Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Al-Tony Gilmore

Gilmore, Al-Tony

Alternative Names: Al-Tony Gilmore;

Life Dates: June 29, 1946-

Place of Birth: Spartanburg, South Carolina, USA

Residence: Bethesda, MD

Occupations: Federal Education Administrator;
History Professor

Biographical Note

National educational executive Al-Tony Gilmore was born in Spartanburg, South Carolina. He was raised in the South and in Youngstown, Ohio by his father, an education administrator; and, his mother, a homemaker. Gilmore attended North Carolina Central University and graduated with his B.A. and M.A. degree in American History in 1968 and 1969, respectively. He went on to earn his Ph.D. in United States social history from the University of Toledo in
In 1972, Gilmore joined the Howard University Department of History as an associate professor of American history. He also worked at the Institute for Services to Education where he developed social science curriculum. In 1978, Gilmore was appointed as professor of history and director of the University of Maryland, College Park Afro-American Studies Program. While there, he pioneered lectures and courses in the history and politics of African American athletes, popular culture, and African American autobiography. In 1982, he was selected as chief consultant for the National African American Museum in Ohio. He later served as a consultant for the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), the California State General Assembly, and the U.S. National Archive.

In 1986, Gilmore became the manager and senior program officer for the Leadership, Training and Development Programs at the National Education Association (NEA). He was instrumental to the success of the Minority Leadership Training Program, the Diversity Training Program, and the Women’s Leadership Training program. Gilmore also produced the project titled, “Honoring Our Legacy of Inclusion: The Merger of NEA and the American Teachers Association.” He also served as historian and Archivist Emeritus of NEA, and as a visiting scholar at George Washington University.


Gilmore has served on the board of directors of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) where he served on the board of the Journal of African American History, the Quality Education for Minorities Project (QEM), and the American Historical Association. He has lectured in the United States at Morehouse College, Harvard University, Brown University, Hampton University, and internationally in Germany, Israel, Korea, and Japan.

Gilmore lives in Bethesda, Maryland. He travels and vacations friends and family in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

Al-Tony Gilmore was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on November 21, 2003.

Related Entries

Cumming Street Junior High School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Carver High School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

North Carolina Central University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

M.A.
University of Toledo [Student Of]  
[from ? to ?]

Ph.D.

North Carolina Central University [Student Of]  
[from ? to ?]

B.A.

National Education Association [Employee Of]  
[from 1979 to 1979]

National Afro-American Museum and Cultural Center [Employee Of]  
[from 1982 to ?]

Chief Consultant