

# Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Christopher R. Cloud

PERSON

Cloud, Christopher R., 1969-

**Alternative Names:** Christopher R. Cloud;  
Christopher R. Cloud

**Life Dates:** April 15, 1969-

**Place of Birth:** Washington, District of Columbia,  
USA

**Residence:** Farmington, CT

**Work:** West Hartford, CT

**Occupations:** Cultural Heritage Chief Executive

## Biographical Note

Christopher R. Cloud, president and chief executive officer of AMISTAD America, was born on April 15, 1969, in Washington, D.C., to Diane and Sanford Cloud. After moving to Hartford, Connecticut, Cloud attended Rembrook School, Noah Webster School, and Kingswood Oxford Junior High School. Graduating

from Northwest Catholic High School in Hartford, and then Howard University in Washington, D.C., Cloud earned his B.A. degree in Political Science in 1991.

From 1991 to 1992, Cloud worked as an associate for the Council on Foundations. Later, while serving as a legislative aid for Connecticut State Senator Eric D. Coleman, he researched and wrote the legislation that created the first African American Males Taskforce and the Connecticut African American Affairs Commission. In 1997, Cloud was appointed project manager for AMISTAD America in New Haven; there he conceived and designed Freedom Schooner Amistad, a human rights education project which recreates the Spanish ship made famous by an 1839 slave revolt. Promoted to executive director in 1999, Cloud serves as president and chief executive officer.

Cloud is a fellow of the Terry Sanford Institute of Public Policy at Duke University; the Emerging Leaders Programme in Cape Town, South Africa; the Coro Midwestern Center in St. Louis, Missouri; the Amistad Sierra Leone Friendship Delegation; and the Amistad America/University of Havana Delegation. In 2004, Cloud received a Tourism Ambassador of the Year Award from the Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism. A board member of the Connecticut Institute for the Blind; the Bushnell Theatre; American Sail Training Association; and the Greater Hartford Convention and Visitor's Bureau, Cloud also received the National Maritime Historical Society, American Ship Trust Award in 2002.

## **Related Entries**

**Noah Webster Micro Society School** [STUDENTOF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Northwest Catholic High School** [STUDENTOF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Kingswood-Oxford School** [STUDENTOF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Renbrook School** [STUDENTOF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Howard University** [STUDENTOF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Council on Foundations** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 1991 to 1992]

**Associate**

**Office of State Senator Eric D. Coleman** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 1993 to 1997]

**Legislative Aide**

**Amistad America** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 1997 to ?]

**President & CEO**