and reservation with delight, it makes me happy and proud of the service that I can offer them.

I also chose the hospitality industry because I love to interact with people especially travelers from around the world. At the Omni Hotel I get to meet a plethora of international visitors and I do my best to make them feel comfortable and at home during their stay.

My favorite part about the hospitality industry is the camaraderie between co-workers. The industry is known for

dedication, long hours, and overtime. Working in a hotel is like a mini-family and I have fun getting to know my co-workers and establishing lasting bonds. We all share the same goal, to provide service that surpasses all expectations, and working with a team to achieve this goal is very rewarding.

Ultimately, I want to become a wedding planner. I enjoy planning and organizing events and being creative. I view weddings as the most special and memorable occasion of our lives.

Being a wedding planner is a mix of skills that I possess and an area where I have a passion. One day I will own my own wedding planning agency.

In an effort to gain more experience in event planning, I get involved in various school and community activities. Last year I was involved in planning Olympic Day for after school children (*Take a look at Community Service Projects*). I also have shadowed

Food and Beverage Managers and Catering Sales Managers to understand that inside tasks of event planning.

I am now currently consulting for an event for the United Service Organizations (USO) of Philadelphia. The event that we are creating is a Philadelphia Philly's fundraiser at the stadium. The fundraiser will include activities, food, and music in order to raise money for the organizations annual family Philly's night.

Organizations

- *School of Tourism and Hospitality Management Student Association (STHMSA)*—Treasurer (Fall 2009) •
- *National Society for Minorities in Hospitality (NSMH)* •

Conferences

- *NSMH Regional Conference* •
- *NSMH National Conference* •

Community Service Project

- *Olympic Day* •

Olympic Day was a community service event for after school children at the Penrose Recreation Center on 12th and Susquehanna in Philadelphia Pa. We set up organized games, food, and awards for the children. Olympic Day was a great success, the children were very excited to participate and they awarded our community service team with handmade thank you cards.

My future aspirations for the Tourism and Hospitality industry

There are a lot of exciting and adventurous opportunities that I want to take advantage of within this industry. My senior internship will hopefully be completed somewhere internationally.

Unfortunately, my academic courses and occupation did not allow me to venture overseas for a study abroad program. The senior internship requirement will enable me to step outside my comfort zone and learn new customs and ways of management.

This summer semester, I will complete a senior internship in Event Management, Food and Beverage, Banquet Sales, or Sale and

Experience in these fields will help me attain my ultimate goal of being a wedding planner.

“Weddings are the most highly anticipated and celebrated occasion of our lives...”

I have always had a soft spot for weddings. Weddings are the most highly anticipated and celebrated occasion of our lives and I enjoy being a part of that energy.

Wedding planning takes organization,

sensitivity. The wedding planner must be sensitive to the desires of the couple in order to create the event of their dreams.

These are all qualities that I have come to master and I cannot wait to utilize what I have learned in the wedding profession.

My dedication, industry work and volunteer experience in customer service and planning will help me achieve my ultimate goal of wedding planning.

