



150 Stories for 150 Years

African Village

Submitted By: Rayya Crawford
Norwood, OH

Can't remember if it was 2010 or 2011, but BSI (Black Student Initiative) was preparing for our annual African Village celebration. A few of us had been practicing a step routine for weeks, and the plan was to do it at dinner time the day of as a pop-up show to entice students to attend.

Dinner's almost over and we chicken out! It's too late! Everyone's leaving! But luckily we were able to talk ourselves back into our plan; we'd been practicing so hard — let's just get it over with!

So we go to the TOP and take our positions in the open space between the food stations and the tables. We were uniformed and had everyone's attention before our first command was called out. We performed a few short routines, but I think the audience liked our boys vs. girls routine best.

After we finished, we got an applaud and I was so proud of us for doing what we'd set out to do. I believe that night at African Village was one of the best turnouts we'd ever had. We were able to bring a little history of black fraternities and sororities to campus with our routine and with our special guests (3 members being Wilmington College students): the men of Alpha Phi Alpha, the ladies of Sigma Gamma Rho and a man from Iota Phi Theta.

This will always be one of my most favorite memories.

[RETURN TO SITE](#)