



THE HISTORYMAKERS.®

HBCU DIGITAL ARCHIVE STUDENT AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

Salary: \$15/hour	Duration: October 2024-April 2025	Application Deadline: Friday, October 11, 2024
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THE HISTORYMAKERS.®

1900 S. Michigan Avenue | Chicago, Illinois 60616 | 312.674.1900

www.thehistorymakers.org

Want to...

- ☐ Help increase awareness of *The HistoryMakers*, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and the nation's largest African American video oral history archive (www.thehistorymakers.org), across your college or university?
- ☐ Effectively take others inside the lives of black people, further cultural understanding on your campus, and spread the word about a unique digital archive housed permanently at the Library of Congress?

The HistoryMakers is committed to preserving, developing, and providing easy access to its internationally-recognized archival collection of thousands of African American video oral histories from a broad range of backgrounds and experiences. It is looking for a passionate and highly motivated student ambassador at each of our subscribing institutions to help do so. (For a complete list of subscribing institutions, see "Current Members" on this page: <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/institutional-maker>.)

This paid position provides a unique opportunity to:

- ☐ Learn valuable research, writing, presentation, and communications skills;
- ☐ Engage with an innovative non-profit;
- ☐ Promote the effective use of a one-of-a-kind digital archive for use in and outside of the classroom (in-person, hybrid, or virtual); and
- ☐ Receive on-the-job training that will make you more attractive to employers.

For you to become one of our student ambassadors:

1. You must be a **current sophomore, junior, senior, or graduate student** and able to **commit to 10 hours per week from October 2024 through April 2025** (no meetings in August 2024 and during holidays). You will be expected to document your hours, submit weekly progress reports, and participate in weekly conference calls.
2. Your college or university must subscribe to *The HistoryMakers Digital Archive*. For a complete list of subscribing institutions, see "Current Members" here: <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/institutional-maker>.
3. You must commit to participating in weekly Zoom calls during the school year.
4. You must spend at least **five hours per week** doing in-depth exploration of *The HistoryMakers Digital Archive*.
5. You must write a weekly blog post based on research using *The HistoryMakers Digital Archive*;
6. You must develop in-person and video/Zoom presentations and programs to show faculty, students, and others how to use *The HistoryMakers Digital Archive*;
7. You must adhere to the Student Ambassador code of ethics.

For more information, please visit <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/higher-education>.

For inquiries, please contact **Sharion Brown** at sb@thehistorymakers.org or **(312) 674-1900 x. 506**.



***“All the people
that I have
exposed to [The
HistoryMakers
Digital] Archive
have found it
resourceful.”***

Myles S. McCoy, Junior, Mechanical
Engineering | Alabama A&M
University
2021-2022 Student Ambassador

Preferred Skills

Strong applicants must possess:

- ☐ A love of writing and of history;
- ☐ Strong research, writing, presentation, and communications skills;
- ☐ Tech-savviness and strong administrative and organizational skills;
- ☐ The ability to work independently and be self-motivated;
- ☐ A high degree of professionalism and a sense of ethics;
- ☐ Leadership skills and a passion for building and growing relationships.

Supervisor

Every applicant must identify a faculty or staff member (e.g., professor, librarian, cultural center employee) on their campus who has agreed to supervise their work for the duration of the program and include their contact information.

Compensation

You will be paid **\$15 per hour of documented work**.

Experience

Every student ambassador will gain:

- ☐ Familiarity with e-resources and expertise with *The HistoryMakers Digital Archive*;
- ☐ Exposure to African American subject matter and leadership;
- ☐ Increased research, writing, administrative, public speaking, and presentation skills;
- ☐ Opportunities to interact professionally with students and faculty.

Application Instructions

Please complete the application form here: <https://forms.gle/6WnifN9FFSQEiMKx5>

You will be prompted to:

- ☐ Upload your resume/CV with a copy of your unofficial transcript(s).
- ☐ Include a 500-word, single-spaced essay on why you should be chosen to serve as *The HistoryMakers* Student Ambassador for your college or university and how you can meet and/or exceed the requirements stated. Please be specific.
- ☐ Include a 500-word essay that describes how you found yourself in the Digital Archive as well as your process (please see more information [here](#)).
- ☐ List the contact information (name, title, department/affiliation, email address, and phone number) of the faculty or staff member who has agreed to supervise your work for the duration of the program.
- ☐ Complete a typing speed test and a Microsoft Excel test.

“ I presented for Dr. Patterson’s History of Africa to 1865 class. I relayed [The HistoryMakers] Digital Archive’s rich source for supporting evidence for their assignments. Through the Digital Archive, many of Dr. Patterson’s students [could] better inform themselves and their academic work.”

Saleana K. Copeland, Junior, History | Clark Atlanta University
2021-2022 Student Ambassador



The HistoryMakers Digital Archive

In 2020, COVID-19 and the resultant challenges to society and higher education created significant demands and needs for innovation, increasing use of online learning and asynchronous instruction. The HistoryMakers Digital Archive provides real-life narratives that establish a roadmap for navigating and making sense of many of the most contentious issues of today. It also provides students rich primary source content for classroom learning in the form of a unique electronic resource.

The HistoryMakers Digital Archive makes accessible the first-person video oral history testimonies of *The HistoryMakers*, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization headquartered in Chicago, Illinois. With more than 11,000 hours of searchable content, *The HistoryMakers Digital Archive’s* highlighted transcripts and curated story segments make searching the collection both efficient and effective. Over 3,300 interviews of African American leaders from across a variety of disciplines—including the arts, business, civic engagement, education, entertainment, law, media, medicine, STEM, the military, music, politics, religion, sports, and fashion & beauty—are featured in *The HistoryMakers* Collection. Interviews last two to fifteen hours in length and have been conducted in 413 U.S. cities and towns—as well as in international locations like Mexico, the Caribbean, and Norway. With recollections dating back to the 1700s, the archive contains thousands of subjects including business, technology, the Great Migration, foodways, poetry, The Black Arts Movement, funeral rites, public health, modern music, LGBTQ, science, theology, integration, shifts in beauty culture, black feminism, and more. *The HistoryMakers* archives also contain the stories of **Alonzo Pettie**, the oldest living black cowboy, and statesman **General Colin Powell**; as well as poets **Nikki Giovanni** and **Sonia Sanchez**. Also included are 211 of the nation’s top scientists, including **Katherine Johnson**, who was featured in the Hollywood movie *Hidden Figures*; civic leaders **C.T. Vivian** and **Marion Wright Edelman**; music icons **Berry Gordy** and **Quincy Jones**; business leaders former Amex CEO **Ken Chenault**, Merck CEO **Ken Frazier**, and former Xerox CEO **Ursula Burns**; lawyers former U.S. Attorney General **Eric Holder** and NAACP Legal Defense Fund president **Sherrilyn Ifill**, political leaders Congresswoman **Maxine Waters** and former President **Barack Obama** (when he was an Illinois State Senator); as well as *New York Times* columnist **Charles Blow**, innovative artist **Theaster Gates**, museum director **Thelma Golden**, restaurateur **Marcus Samuelsson**, and entrepreneur **Daymond John**.

In 2014, the Library of Congress became The HistoryMakers’ permanent repository. It heralded The HistoryMakers as a “one of a kind, unparalleled resource that is vitally important to the nation and the world and to those seeking a more complete record of our nation’s history and its people.”

THE HISTORYMAKERS 2024-2025 HBCU STUDENT AMBASSADOR PROGRAM SCHEDULE

<p>October 2024</p> <p>Friday, October 11, 2024:</p> <p>⇒ <i>The HistoryMakers</i> 2024-2025 HBCU Student Ambassador applications due</p> <p>Week of October 14, 2024:</p> <p>⇒ Zoom interviews</p> <p>Friday, October 18, 2024:</p> <p>⇒ <i>The HistoryMakers</i> 2024-2025 HBCU Student Ambassador applicants informed of decision</p> <p>Friday, October 25, 2024:</p> <p>⇒ <i>The HistoryMakers</i> 2024-2025 HBCU Student Ambassadors publicly announced</p>	<p>November 2024</p> <p>⇒ Introductory Zoom session</p> <p>⇒ <i>The HistoryMakers</i> 2024-2025 HBCU Student Ambassadors Weekly Zoom Meetings</p> <p>⇒ Bi-monthly blog posts</p>	<p>December 2024</p> <p>⇒ <i>The HistoryMakers</i> 2024-2025 HBCU Student Ambassadors Weekly Zoom Meetings</p> <p>⇒ Bi-monthly blog posts</p>
<p>January 2025</p> <p>⇒ <i>The HistoryMakers</i> 2024-2025 HBCU Student Ambassadors Weekly Zoom Meetings</p> <p>⇒ Bi-monthly blog posts</p>	<p>February 2025</p> <p>⇒ <i>The HistoryMakers</i> 2024-2025 HBCU Student Ambassadors Weekly Zoom Meetings</p> <p>⇒ Presentation at <i>The HistoryMakers'</i> annual Higher Education Advisory Board meeting showcasing what you have learned and accomplished as a Student Ambassador.</p> <p>⇒ Bi-monthly blog posts</p>	<p>March 2025</p> <p>⇒ <i>The HistoryMakers</i> 2024-2025 HBCU Student Ambassadors Weekly Zoom Meetings</p> <p>⇒ Bi-monthly blog posts</p>
<p>April 2025</p> <p>⇒ <i>The HistoryMakers</i> 2024-2025 HBCU Student Ambassadors Weekly Zoom Meetings</p> <p>⇒ Bi-monthly blog posts</p> <p>⇒ Final Zoom Meeting</p>		

THE HISTORYMAKERS SUBSCRIBING INSTITUTIONS—HBCUS

Alabama

Alabama A&M University-
Huntsville
Tuskegee University- Tuskegee

District of Columbia

Howard University

Florida

Florida A&M University-
Tallahassee

Georgia

Clark Atlanta University- Atlanta
Morehouse College- Atlanta
Morehouse School of Medicine-
Atlanta
Spelman College- Atlanta

Louisiana

Dillard University-New Orleans
Grambling State University-
Grambling
Southern University and A&M
College- Baton Rouge
Xavier University- New Orleans

Maryland

Bowie State University- Bowie
Morgan State University- Baltimore

Mississippi

Mississippi Valley State University-
Itta Bena

North Carolina

Johnson C. Smith University-
Charlotte
North Carolina A&T State
University- Greensboro

Pennsylvania

The Lincoln University- Lincoln
University

Tennessee

Fisk University- Nashville
Tennessee State University-
Nashville

Texas

Prairie View A&M University-
Prairie View
Texas Southern University-
Houston
Wiley University- Marshall

Virginia

Hampton University- Hampton
Norfolk State University- Norfolk
Virginia State University-
Petersburg