

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Robert Tutman

PERSON

Tutman, Robert, 1946-

Alternative Names: Robert Tutman;

Life Dates: October 15, 1946-

Place of Birth: Baltimore , Maryland, USA

Residence: Chicago, IL

Work: IL

Occupations: Photojournalist; Producer

Biographical Note

Cameraman and producer Robert Tutman was born on October 15, 1946 in Baltimore, Maryland.

Tutman initially worked as a still photographer until 1968, when he was hired as a cameraman for NBC's WBAL-TV in Baltimore. In 1970, Tutman moved to CBS Network News in Chicago, Illinois, becoming the company's first African American cameraman. For the next twenty-five years, Tutman covered national and international news stories for CBS. He also taught as an associate professor at Columbia University in 1973 through the Michelle Clark Minority Fellowship.

From 1995 to 1999, Tutman served as a senior cameraman for Chicago's WBBM-TV, where he worked on breaking news stories, from hard news to feature pieces, documentaries, special projects and long format programs. In 1996, Tutman established his own production company, and, from 1999 to 2001 he produced fifty half-hour programs and twelve three-hour specials for the Chicago Public Schools. He went on to serve as a producer for Monument City Films in Baltimore from 2001 to 2002; and, in 2003, became a producer for WYCC-TV, a PBS station based in Chicago. Tutman later worked as director of photography for The Africa Channel and as a producer at Chicago Film Works. His film credits include The Providence Effect and Common Enemy.

Tutman's honors include Emmy Award nominations as well as the Gold Camera Award, which he received during the 1996 Chicago Industrial Film Festival for his work on Common Enemy. He has also served as president of the Chicago chapter of the National Association of Black Journalists. He lives in Chicago, Illinois.

Robert Tutman was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on October 22, 2014.

Related Entries

Coleridge Taylor Elementary School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

P.S. 111, Frances Ellen Harper Elementary School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Booker T. Washington Middle School for the Arts [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Baltimore City College [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Coppin State University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

The Africa Channel [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from ? to ?]

Director of Photography

Chicago Film Works [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from ? to ?]

Producer

WBAL-TV [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1968 to 1970]

Cameraman

CBS Network News [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1970 to 1995]

Cameraman

WBBM-TV [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1995 to 1999]

Senior Cameraman

Robert Tutman Productions [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1996 to ?]

Founder

Monument City Films [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 2001 to 2002]

Producer

WYCC-TV [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 2003 to ?]

Producer

National Association of Black Journalists, Chicago Chapter [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

Member; President