

Name: Loren Lindsey

Year: 04

Major: Law and Justice

Minor: Human Development and Family Sciences

Qualifications/Involvement:

Auburn Student Government Association | September 2020 - March 2023

Auburn University Black Student Union | September 2020 - Current

Pi Lambda Sigma Pre-Law Honors Society | February 2021 - Current

Lobby Board per Auburn Student Government Association | September 2021 - April 2022

Vice President of Chapter Operations per Alpha Xi Delta Sorority | November 2021 - December 2022

Platform: Lean on Lindsey

Four years ago, I was a sixteen-year-old from Illinois searching for her next adventure. My parents had always said I was their “do-er” who would try anything without being asked twice. They had known that going to school close to home was a pipe dream and encouraged me to search for a university that interested me. It felt as if I searched endlessly for a school that felt like home; a place where my soul was set on fire and adoration for my school would help me rise above the challenges and life lessons I would face as I matured.

When I first stepped foot on Auburn University’s campus, I immediately felt the tenderness each student had for this university and knew that was the way I was meant to feel. That fall, I applied to Auburn and got accepted. However, the struggle for finding housing was extreme and there was a part of me that worried about not being able to attend the school of my dreams because I wouldn’t have anywhere to live. This possibility was paralyzing despite having an amazing support system. Through trial and error, I was then able to secure an on-campus housing spot and have an amazing experience, but the thought of the paramount uncertainty that I felt has stuck with me and brought a passion aligned with a line of the Auburn Creed: “I believe in the human touch, which cultivates sympathy with my fellow men and mutual helpfulness and brings happiness for all.”

Mutual helpfulness is an element formidable to human experience, let alone the Auburn experience. That moment opened my eyes to the reality that many students who aren’t as privileged as I face: not having housing and not being given an opportunity to experience the fullness of joy Auburn University supplies. My platform as Miss Homecoming would bring awareness to the current student housing crisis and its effects on all students, with an emphasis on students with low income, who are international, or considered homeless. I plan to use my platform, *Lean on Lindsey*, to work in tandem with the Auburn community to cultivate a program that accommodates students when on-campus housing is not readily available, work with Habitat for Humanity to create a system of community housing that would benefit low income, homeless, or international students, as well as create opportunities for university students in the College of Architecture, Design, and Construction to expand their skills while assisting the needs of this specific community.

Throughout my time here at Auburn, I've had the honor of being given many opportunities to use my voice and have realized that I was only able to do so because someone else gave me the microphone. I believe that it's time for me to build the stage for others, and hand the microphone over because I am an Auburn woman and want to leave this campus knowing that I gave someone else the opportunity to love this campus as much as I love it.