

# Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Dr. Floyd Malveaux

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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>	Malveaux, Floyd
<b>Title:</b>	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Floyd Malveaux,
<b>Dates:</b>	June 27, 2012
<b>Bulk Dates:</b>	2012
<b>Physical Description:</b>	6 Uncompressed MOV video files (2:59:11).
<b>Abstract:</b>	Allergist and immunologist, physician, and academic administrator Dr. Floyd Malveaux (1940 - ) was dean of the Howard University College of Medicine from 1995 to 2005. He is an expert on immunology, specifically asthma and allergies and became head of the Merck Childhood Asthma Network, Inc. in 2005. Malveaux was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on June 27, 2012, in Washington, District of Columbia. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
<b>Identification:</b>	A2012_053
<b>Language:</b>	The interview and records are in English.

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## Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Allergist and Immunologist, physician and academic administrator Dr. Floyd J. Malveaux was born on January 11, 1940 in Opelousas, Louisiana to Inez Lemelle and Delton Malveaux. His mother was a math and science teacher and both parents supported his interest in science and aspirations for higher education. Malveaux did well in school, placing first in a state-wide math competition for minority high school students. He received degrees in biological sciences: his B.S. degree from Creighton University in 1961 and his M.S. degree from Loyola University, New Orleans in 1964. Malveaux went on to Michigan State University where he obtained his Ph.D. degree in microbiology and public health in 1968.

He then served as associate professor of microbiology for Howard University College of Medicine (HUCM), coordinator of the Science Program from District of Columbia Public Schools and coordinator of microbiology for Howard University College of Dentistry. Malveaux received his M.D. degree from Howard University College of Medicine in 1974 where he became interested in immunology, specifically allergic reactions and asthma. Malveaux continued specializing in these areas during his postgraduate studies at Washington Hospital Center and Johns Hopkins University. In 1978, he rejoined the faculty of Howard University College of Medicine serving as an associate professor of medicine. At HUCM,

Malveaux created a training program for allergists/immunologists based on his work in allergies and immunology. In 1986, Malveaux was invited to join the faculty at Johns Hopkins University and also founded the Urban Asthma and Allergy Center in Baltimore, Maryland. In 1989, he returned to HUCM as Chair of the Microbiology Department. His work led to the Community Outreach for Asthma Care, a new treatment program at HUCM. In 1995, Malveaux became the dean of HUCM, forcing him to give up his clinical practice. In 1996, Malveaux was named interim vice president for health affairs at HUCM and served as the principal investigator for a grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for HUCM to establish a major Clinical Research Center. He co-authored a study in 1997 that demonstrated a strong correlation between cockroaches and an increase of asthma in inner city children. Malveaux retired from HUCM in 2005 and joined the Merck Childhood Asthma Network, Inc. as its head.

Malveaux is the recipient of several awards including election to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies; the National Institutes of Health's (NIH) National Research Service Award; the Outstanding Faculty Research Award from Howard University and the Legacy of Leadership Award from Howard University Hospital. He has served as a member of many professional organizations including on the board of directors for the American Lung Association; the National Allergy and Infectious Diseases Advisory Council and the American Academy of Allergy. He worked extensively with the National Medical Association holding a number of positions including member of the board of trustees and first chair of the Allergy/Immunology Section. Malveaux is a member of the Alpha Omega Honor Medical Society. He and his wife have four adult children: Suzette, Suzanne, Courtney and Gregory.

Dr. Floyd Malveaux was interviewed by 'The HistoryMakers' on March 6, 2012.

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## **Scope and Content**

This life oral history interview with Dr. Floyd Malveaux was conducted by Larry Crowe on June 27, 2012, in Washington, District of Columbia, and was recorded on 6 Uncompressed MOV video files. Allergist and immunologist, physician, and academic administrator Dr. Floyd Malveaux (1940 - ) was dean of the Howard University College of Medicine from 1995 to 2005. He is an expert on immunology, specifically asthma and allergies and became head of the Merck Childhood Asthma Network, Inc. in 2005.

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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:**

Malveaux, Floyd

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

### **Subjects:**

African Americans--Interviews

Malveaux, Floyd--Interviews

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African American biologists--Interviews.

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African American physicians--Interviews.

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African American college administrators--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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Merck Institute for Therapeutic Research

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Howard University

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### **HistoryMakers® Category:**

ScienceMakers

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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 Dr. Floyd Malveaux, June 27, 2012. The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection, 1900 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

### **Processing Information**

This interview collection was processed and encoded on 8/1/2014 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, June 27, 2012**

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Floyd Malveaux, Section A2012\_053\_001\_001,  
TRT: 1:29:06 2012/06/27

Floyd Malveaux was born January 11, 1940 in Opelousas, Louisiana. His mother, Inez Lamelle Malveaux was born in 1915 in Opelousas, Louisiana. Her family was of French and Italian descent. Inez Lamelle Malveaux was the oldest of six children and was raised on a farm. She was passionate about education, and actually opposed her father when he instructed her to leave high school to help at home. Inez Malveaux finished high school and

went on to attend Leland College, on a part time basis, until she completed her undergraduate education. Floyd Malveaux's father, Delton Joseph Malveaux, was born in 1914 in St. Martinville, Louisiana. Delton Malveaux is a descendant of Jean Baptiste Malvot, who came to Louisiana from France in the 1700s and had children with a free black woman named Catherine.

African American families--Louisiana.

African American mothers--Louisiana.

African American fathers--Louisiana.

Creoles--Louisiana.

Racially mixed people--Louisiana.

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Floyd Malveaux, Section A2012\_053\_001\_002,  
TRT: 2:29:05 2012/06/27

Floyd Malveaux talks about his family history. His paternal grandfather, Lawrence Malveaux, was a self-taught physician. Lawrence Malveaux was a well-respected practitioner of herbal medicine, and would often travel to treat patients. Malveaux's father, Delton Malveaux, had severe asthma, and worked a variety of jobs. His mother, Inez Malveaux, worked as a teacher. Malveaux stayed with his maternal grandparents during the week while his parents worked. As a result, his early memories are of the farm and spending time with his grandfather. Malveaux also suffered from asthma as a child, and although he often had to be inside because of allergies and asthma, Malveaux enjoyed being outdoors. He also enjoyed playing baseball and basketball, in particular.

African American families--Louisiana.

African American physicians--Louisiana.

African American grandparents.

Childhood--Louisiana.

African American mothers--Louisiana.

African American fathers--Louisiana.

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Floyd Malveaux, Section A2012\_053\_001\_003,  
TRT: 3:29:52 2012/06/27

Floyd Malveaux describes his early education. At the age of five, Floyd Malveaux began first grade at Prairie Laurent Elementary School. The following year, he transferred to Holy Ghost Catholic School, where he went until eighth grade. Wanting to become a priest, Malveaux began attending the Immaculata Minor Seminary, where he studied Latin and received excellent training in math. After three years, Malveaux returned to Holy Ghost for his final year of high school after he decided that he no longer wanted to be a priest. Malveaux graduated from Holy Ghost Catholic School in 1957 and enrolled in Creighton University, in Omaha, Nebraska. At Creighton, Malveaux developed an interest in biology under

the mentorship of his biology professor, Dr. Cordes.

Education, Primary--Louisiana.

Education, Secondary--Louisiana.

Catholic education--Louisiana.

Creighton University.

Biology.

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Floyd Malveaux, Section A2012\_053\_001\_004,  
TRT: 4:29:57 2012/06/27

Floyd Malveaux pursued his B.S. degree from Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska. In 1961, Malveaux attended Loyola University in New Orleans, Louisiana to pursue his M.S. degree in biology. Malveaux enrolled in Michigan State University in 1963. He completed his doctoral research under the direction of Dr. Charles San Clemente. His research focused on the enzymatic activity of *Staphylococcus aureus*, and its ability to cause inflammation and tissue damage. In 1965, Malveaux married Myrna Ruiz, whom he had met when as a graduate student at Loyola University. He completed his Ph.D. degree in 1968, and then joined the faculty at Howard University and began teaching microbiology to medical students. At the suggestion of other faculty members, Malveaux began a two year program to obtain his M.D. degree to further his career.

Creighton University.

Loyola University (New Orleans, La.).

Michigan State University.

*Staphylococcus aureus*.

Marriage.

Howard University--Faculty.

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Floyd Malveaux, Section A2012\_053\_001\_005,  
TRT: 5:29:10 2012/06/27

Floyd Malveaux enrolled in a two year program to complete his M.D. degree at Howard University. During his last year, Malveaux attended the National Institutes of Health, where he worked under the direction of Alan Kaplan. It was during this time that Malveaux decided to dedicate himself to allergy and immunology. He completed his M.D. degree in 1974, and his Internal Medicine residency at the Washington Hospital Center. In 1976, he began his allergy and immunology fellowship at Johns Hopkins University, and in 1978, Malveaux returned to Howard University. He served as dean of Howard University's College of Medicine from 1995 to 2005. Malveaux has made important discoveries about the role of

basophils in asthma symptoms, and how to control their participation in the allergic reactions. He has also worked to investigate and address the health disparities of minority populations.

Howard University. College of Medicine.

National Institutes of Health (U.S.).

Kaplan, Alan

Immunology.

Johns Hopkins University.

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Floyd Malveaux, Section A2012\_053\_001\_006,  
TRT: 6:32:01 2012/06/27

Floyd Malveaux began working with Merck and Co. in 2005 to lead the Childhood Asthma Network. Here, Malveaux sought to turn research developments into real-world solutions. He worked to address health disparities within communities. Malveaux has also worked to understand the genetic factors that affect asthma and allergies. He directed the development of the Human Genome Center at Howard University in 2001. Malveaux considers his work with asthma and addressing health disparities to be his legacy. While he is encouraged by the achievement and education of the African American community, Malveaux is concerned that not enough people are giving back. Malveaux would like to be remembered as someone who worked within the community and tried to give back.

Merck & Co.

Asthma in children.

Human genome.

Howard University.

Reminiscing.