

Ms Black Georgia USA Questionnaire

Full Name: **Carla Janean Hawkins**
Occupation: **Education Specialist for LifeLink of GA**
Height: **5'4**
Eye Color: **Dark Brown**
Hair Color: **Black w/brown highlights**
High School: **Albany High School** Year: **1996 - 2000**
College: **Albany State Univ. (ASU)** Year: **2000 - 2005**
Grad School: **ASU** Year: **2010 - Present**

Special Talents: **Superb story-teller and acting**

Awards and Honors: **I've won and placed in numerous pageants (Miss Albany High School Winner, 2000, and Miss Albany, GA Scholarship pageants). I've also been awarded several community service awards.**

Hobbies and Interest: **Singing, acting, event-planning, reading, writing and cooking creative dishes**

Favorite Book: **Why You Act the Way You Do, by: Tim LaHaye**

Favorite Movie: **It's a tie: Count of Monte Christo and Sleepless in Seattle**

Favorite TV Show: **The Cosby Show**

Favorite Magazine: **Essence**

Ambition: **Publish my first book, 'Not Your Typical GA Peach' and finish my first gospel album, 'Number One', travel the state mentoring and speaking to today's youth.**

Three Words That Best Describe You: **Outgoing, Loyal and Intelligent**

What is your favorite quote? **Be the change you wish to see in the world today---Ghandi**

Who is the person that you most admire? **Virginia Wright, the mother of my church, my biggest supporter and best friend!**

What do you plan to achieve by winning this pageant? **I plan to inspire and motivate young girls/women to be the change they wish to see in the world and never give up on their dreams. I plan to represent my African-American heritage, family and the Miss/Ms Black Georgia/USA organization in the highest and most respectable manner, raising the bar and utilizing all networking efforts and resources to show how our people shine and excel in all things.**

What are your community involvements? **Member of Emerge Albany (Young professionals organization), chamber member in Albany, Columbus and Dawson, GA, Missionary work with my church (feeding the homeless), Mentor Albany (mentoring youth), member of Donate Life Georgia (promoting organ/tissue donation)**

List any special training you have had special talents. **Self-taught vocal training is all I've had for my vocal talent.**

What do you like to do in your spare time? **Relax and catch up with friends on facebook, read the bible and sing/write songs. I also enjoy baby-sitting my little cousins and watching movies!**

Favorite Food or Dish: **Chicken-Broccoli Casserole**

Favorite Junk Food: **Marshmallows mixed with honey-roasted peanuts and reese's pieces**

Favorite Movie Stars (Male/Female): **Male: Will Smith, Female: Gabrielle Union**

Favorite Recording Group or Star: **Richard Smallwood**

Favorite Sport (participant): **Volleyball**

What is your favorite weekend activity? **Mission work**

What is your most cherished childhood memory? **I'll never forget my first day of kindergarten at Lincoln Fundamental Magnet Elementary School. My teacher was Mrs. O'Brien and she was reading a story to the class, who were all sitting orderly around the rectangular-shaped rug, when I entered the room. I sat down next to someone and a moment later, a girl sitting across the rug, asked me to come sit by her. I got up during the story-telling, unaware of the disruption I was causing, and sat next to a girl who became my best friend. Moments later, someone else beckoned for me to sit by them. I thought to myself, how nice these kids are and how great school is going to be. I'll never forget that.**

What concerns you the most about teenager problems? **The negative impact of media, music, peer pressure and lack of positive reinforcements and resources.**

What concerns you most about the elderly? **Negligence and abuse in the nursing home.**

As a citizen, what can you do to help decrease teenage problems? **Become more involved in youth organizations and mentoring programs to counteract negative influences and place them in positive environments and around positive people.**

How important is education to you? **Extremely important. I believe that everyone should make every effort to reach their highest level of academic achievement. Knowledge is power.**

How do you choose your closet friends? **I seek for genuine and caring people that respect others, as well as themselves. A friend is someone that will tell you when you wrong and encourage you when you're right.**

What person would you most like to meet who exemplifies your standards, goals and achievements? **I have already met the person. She is the person I consider my role model and everything I'd like to be. She is my pastor's wife. She exemplifies living a God-fearing life, maintaining high moral character and standards. She is the most amazing wife and mother and is responsible for saving my natural life, as well as so many others, through pure and unconditional love. Despite my shortcomings in life and disappointments, she never ceases to love and support in every way.**

What is your most prized possession? How does this possession help you carry on your daily activities? **My most prized possession is the gift of salvation that I received on November 11, 1996. I was 15 years old, clueless and completely naïve. Yet, Jesus chose to forgive me of my sins and give me everything I would need to live an amazing life in Him. My salvation and redemption helps me carry on my daily activities because it strengthens and motivates me to be all God would have me to be. It allows me to maintain my integrity and remain a virtuous woman of God and a light in a dark and dying world.**

WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT LESSON IN LIFE YOU HAVE LEARNED?

Everything that glitters isn't gold. Short phrase...big message. The serenity prayer and wisdom has taught me how to accept things/people for what/who they are and the discernment of seeing past appearances and mere words. What's in people will eventually come out and one must guard their heart until they truly know someone.

DEFINE THE TERM ROLE MODEL AS IT APPLIES TO THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN WOMAN:

One that exceeds expectations and fears not standing alone in the face of opposition. No matter what comes against this person, they persevere never to give up nor give in. They know how to lead and follow, stand against what is wrong and encourage what's right. They're honest, loyal and faithful. They help others before themselves and although highly persecuted and rejected, they love harder and stronger.

IF MONEY AND SKILL WERE NO OBJECT, DESCRIBE YOUR IDEAL LIFE/CAREER:

My ideal life/career would be to fall in love and get married to the man God created for me, have children and raise a beautiful family that supports and loves one other.

HAVE YOU EVER PARTICIPATED IN A PAGEANT? If yes, when? In 2000-2004.

If no, why did you decide to participate in this pageant?

WHAT FRIGHTENS YOU MOST ABOUT COMPETING IN A PAGEANT?

The unexpected outcome. You never know what the judges are thinking and no matter how well you think you're doing, someone else could feel very differently. ☺

WHAT IS YOUR PLATFORM? Donate Life through Organ and Tissue Donation. This platform consists of me traveling throughout Georgia educating the multi-cultural communities on the importance of organ and tissue donation and how it saves lives. One organ and tissue donor can help save and enhance the lives of up to 50 people. There are over 101, 000 people on the national transplant waiting list. Every 11 minutes, another name is added to that list and every day, 18 people die because of not receiving a life-saving organ/tissue transplant.

How it Affects Us:

In Georgia, over 50% of the people waiting on an organ/tissue transplant are African-American and over 60% of the people waiting on a life-saving kidney transplant are African-American. The kidney is the only organ that has to come from someone of the same ethnicity. The need is great! Yet, African Americans are the least to sign up for organ/tissue donation, due to lack of education and fear from misconceptions.

How I Will Help Us:

I will educate everyone on this important information, as well as, on protecting ones health to prevent organ failure. African Americans are at risk for many illnesses like high blood pressure, diabetes and heart disease that can lead to the need for an organ transplant. I will provide educational brochures and trinkets to reinforce my message as I travel from city to city. My hope is for more lives to be saved through executing my platform agenda.

Thank you for this opportunity!