

# **CheKenna Ja-len Fletcher**

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## **EDUCATION**

August 2022- Present **Tennessee State University (TSU), Nashville, TN**  
Degree Program: **Ph.D. in Agricultural Sciences** Degree Concentration: **Food and Animal Sciences**

August 2019- August 2021 **Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN**  
Degree Program: **Master's in Public Health** Degree Concentration: **Family and Community Health**

August 2015- May 2019 **Tennessee State University (TSU), Nashville, TN**  
Degree Program: **Bachelor's in Agricultural Sciences** Degree Concentration: **Food Biosciences and Technology**  
Graduated Magna Cum Laude GPA: 3.69

## **WORK EXPERIENCE**

**AIM Clinics-** Jan. 2022-Aug. 2022  
Registered Behavior Technician  
Mount Juliet, TN

**Franciscan Education Center Intern-** May-June 2020  
Graduate Student Assistant  
LaFayette, IN

**Lebanon Housing Authority Intern-** May-Aug. 2019  
Executive Director's Administrative Assistant  
Lebanon, TN

**Just Us Kids-** Sept. 2019-Aug. 2020  
Assistant Daycare Teacher (Infants-12yrs)  
West Lafayette, IN

**Purdue University-** Aug. 2020-Aug. 2021  
Graduate Research Assistant  
West Lafayette, IN

**Tennessee State University-** Aug. 2015- May 2019  
Undergraduate Research Assistant  
Nashville, TN

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

August 2020 - August 2021

### **Graduate Research Assistant**

Independent Research Study; *Research Advisor: Dr. Nilupa Gunaratna*

**Research Project: "FORGE-Purdue: Fostering Food Security, Health, and Resilience in Graduate Education at Purdue"**

August 2015 - May 2019

### **Undergraduate Research Assistant**

Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN

Dean's Scholars Program; *Research Advisor: Dr. Ying Wu*

**Research Project: "Phytochemical profiles and antioxidant activity of different tomato cultivars grown under an organic management system"**

June 2018 - August 2018

### **Internship, Food Science Summer Scholar Program**

Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

*Research Advisor: Dr. Gavin Sacks*

**Research Project: "Measuring the Effect of Forced Ageing on the Concentration of o-aminoacetophenone in Wines Fermented from Niagara Juices"**

## **GRADUATE PROGRAM AFFILIATIONS**

August 2022-Present	Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences (MANRRS) Tennessee State University Chapter
August 2022-Present	Tiger Women in Agriculture (TWAG)- Tennessee State University Chapter
September 2020-August 2021	Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences (MANRRS) Purdue University Chapter
February 2020-August 2021	Black Graduate Student Association (BGSA)- Purdue University
August 2019-August 2021	Public Health Student Association (PHSA)- Purdue University
August 2019-August 2021	Public Health Journal Club- Purdue University

## **UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM AFFILIATIONS**

November 2018	Participant, Purdue University's Graduate Diversity Visitation Program (GDVP)
August 2018- May 2019	Tiger Women in Agriculture
April 2018- Present	Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated
January 2018	Delegate, Agriculture Future of America, Food Institute, Chicago, IL
November 2017	Delegate, Agriculture Future of America, Leaders Conference, Kansas City, MO
October 2017- Present	The National Society of Leadership and Success (Sigma Alpha Pi)
August 2017	Tennessee State University Flute Ensemble
June 2017	Participant, Purdue University's Mentoring at Purdue Program (M@P)
May 2017- Present	Golden Key International Honour Society
August 2016- May 2019	Tennessee State University Choir
August 2015- May 2019	USDA/ Higher Education Multicultural Scholars Program (MSP) Scholarship Recipient (\$6500 per year, plus books)
August 2015- May 2019	Collegiate FFA, Tennessee State University Chapter
August 2015- May 2019	Dean's Scholars Program, Undergraduate Research Program College of Agriculture
August 2015- May 2019	Tennessee Louis-Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Research Assistant (16-17) / Mentor (17-19)
August 2015- May 2019	Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Related Sciences (MANRRS), Tennessee State University Chapter, Chapter Parliamentarian

## **AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Preparing Our Tomorrow Uniquely in STEM (POTUS) Fellowship Program, August 2022
- Safe Kids Worldwide Laundry Packet Safety Grant, \$1,000, May 2021
- Boilers Work Award, \$4,000, April 2021
- Safe Kids Worldwide Medication Safety Grant, \$1500, March 2021
- Protect Purdue Innovations Faculty Grant, \$20,000, September 2020
- Purdue University Student Service-Learning Grant, \$710, March 2020
- Access and Diversity Scholarship, \$5,000, August 2018-May 2019
- Bud / K.S Adams Jr. Endowed Scholarship, \$2,000, May 2017-May 2018
- BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee Diversity Scholarship, \$10,000, July 2017-May 2018
- American FFA Degree, October 2016

## **OUTREACH PROJECTS**

Peyton Road Church of Christ	Feeding the Homeless	Mary & Martha Dialogues
Wilson County Teen Court	American Cancer Society	Nashville Dolphins
Sherry's Run	Nashville YoungLives	Gateway of Hope Community Church