

BLACK MATH HISTORY

HIDDEN FIGURES REVEALED



STELLA ROSS OSU MATHEMATICS 2016

"STEM connects the roots of our world to the leaves of our future. No matter your background or where you come from, there is space for you to belong in STEM."

-Stella Ross -

Hometown: Dayton, Ohio

Current Occupation: Digital Deployment Specialist

Professional Interests: Web Development and Design, Artificial Intelligence, Research, Community Service

Hobbies: Reading, running, playing guitar and listening to a wide variety of podcasts

MY MATH STORY

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

My mom has always been one of my biggest influencers since my childhood. Her favorite subject in school was math and that influenced me to take interest in math as well. She would have me practice math problems outside of my assigned school work. This experience eventually led me to discover more about my personality. I learned that I enjoy challenges and problem-solving and I knew that whatever I decided to study, it would need to involve both of these things.

What motivated you to study math at Ohio State?

I initially planned to study microbiology with hopes of attending medical school post graduation. However, after recognizing that chemistry at OSU was an obstacle quite difficult to hurdle over, I decided to switch career paths and study math instead. I realized that this degree could be used as a segue into a variety of career pathways and also feed my passion for problem-solving.

How has your math degree influenced your life after graduation?

I believe that studying math has taught me resilience, tenacity and how to think outside of the box in all aspects of my life. I credit my studies to my ability to approach challenges in life with a multidimensional thought process and even being able to understand others through lenses of multiple perspectives. Most people think math is just about numbers and while in some cases this is true, I personally believe the subject as a whole extends far beyond figures. It's the study of thinking beyond the scope of what's in your point of view and expanding your mind in all directions using logic and a bit of creativity to formulate viable solutions.



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY