

Graduate Student Spotlight: Aniya Gold - Exploring the Rich Tapestry of History



The [University of Memphis Graduate School](#) loves to shine a spotlight on the outstanding achievements of its students. In this edition, we are featuring Aniya Gold, a remarkable [Ph.D. candidate in History](#), from Nashville, TN with a passion and commitment to uncover the stories of African American women in the 19th and 20th centuries.

Why the UofM Graduate School

Aniya's academic journey began at the University of Tennessee at Martin, where she earned her bachelor's degree. Drawn by the strong emphasis on African American History within the History department, she chose UofM's Graduate School as the platform for her academic pursuits. As she navigates through her doctoral program, her sights are set on a future in public history, where she can continue contributing to marginalized communities' narrative.

Passion Ignited: A Shoutout to Dr. Beverly Bond

Her passion for history, especially the narratives of Black women, was ignited by the inspirational teachings of [Professor Dr. Beverly Bond](#). Aniya's dedication to understanding the crucial lives of African American women and unraveling their stories which were often overlooked by history, speaks volumes about her commitment to preserving and sharing diverse voices.

Leadership and Involvement

Aniya also takes on the role of the University of Memphis Graduate Student Association's Executive Vice President. In her spare time, she immerses herself in the world of literary and contemporary fiction, aligning seamlessly with her love for reading and history.

Aniya is actively engaged in fostering safe spaces for graduate students on campus. Her involvement in organizations like GAAAH ([The Graduate Association for African American History](#)) and GHA ([Graduate History Association](#)) reflects her commitment to building supportive communities within the academic landscape.

Gratefulness, Acknowledgments and Advice

Reflecting on her time at UofM, Aniya encapsulates her experience in one word: grateful. Grateful for the opportunities, the support, and the rich academic environment that has nurtured her growth.

Aniya extends a heartfelt shoutout to her family and friends, recognizing their unwavering support that propels her forward. To future grad students, she imparts invaluable advice—take care of yourself, for your mental health matters.

As Aniya Gold continues to navigate the realms of history, her research becomes not just a scholarly pursuit but a testament to the resilience and contributions of African American women. The University

of Memphis Graduate School takes pride in spotlighting Aniya's journey and dedication to the stories that deserve to be heard.