

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with A'Lelia Bundles

PERSON

Bundles, A'Lelia Perry

Alternative Names: A'Lelia Bundles;

Life Dates: June 7, 1952-

Place of Birth: Chicago, Illinois, USA

Residence: Washington, D.C.

Occupations: Author; Television News Producer

Biographical Note

Award-winning news producer and author A'Lelia Bundles was born in Chicago, Illinois, on June 7, 1952. After graduating high school in Indianapolis, Bundles went on to Harvard College, earning her A.B. in 1974, and then to the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, earning an M.S.J. in 1976.

During her senior year at Harvard, Bundles began working at WTLC-FM as a news anchor. Later that same year she was hired by DuPont as an assistant in

the public affairs department, and she remained there until 1975. Upon completing her master's degree, she went to NBC News, working as a producer for several programs across the country. In 1989, Bundles went to ABC News, where she became the Washington bureau chief and the producer of ABC World News Tonight with Peter Jennings. Currently, she works with ABC as the director of talent development.

Bundles is also the author of a book, *On Her Own Ground: The Life and Times of Madam C.J. Walker*, based upon the business empire built by her great-great-grandmother. Walker was born in 1867 to freed slaves and went on to create a hair-care product to enable both herself and her saleswomen to become self-sufficient. The work has earned Bundles much praise, including a 2001 New York Times Notable Book mention and the 2001 Letitia Woods Brown Book Prize from the Association of Black Women Historians. She has had articles published in a wide variety of magazines and journals as well, including *The New York Times Book Review*, *Essence*, and *Fortune Small Business*.

Bundles serves as vice chairperson of the Madam Walker Theatre Center, chairperson of the National Association of Black Journalists Authors Showcase, and past president of the Radcliffe College Alumnae Association. She has also won an Emmy.

Related Entries

North Central High School [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

High School

Harvard University [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

A.B.

Columbia University [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

M.S.J.

Indiana University [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

Doctor of Humane Letters

ABC [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from ? to ?]

Director of Talent Development

WTLC Radio [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1974 to ?]

DuPont Company [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1974 to 1975]

Staff Assistant

NBC News [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1976 to ?]

Producer

ABC News [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1989 to ?]

Washington Bureau Chief

Radcliffe College Alumnae Association [MEMBEROF]

[from ? to ?]

President

Madame Walker Theatre Center of Indianapolis

[MEMBEROF]

[from ? to ?]

Vice Chair

Madame Walker Spirit Awards National Advisory

Board [MEMBEROF]

[from ? to ?]

Chair

**Board of Governors of the Indiana University Center
on Philanthropy** [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

National Association for Black Journalists [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

Chair of the Authors Showcase