



Korin Murray, Vice President of the Chemistry Club at NC A&T



The Chemistry Club engages students with fun activities at NC A&T's annual organization fair

THE SCIENTIFIC METHOD OF LEADERSHIP

A look into how Korin Murray a senior at North Carolina A&T is transforming the Chemistry organization at with purpose



Throughout the years of science and leadership, the experiences, influence and impact of Black women in STEM has often been overlooked. A film that personally inspired me was Hidden Figures. This story delivered a powerful message on intersectionality and how Black women have often been erased from pivotal developments in science. Today, students like Korin Murray at North Carolina A&T State University are continuing that leadership and legacy in real time. She is bringing innovation, representation and community to a space that has historically excluded others that look like her.

“Black women are often overlooked in many spaces, so being able to lead and use my voice at a higher level is both an honor and a responsibility.” Korin Murray

As the Vice-President of the Chemistry Club, Murray is changing what student engagement in science represents. She recognized early on that more traditional approaches to engagement were not resonating with other students. “I was inspired to step into my leadership role because I saw the need for change,” she said. “As a member of the Chemistry Club, I often found the events to be repetitive and lacking engagement.”

Murray first joined the organization during her sophomore year. She entered as an intern and quickly

learned her space. She then started transforming the programming to be more collaborative and modern. Her efforts turned into innovative events for the student body to engage in science.

From this point on, she sought out collaborations with different organizations. One of her proudest moments was partnering with NC A&T's Natural and Proud Society. This event combined hair care and chemistry. Attendees were able to make hair products and learn about the science behind hair care. Not only was this event well received, but memorable amongst attendees.

At first, Korin did not see herself in a leadership position. This is rooted towards her childhood, where she believed that leaders had a different look. “As a child, I was shy and reserved, which made me believe leadership was only for the loudest or most popular people in the room” she shared. “Over time, I learned leadership comes in many forms. It isn't about how outspoken you are but about the impact you make.”

Murray's leadership process is based on balanced and intentional leadership methods. As a chemistry major with a rigorous course load, she relies on a structured and organized environment. She utilizes tools such as Google calendar to structure her time. This helps her organize, commit and plan.

Navigating her leadership has been a journey. She has learned the value of accountability and organization within her team. Her and the Chemistry club's president help ensure that there is a lasting structure within the executive board. Instead of waiting for issues to arise, they adopt a more proactive approach. They implement task lists and shared calendar. This helps with transparency. Together, they streamline the team's communication and make the most of everyone's time. Through Murray's undergraduate experience, she has learned many lessons to take away from her time here. Her journey reflects a broader truth: experience is not just about showing up, but ensuring others leave with new knowledge and purpose.

“I want people to feel welcomed and empowered—to leave knowing that they, too, have the ability to make an impact within their roles and organizations,” Murray said.

For young women preparing to take on leadership roles, Murray emphasizes the importance of authenticity. She believes that it is important to bring your uniqueness to wherever you go. Not only is being yourself



