

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers Press Footage (Chicago 2008)

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	The HistoryMakers
Title:	The HistoryMakers Press Footage (Chicago 2008),
Dates:	August 21, 2008
Bulk Dates:	2008
Physical Description:	1 Betacam SP videocassette (0:45:48).
Abstract:	This collection contains footage of press on The HistoryMakers organization from 2008. The HistoryMakers did not produce these segments.
Identification:	S2008_008
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

The HistoryMakers

The HistoryMakers is a national 501(c)(3) non profit educational institution founded in 1999, committed to preserving, developing and providing easy access to an internationally recognized, archival collection of thousands of African American video oral histories. The HistoryMakers is the single largest archival collection of its kind in the world designed to promote and celebrate the successes and to document movements, events and organizations that are important to the African American community and to American society.

The HistoryMakers is the next methodic and wide-scale collection effort since the WPA Slave Narratives Project from 1936 to 1938. The HistoryMakers goal is to complete 5,000 interviews of both well-known and unsung African American HistoryMakers. In recording messages of leadership, achievement and perseverance embodied in these life stories, The HistoryMakers has disseminates its holdings through traditional and interactive media as well as public programs, special events, an interactive website and a unique digital archive.

The purpose of this archive is to educate the world on the accomplishments of African Americans, show the breadth and depth of this important American history as told in the first person, highlight the accomplishments of individual African Americans, showcase those who have played a role in African American-led movements and/or organizations and preserve these video oral histories for years and generations to come.

Julieanna L. Richardson

Julieanna L. Richardson followed a unique path in heading up the largest national collection effort of African American video oral histories on record. With a diverse background in theatre, television production, and the cable television industries, she combined her various work experiences and her passion for history to conceptualize, found and build The HistoryMakers. The HistoryMakers is a national, 501(c)(3) non-profit educational institution based in Chicago, committed to preserving, developing, and providing easy access to an internationally recognized archival collection of thousands of African American video oral histories. Richardson serves as the Founder and Executive Director of The HistoryMakers as well as a member of the The HistoryMakers National Board of Directors.

Richardson graduated from Brandeis University in 1976 with a B.A. in Theatre Arts and American Studies. It was during her studies at Brandeis that she first experienced the power of oral history while conducting independent research on the Harlem Renaissance. While exploring the collections of the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture in New York City, Richardson interviewed Butterfly McQueen ("Gone With The Wind") and Lee Whipper ("The Ox-Box Incident") as part of her project. Having access to these poignant life stories "made the history really come alive for me," says Richardson. From this early exposure, the seeds for The HistoryMakers project first took root.

Richardson received her J.D. degree in 1980 from Harvard Law School. She worked as a corporate lawyer at Jenner & Block prior to serving in the early 1980s as the Cable Administrator for the City of Chicago's Office of Cable Communications. There, she established the Chicago Cable Commission, the City's regulatory body. She went on to found Shop Chicago, a regionally based home shopping channel.

For eight years, her production company, SCTN Teleproductions, managed three local cable channels for TCI, then the nation's largest cable operator. SCTN Teleproductions served as the production arm for C-SPAN.

Richardson founded The HistoryMakers in 1999, and started doing interviews in February of 2000. She sits on the Honors Council of Lawyers for the Creative Arts, and in 2011, was appointed to the Comcast NBC Universal African American Diversity Council. In May 2012, she received an Honorary Doctorate of Humanities from Howard University during their 144th Commencement Convocation.

Scope and Content

This collection contains footage of press on The HistoryMakers organization produced on August 21, 2008, in Chicago, Illinois, and was recorded on 1 Betacam SP videocassette.

Restrictions

Restrictions on Access

Restrictions may be applied on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of The HistoryMakers®.

Restrictions on Use

All use of materials and use credits must be pre-approved by The HistoryMakers®. Appropriate credit must be given. Copyright is held by The HistoryMakers®.

Related Material

Additional information pertaining to this special collection is stored electronically both on The HistoryMakers® server and in two databases maintained by The HistoryMakers®, though this information is not included in this finding aid.

Controlled Access Terms

This interview collection is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

Persons:

Richardson, Julieanna L. (Interviewee)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews
Richardson, Julieanna L.--Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

HistoryMakers® Category:

Administrative Information

Custodial History

Event footage was recorded by The HistoryMakers®. All rights to the interview have been transferred to The HistoryMakers® by the interview subject through a signed interview release form. Signed interview release forms have been deposited with Jenner & Block, LLP, Chicago.

Preferred Citation

The HistoryMakers Press Footage (Chicago 2008), August 21, 2008. The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection, 1900 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

Processing Information

This interview collection was processed and encoded on 2/24/2013 by The HistoryMakers® staff. The finding aid was created adhering to the following standards: DACS, AACR2, and the Oral History Cataloging Manual (Matters 1995).

Other Finding Aid

A Microsoft Access contact database and a FileMaker Pro tracking database, both maintained by The HistoryMakers®, keep additional data pertaining to this special collection..

Detailed Description of the Collection

Series I: Program Footage, August 21, 2008

Master Version (1 Beta Cam SP Tape)

Master: WBEZ's Vocolo Interview, TRT: 0:45:48

This audio clip contains a radio interview with The HistoryMakers Founder and Executive Director, Julieanna Richardson, produced by WBEZ's Vocolo 89.5. During the interview, Richardson talks about the goal of The HistoryMakers in producing 5,000 video oral histories from well-known and unsung African Americans and making these video oral histories accessible to the public through educational institutions, the internet, and Richardson also answered questions made by listeners who called the station. This audio file for this program can be found on the "Events and Programs" server.