

## Black History Essay Contest

The local African American person who has been an inspiration in my life is my Godmother. Her name is Shirley Clayton. She has always instilled in me that education is a must. She reminds me daily that I should always strive for greatness! Attending an HBCU was something she always drilled in me as well. She would make me see the bigger picture in attending an HBCU. Being a teen African American track athlete is the greatest asset along with the grades that offer to a HBCU.

My Godmother contributes to the Baton Rouge community daily. Her daily contributions include: donating money, gifts or other items to local shelters and programs around the community. She's always willing to offer help to anyone in need and do anything even if it is small or big. As I continue blossoming into a woman I aspire to be just like my Godmother. I want to go to college at an HBCU and become a Chemist just like she did.

My Godmother has become a chemist at ExxonMobil and is the only black African American woman on her team. She has been there more than 10 years and she is becoming the one in charge of her plant that she is at. She was also the first African American woman on the team to create the first batch of mobil jet oil in the state of Louisiana. She also graduated from the Southern University with a bachelor degree in science of chemistry. She is also a single mother with two kids and still providing for her family and some.

She has also pledged Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. in the spring of 02 at Southern University. She also thinks about moving out of Louisiana to go to Texas to further her chemist career. With all that being said she is my inspiration in life and she is someone that I hope to be

like and successful in life just like her. Also I hope to be accepted into Southern University and further my track career and run track in college.