

# Officially Queen

## JOIÉ JOHNSON-WALKER REVEALS HER JOURNEY

After campaigning for weeks and pursuing a goal that was set since her first step on Temple's campus, Joié Johnson-Walker, a senior majoring in broadcast journalism was crowned the university's new Homecoming Queen.

Johnson-Walker began the process of running for Homecoming Queen by campaigning and following all of the guidelines that Temple sets for nominees. While campaigning, Johnson-Walker had to attend the Main Campus Programming Board events and really tried to get her name and face out there for students to recognize.

"This was definitely the fun part. I made flyers and posted them on social media, around campus and in the student center," Johnson-Walker said. "I ordered 'Vote for Joié' buttons, I made cupcakes, I walked up to individuals around campus. I bought balloons and passed them out. It was just an overall great experience."

When she was a freshman, Johnson-Walker would see the upperclassmen representing their university with much poise and pride. This inspired her to want to be that same role model for students that would come after her.

Johnson-Walker took the competition as an opportunity to accomplish the things that she had been wanting since she started her campaigning.

"The process for running was very intense," Johnson-Walker said. "For others, maybe not so much but for me, I kind of cringe at the idea of 'competition.' When I think of competition, I think of the politics that come with it. But, I decided not to psyche myself out and to just have fun with the opportunity."

Students took time to recognize her as a person and her goals which made them feel that she was the right choice for this university and that she really deserved being crowned Homecoming Queen.

"I think Joié was the best choice for Homecoming Queen because not only is she really involved throughout campus, she's a positive role model as well," senior Chelsea Koerbler said. "She has so much confidence, is outgoing and takes on leadership roles. She's always so willing to help others and meet new people."

Thinking back to the entire experience, Johnson-Walker is proud of what she accomplished. Hoping to make a difference at the university, Johnson-Walker has many plans in mind since winning.

Johnson-Walker was never completely sure that she would win the votes and remained confident and hopeful before the results.

"Now that my dream is a reality, I plan to implement the service projects I am passionate about which is getting Temple students more involved with mentoring local high school students," Johnson-Walker said. "My main goal out of this is to really leave a legacy at Temple University of community engagement. It is important that we, as global citizens, understand the importance of giving back to our community and helping it to excel just as we are."

Johnson-Walker adds that the best part of the entire Homecoming Queen experience was knowing that she has fulfilled her goal of being a leader who takes risks and that there are younger students on campus who recognize this of determination, faith and perseverance.

"Between myself, the king and the entire royalty court, Temple University has a lot of great and exciting things coming their way, so stay tuned," Johnson-Walker said.

MARISSA FULLER

