

# Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Charles D. Moody, Sr.

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## Overview of the Collection

<b>Repository:</b>	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
<b>Creator:</b>	Moody, Charles D. (Charles David), 1932-
<b>Title:</b>	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Charles D. Moody, Sr.,
<b>Dates:</b>	October 1, 2004
<b>Bulk Dates:</b>	2004
<b>Physical Description:</b>	6 Betacame SP videocassettes (2:35:21).
<b>Abstract:</b>	Academic administrator Charles D. Moody, Sr. (1932 - 2019) founded the National Alliance of Black School Educators, is the vice provost emeritus and professor emeritus at the University of Michigan, and worked as Superintendent of Searches for Hazard Young and Attea. Moody was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on October 1, 2004, in Las Vegas, Nevada. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
<b>Identification:</b>	A2004_190
<b>Language:</b>	The interview and records are in English.

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## Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Educator and college administrator Charles Moody, Sr. was born August 30, 1932 in East Baton Rouge Parish, Louisiana. His mother, Rosetta, came from Woodeville, Mississippi and his father, James N. Moody, came from Belize. Moody attended Scott Street and Perkins Elementary Schools; finished the 8th grade at McKinley High School and graduated from Southern University Lab High School in 1950. Earning his B.S. degree in chemistry from Central State University in 1954, Moody received a commission in the United States Army. After basic training, he married Christella Parks, also an educator and Central State graduate. In 1961, Moody received his master's of science education degree from Chicago Teachers College. He received his Ph.D. in educational administration from Northwestern University in 1971.

After starting his career as teacher, in 1968 Moody became superintendent of the Harvey, Illinois Public Schools. Joining the education faculty of the University of Michigan in 1970, Moody worked as chairman of the School of Education Specialists, School of Education, director of the Program for Educational Opportunity in 1970, director of the Project for Fair Administration of School Discipline in 1975, director of the Center for Sex Equity in Schools in 1981, vice provost for Minority Affairs in 1987, executive director of the South African Initiative Office and in 1997, he became vice provost emeritus and professor emeritus. Moody worked as superintendent of searches for Hazard Young and Attea from 1987 to 2002.

Moody's 1970 dissertation on black superintendents resulted in the formation of the National Alliance of Black School Educators, (NABSE.) Today, NABSE has 6,000 members and 125 affiliates across the United States. Honored as NABSE founder, and as a distinguished graduate of Central State University and Northwestern University, Moody lives in retirement with his wife in Las Vegas, Nevada. The Charles D. Moody and Christella D. Moody South African Initiative Fund was established in their honor to actively involve the University of Michigan community with the development of South Africa. The University of Michigan established the Charles

D. Moody, Sr. Collegiate Professorship in Psychology and Education in September 2011.

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## Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Charles D. Moody, Sr. was conducted by Larry Crowe on October 1, 2004, in Las Vegas, Nevada, and was recorded on 6 Betacame SP videocassettes. Academic administrator Charles D. Moody, Sr. (1932 - 2019) founded the National Alliance of Black School Educators, is the vice provost emeritus and professor emeritus at the University of Michigan, and worked as Superintendent of Searches for Hazard Young and Attea.

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## 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®.

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## 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.

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## Controlled Access Terms

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

### Persons:

Moody, Charles D. (Charles David), 1932-

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

### Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Moody, Charles D. (Charles David), 1932---Interviews

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## Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

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The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

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University of Michigan. School of Education

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## Occupations:

Academic Administrator

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## HistoryMakers® Category:

EducationMakers

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## 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 Charles D. Moody, Sr., October 1, 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 5/30/2023 by The HistoryMakers® staff. The finding aid was created adhering to the following standards: DACS, AACR2, and the Oral History Cataloging Manual (Matters 1995).

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## 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.

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## Detailed Description of the Collection

### Series I: Original Interview Footage

Video Oral History Interview with Charles D. Moody, Sr., Section A2004\_190\_001\_001, TRT: 0:30:12 ?

Charles D. Moody, Sr. was born on August 30, 1932 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana to Rosetta Hall Moody and James Moody, Sr. His mother was born in Woodville, Mississippi. Her brother Wesley Hall was an African Methodist Episcopal minister and her brother H. G. Hall was the vice president of the Chicago Metropolitan Mutual Assurance Company, founder of the Negro American League, and manager of the Chicago American Giants baseball team. Moody's father migrated from British Honduras at seventeen years old. After attending New Orleans University in Louisiana, he became the Jeanes Supervisor for the West Baton Rouge Parish. Moody grew up with his seven brothers and sisters on a predominantly black street. Housing segregation was not incredibly stark, but he could only play with white children while in the neighborhood. Moody remembers following his oldest brother, Albert, around, and being greeted with candy when his father came home from work.

Video Oral History Interview with Charles D. Moody, Sr., Section A2004\_190\_001\_002, TRT: 0:30:30 ?

Charles D. Moody, Sr. remembers traveling long distances to attend Scott Street Elementary School and Perkins Road Elementary School in Baton Rouge, Louisiana during the days of segregated schooling. As the youngest of eight successful siblings, Moody was held to high standards at school. All of his brothers served in the U.S. Army, including his brother, George Moody, who also played the saxophone with Otis Redding. His oldest brother's wife, Estella Martin Moody, taught him how to spell by rewarding him with kisses on the cheek. Despite his stubbornness and outspoken attitude, Moody succeeded in school. He attended McKinley Senior High School for a year before transferring to Southern University Laboratory School. He played football, and participated in Bayou Boys State and the Hi-Y Club. When he graduated high school in 1950, his uncle, H. G. Hall, helped him travel to Wilberforce, Ohio, where Moody attended the College of Education and Industrial Arts at Wilberforce.

Video Oral History Interview with Charles D. Moody, Sr., Section A2004\_190\_001\_003, TRT: 0:30:39 ?

Charles D. Moody, Sr. entered Central State College in Wilberforce, Ohio in 1950. He remembers President Charles H. Wesley, Professors Wilhelmina Robinson and Isaac 'Uncle Sapp' Lane, and Charles Young's wife, Ada Mills Young, who was the house mother of Moody's fraternity, Omega Psi Phi. He earned his B.S. degree in 1954 and married Christella Parks, whom he had met at Central State, before deploying to the U.S. Army in Panama. They moved to Chicago, Illinois, where Moody earned his M.A. degree in 1961 from the Chicago Teacher's College and a Certificate for Advanced Study from the University of Chicago. He taught in the Posen-Robbins School District and the Evanston School District before becoming superintendent of schools in Harvey, Illinois in 1968. He was admitted to the Ph.D. program at Evanston's Northwestern University, where his dissertation focused on African American superintendents. Through the Metropolitan Applied Research Center, Moody organized the first convention of black superintendents.

Video Oral History Interview with Charles D. Moody, Sr., Section A2004\_190\_001\_004, TRT: 0:31:14 ?

Charles D. Moody, Sr. attended Central State College with Dr. Arthur Edward Thomas and Harold Charles, who was later known as Baba Hanibal Afrik. Moody collaborated with both educators and HistoryMaker Barbara A. Sizemore in his work with the National Alliance of Black School Educators. NABSE emphasized mentoring students and young professionals within the organization. NABSE also adopted Ronald Edmond's philosophy that all children can learn.

Moody reflects on the changing demographics and trends in hiring school superintendents. He also explains the importance of holding high expectations for every student. In 1970, Moody joined the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor as a faculty member and as director of the Program for Educational Opportunity. In this position, he worked on desegregation plans in school districts across five states. He developed a four-part theory for achieving integration in schools. Moody also describes the difference between desegregation and integration.

Video Oral History Interview with Charles D. Moody, Sr., Section A2004\_190\_001\_005, TRT: 0:29:48 ?

Charles D. Moody, Sr. was named vice provost for minority affairs at the University of Michigan after students demonstrated in 1987 for the creation of such a role. They also called for Moody to be appointed to the position. As vice provost for minority affairs, he advocated for students of color. In 1991, he was selected as the executive director of the university's South Africa Initiative Office. He and his wife, Christella Moody, traveled to South Africa's University of Durban Westville, where they fostered relationships that strengthened the University of Michigan's African Studies department. In 1991, they saw Nelson Mandela speak in Detroit, Michigan, and they met with him the following year. After retiring in 1996, the couple moved to Los Vegas, Nevada. Moody shares his thoughts about affirmative action, and his hopes and concerns for the African American community. He concludes by reflecting upon his legacy, his parents' support, and how he would like to be remembered.

Video Oral History Interview with Charles D. Moody, Sr., Section A2004\_190\_001\_006, TRT: 0:02:58 ?

Charles D. Moody, Sr. narrates his photographs.

Video Oral History Interview with Charles D. Moody, Sr., Section A2004\_190\_Moody\_Charles\_06\_MED\_001, TRT: