

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Terrie Williams

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Williams, Terrie
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Terrie Williams,
Dates:	September 17, 2004
Bulk Dates:	2004
Physical Description:	5 Betacame SP videocassettes (2:30:26).
Abstract:	Author and public relations chief executive Terrie Williams (1954 -) was the founder of the Terrie Williams Agency, a public relations firm that has represented notables such as Miles Davis, Eddie Murphy, Janet Jackson, Russell Simmons, and Johnnie Cochran. In addition to her public relations work, Williams is also involved in youth social work; she has authored motivational books that are used by schools nationally, and co-founded the Stay Strong Foundation, a nonprofit aimed at helping teens. Williams was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on September 17, 2004, in New York, New York. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2004_165
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Author and public relations entrepreneur Terrie Williams was born in Mt. Vernon, New York, on May 12, 1954. Williams attended Pennington Grade School, where one of her fellow classmates was actor Denzel Washington, and graduated in three

years from Mt. Vernon High School in 1971. Williams attended Brandeis University following high school, earning her B.S. degree in psychology in 1975, and then attended Columbia University, where she earned her master's degree in social work.

After working for a number of years as a social worker, Williams founded the Terrie Williams Agency in 1988, after meeting Miles Davis in the hospital. Williams began representing Davis, and her next big client, Eddie Murphy; since that time, she has gone on to represent superstars such as Janet Jackson, Russell Simmons, Johnnie Cochran, Stephen King, and Sally Jesse Raphael, as well as organizations such as HBO and Essence Communications. The Terrie Williams Agency went on to become a division of PGP Communications, where Williams served as vice chair.

Williams authored three books: *The Personal Touch: What You Really Need to Succeed in Today's Fast-paced Business World*, *Stay Strong: Simple Life Lessons for Teens* and *A Plentiful Harvest: Creating Balance and Harmony Through the Seven Living Virtues*. *Stay Strong* has been used nationwide in schools, and was the catalyst for launching the Stay Strong Foundation, a nationwide non-profit organization for youth.

Williams was a highly sought-after speaker, speaking at engagements with Fortune 500 companies, universities, and numerous other organizations. Williams is the recipient of several awards, including being the first African American to win the New York Women in Communications Matrix Award, and the Citizen's Committee for the New York Marietta Tree Award for Public Service.

In 1998, Williams donated her papers to the Moorland-Spingarn Research Center at Howard University, making them the first gift of papers donated in the public relations field.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Terrie Williams was conducted by Larry Crowe on September 17, 2004, in New York, New York, and was recorded on 5 Betacame SP videocassettes. Author and public relations chief executive Terrie Williams (1954 -) was the founder of the Terrie Williams Agency, a public relations firm that has represented notables such as Miles Davis, Eddie Murphy, Janet Jackson, Russell Simmons, and Johnnie Cochran. In addition to her public relations work, Williams is also involved in youth social work; she has authored motivational books that are used by schools nationally, and co-founded the Stay

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

Information about the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview, as well as correspondence with the interview subject 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:

Williams, Terrie

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews
Williams, Terrie--Interviews

African American businesspeople--Interviews

African American women public relations personnel--Interviews

Youth workers--Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Terrie Williams Agency

Occupations:

Author

Public Relations Chief Executive

HistoryMakers® Category:

MediaMakers

Administrative Information

Custodial History

Interview 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® Video Oral History Interview with Terrie Williams, September 17, 2004. The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection, 1900 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

Processing Information

This interview collection was processed and encoded on 2/5/2020 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 track of the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview.

Detailed Description of the Collection

Series I: Original Interview Footage

Video Oral History Interview with Terrie Williams, Section
A2004_165_001_001, TRT: 0:30:41 2004/09/17

African American businesspeople--Interviews.

African American women public relations personnel--
Interviews.

Youth workers--Interviews.

Video Oral History Interview with Terrie Williams, Section
A2004_165_001_002, TRT: 0:30:21 2004/09/17

Video Oral History Interview with Terrie Williams, Section
A2004_165_001_003, TRT: 0:29:41 2004/09/17

Video Oral History Interview with Terrie Williams, Section
A2004_165_001_004, TRT: 0:29:56 2004/09/17

Video Oral History Interview with Terrie Williams, Section
A2004_165_001_005, TRT: 0:29:47 2004/09/17