

# Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Gloria Anderson

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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>	Anderson, Gloria Long, 1938-
<b>Title:</b>	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Gloria Anderson,
<b>Dates:</b>	March 17, 2012
<b>Bulk Dates:</b>	2012
<b>Physical Description:</b>	7 uncompressed MOV digital video files (3:00:07).
<b>Abstract:</b>	Academic administrator and chemist Gloria Anderson (1938 - ) is the vice president for academic affairs at Morris Brown College. She studied the chemistry of Fluorine-19 and its use as a chemical marker. Anderson was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on March 17, 2012, in Atlanta, Georgia. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
<b>Identification:</b>	A2012_098
<b>Language:</b>	The interview and records are in English.

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## Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Chemist and academic administrator Gloria Long Anderson was born on November 5, 1938 in Altheimer, Arkansas to sharecroppers Charley Long and Elsie Lee Foggie. As one of six children, Anderson was expected to assist with farm chores, though her parents never let farm duties get in the way of education. Anderson graduated from Altheimer Training High School in 1954 and then attended Arkansas A&M and Normal College, where she received her B.S. degree in chemistry and mathematics and graduated at the top of her class in 1958. Anderson went on to earn her M.S. degree in organic chemistry from Atlanta

University in 1960 under the tutelage of her mentor, Henry C. McBay. She taught chemistry at South Carolina State College and Morehouse College between 1961 and 1964. Anderson then went on to earn her Ph.D. degree in physical organic chemistry from the University of Chicago in 1968.

Upon earning her Ph.D. degree, Anderson joined the faculty of Morris Brown College in Atlanta, Georgia as an associate professor and chair of the chemistry department. In 1973, She was promoted to an endowed chair position and named the Fuller E. Calloway professor of chemistry, earning the illustrious title again in '90, '93, '99, and '07. Beginning in 1981, Anderson spent two summers at Lockheed Georgia Corporation in Marietta, Georgia as both a research fellow and research consultant. During the summer of 1984, she served as a faculty research fellow at the Air Force Rocket Propulsion Laboratory at Edwards Air Force Base in California. From 1984 to 1989, Anderson was promoted to dean of academic affairs at Morris Brown College. She served as interim president from 1992 to 1993 and again in 1998, and from 1995 to 1997, Anderson was the dean of science and technology at Morris Brown Collge. Since 2007, Anderson has been serving as a professor of chemistry as well as vice president for academic affairs. Throughout her various academic and administrative positions, Anderson kept up her research in organic chemistry, particularly the chemistry of Fluorine-19. Her studies of chemical structure have also found use in further work on anti-viral drugs.

Anderson has worked tirelessly to improve the scientific programs at Morris Brown College. Through her efforts, the chemistry department grew, the chemistry curriculum was revitalized, and new scientific instrumentation was brought to the campus. Throughout her long career at Morris Brown College, Anderson secured more than \$1,000,000 in grants for the college's science programs and faculty. In addition to her dedication to Morris Brown College, Anderson was an involved member of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting's Board of Directors from 1972 to 1979. Throughout her career, she has received countless awards including two major awards in 2011 and patents in 2009 and 2001. Anderson lives in Atlanta, Georgia.

Gloria Long Anderson was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on 03/17/2012.

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## Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Gloria Anderson was conducted by Larry Crowe on March 17, 2012, in Atlanta, Georgia, and was recorded on 7

uncompressed MOV digital video files. Academic administrator and chemist Gloria Anderson (1938 - ) is the vice president for academic affairs at Morris Brown College. She studied the chemistry of Fluorine-19 and its use as a chemical marker.

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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:

Anderson, Gloria Long, 1938-

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

## **Subjects:**

African Americans--Interviews

Anderson, Gloria Long, 1938---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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## **Occupations:**

Academic Administrator

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Chemist

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## **HistoryMakers® Category:**

EducationMakers|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 Gloria Anderson, March 17, 2012. The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History

## 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).

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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 Gloria Anderson, Section  
A2012\_098\_001\_001, TRT: 1:30:31 2012/03/17

Gloria Anderson describes her family history. Anderson's mother, Elsie Long, was born in 1908 in Arkansas. She had a tenth grade education and worked as a domestic. Her father, Charley Long was born between 1890 and 1900 in Louisiana. He attended school through the third grade and served in World War I, and later worked as a sharecropper. Anderson describes her childhood neighborhood, her earliest memories, and talks about her early education. Anderson learned how to read from a very early age, which enabled her to skip ahead in school. She attended a schoolhouse in Cornerstone, Arkansas for her earliest education, College High School in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, and Altheimer Training School.

Affirmative action programs.

Affirmative action programs.

Affirmative action programs.

Affirmative action programs.

Affirmative action programs.

Video Oral History Interview with Gloria Anderson, Section  
A2012\_098\_001\_002, TRT: 2:29:05 2012/03/17

Gloria Anderson attended Altheimer Training High School in Altheimer, Arkansas. Anderson earned good grades throughout high school. She also enjoyed playing basketball and briefly considered a career in physical education after graduating. In 1954, Anderson enrolled at Arkansas Agricultural, Mechanical and Normal College, where she majored in chemistry. She took her first science course during her freshman year and received the highest grade point average of the entire college. Anderson was a member of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and served as president of the organization during her senior year. After earning her B.S. degree in chemistry in 1958, Anderson struggled to find opportunities for employment and graduate school. After being offered no financial support from Stanford University, and being rejected for a job at Ralston Purina Company, Anderson taught at her high school for a few months. In 1959, Anderson was accepted and received funding for Atlanta University's graduate chemistry program.

Affirmative action programs.

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Video Oral History Interview with Gloria Anderson, Section  
A2012\_098\_001\_003, TRT: 3:30:39 2012/03/17

Gloria Anderson began her graduate studies at Atlanta University in 1959. Dr. Kimuel Alonzo Huggins served as chair of the chemistry department and was Anderson's master's thesis advisor. Her master's thesis was on the development of a new three-step synthesis of butadiene, a gaseous hydrocarbon using infrared spectrometry to confirm the structures. After receiving her M.S. degree in 1961, Anderson served as a chemistry instructor at South Carolina State University in Orangeburg, South Carolina. In 1962, Anderson was appointed as a chemistry professor

and research assistant at Morehouse College. She talks about her mentor, Dr. Henry C. McBay, and her professional experiences. In 1965, Anderson began the Ph.D. chemistry program at the University of Chicago. Anderson describes her experience there.

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Video Oral History Interview with Gloria Anderson, Section  
A2012\_098\_001\_004, TRT: 4:30:11 2012/03/17

Gloria Anderson received her Ph.D. degree in organic chemistry from the University of Chicago in 1968. She shares her memories of the Civil Rights Movement and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Anderson's dissertation focused on nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectroscopy as it relates to Fluorine-19. She continued her research with Fluorine-19 at Atlanta University's Center Research Committee in 1971. In 1968, Anderson was appointed as associate professor in the chemistry department at Morris Brown College. She discusses her accomplishments at Morris Brown, the state of the chemistry department throughout her tenure, and the challenges that the college faced in later years. In 1972, Anderson was appointed by President Nixon to a six-year term on the Board of Directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

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Video Oral History Interview with Gloria Anderson, Section  
A2012\_098\_001\_005, TRT: 5:29:28 2012/03/17

Gloria Anderson served on the Board of Directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) for seven years, starting in 1972. During this time, she chaired task

forces concerned with increasing minority and women's board participation and programming employment in the U.S public broadcasting industry. In 1973, Anderson was named the Fuller E. Calloway Professor of Chemistry at Morris Brown College. During her tenure as chair, Anderson oversaw the several doctoral candidates, revised the chemistry department's curriculum, and facilitated the acquisition of new instruments and supplies for the chemistry department. Anderson discusses the significance of Morris Brown's relationship with the Atlanta University Center and the impact that its decay has had upon Morris Brown's reputation. Anderson also talks about her professional activities with the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation from 1976 to the late 1980s.

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Video Oral History Interview with Gloria Anderson, Section  
A2012\_098\_001\_006, TRT: 6:27:17 2012/03/17

From 1969 to 1992, Gloria Anderson was involved in securing more than \$6 million in grants for college and pre-college science improvement programs and faculty development programs at Morris Brown College.

Anderson was named the interim president at Morris Brown College in 1992. She resigned from her position as interim president in 1993 and was succeeded by Samuel D. Jolley. After another brief appointment as interim president in 1998, Anderson was succeeded by Dolores E. Cross, who was later indicted for the misappropriation of federal financial aid funds. Anderson talks about Morris Brown's financial hardships, decline in enrollment, and accreditation challenges. She also talks about her hopes for the college's future. In 2002, Anderson received her first patent for a chemical process to make chemical compounds. She developed three more patents, related to breast cancer, in later years. Anderson reflects upon her legacy and shares her hopes and concerns for the African



American community.

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Video Oral History Interview with Gloria Anderson, Section  
A2012\_098\_001\_007, TRT: 7:02:56 2012/03/17

Gloria Anderson talks about her family and shares how she would like to be remembered.

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