

# Taiesa LASHLEY

## Ms. Black International Ambassador 2020



Born and raised in St. Thomas, United States Virgin Islands 31 year old Taiesa Lashley- affectionately known as Tai- has had a passion for community service since she was a child. At age 17, Taiesa left the USVI to at college at Johnson & Wales University in North Miami, Florida. It was here that Taiesa's passion for service, coordination skills and leadership abilities truly flourished. By the end of her college career Taiesa walked away with multiple Organizations of the Year, Community Service and Student Leadership Awards. She graduated with a B.S. in Hospitality Management.

Taiesa enlisted in the US Army reserve 2 weeks prior to her graduation. After basic training she was deployed to Afghanistan as a civil affairs specialist. Taiesa is a proud veteran in the United States Army Reserve. She completed a combat tour in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan in 2011 with the 478th Civil Affairs Battalion.

These two aspects of her life helped her develop her platform: "Serving Your Country by Helping Your Community". A platform that she plans to continue to champion as Ms. Black International Ambassador 2020. Taiesa's dedication to service and education is also visible through her work with many local organizations, her sorority Delta Sigma Theta Inc. and Disney VoluntEars.

A lover of fashion, Taiesa recently opened up her own online accessory boutique: C.H.I.C Lifestyle Collection; a collection of accessories for the Classy, Haute, Influential and Courageous individual. And as a huge fan of pageantry 6 years ago Taiesa founded her very own not for profit organization: Virgin Islands Pageantry. An Organization that dedicated to recognizing VI royalty, coordinating service projects and promoting the USVI.

As Ms. Black International Ambassador Taiesa hopes to inspire and motivate others to volunteer, travel and live their best lives unapologetically.

### Miss Black International Ambassador Scholarship Pageant

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*The Miss Black International Pageant, formerly Miss Black US Ambassador Pageant, is a program of Ambassadors of Change Inc., which exist to give a once in a lifetime opportunity to black women globally. It's a scholarship and grant program that gives 365 days of support and resources to communities in need.*