



# SHIQIRA POULSON

*She/Her*

**Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA)**

Major: Communication Studies  
Minors: Creative Writing &  
Anthropology

***What does the Lion Royalty Homecoming Court represent to you? What characteristics do you possess that make you an ideal candidate for the Court?***

To me, the Lion Royalty Homecoming Court represents members in the TCNJ community who have upheld the values and traditions of being a student while embodying poise, kindness, honesty, thoughtfulness, generosity, friendliness, and honor. My mother always told me I should strive to be “an atmosphere changer.”

An atmosphere changer is someone who, when they enter a room, has a presence and grace so powerful it can change the energy in a room. Throughout my years at TCNJ, I have tried to emulate this. As a cashier and barista in the Library Cafe, I am helpful, kind, and patient to the customers I’m serving, believing that my small acts of kindness can help someone’s day be better. In my sorority, where I currently serve as president and have been a part of since I was a freshman, I am poised, graceful, and friendly. As a leader, I create an inviting and encouraging atmosphere for both my sister and the campus community who interacts with us. In my classes, I am attentive and honest. My goal here at TCNJ is to graduate and with that being an engaging member of a classroom is imperative to my success as a student. Overall, I believe that as a leader, a student, and a friend, I embody the characteristics that would make me a viable candidate for Lion Royalty.

***What is your favorite thing about TCNJ and why?***

My favorite thing about TCNJ had to be my Sodexo family. I’ve been working with dining services since my sophomore year and throughout everything that has happened in my college life, they have been a constant. Every triumph and struggle they have been there to make sure I keep going and remind me of why I should believe in myself. They also have become so entwined with my life that they are like family at this point. I have a work mom, sister (who is subsequently now one of my roommates), brothers, aunts, and grandparents. Things change so rapidly in college, but this has always been stable. We laugh, we talk, we calm each other down and we love each other and understand each other in a way that only we could. My Sodexo family has helped me to grow as a student and as an adult and they are my favorite part of TCNJ.