

BLACK MATH HISTORY

HIDDEN FIGURES REVEALED



KOMLA GNONA OSU MATHEMATICS 2015

*"Success is 80% showing up."
- Woody Allen -*

Hometown: Lome, Togo

Current Occupation: Computational Biologist

Professional Interests: Mathematical Biology, Statistical Genetics, Biostatistics, Data Science

Hobbies: Soccer, Statistical Mechanics

MY MATH STORY

Describe an experience (or more than one) that helped you discover/cultivate your interest in the mathematical sciences.

Growing up in a large family of 7 kids, I was fortunate to have my older brother who was good at math and helped me study. I just wanted to be just like him.

What motivated you to study math at Ohio State?

I started at OSU as an engineering major but I quickly realized I was more drawn more into theoretical concepts. Additionally, after taking a Linear Algebra class by Dr Maritza Sirvent I fell in love with math and became a Math major.

How has your math degree influenced your life after graduation?

By the time I graduated at tOSU with my Bachelor in theoretical Math in 2015, I was so passionate and determined more than ever to pursue an advance degree and a career where I can put my skills to use. So I did a Master then a PhD in biological physics and now working as a computational scientist where I used math on a daily basis.

What personal or professional accomplishment(s) are you most proud of?

As a junior math student, I was lucky to participate at summer study program called SAAMS (Sampling Advanced Mathematics for Minority Students) a program that opened my eyes to graduate school. Also, I made lifelong friendships



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