# Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Darryll Pines

## Overview of the Collection

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Repository:</th>
<th>The HistoryMakers® 1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 <a href="mailto:info@thehistorymakers.com">info@thehistorymakers.com</a> <a href="http://www.thehistorymakers.com">www.thehistorymakers.com</a></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Creator:</td>
<td>Pines, Darryll J. (Darryll John)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title:</td>
<td>The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Darryll Pines,</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dates:</td>
<td>July 13, 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulk Dates:</td>
<td>2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Description:</td>
<td>5 uncompressed MOV digital video files (2:29:57).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abstract:</td>
<td>Aerospace engineer and mechanical engineer Darryll Pines (1964 - ) is the dean of the A. James Clark School of Engineering at the University of Maryland, College Park. Pines was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on July 13, 2012, in Washington, District of Columbia. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Identification:</td>
<td>A2012_155</td>
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<tr>
<td>Language:</td>
<td>The interview and records are in English.</td>
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## Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Aerospace engineer and mechanical engineer Darryll Pines was born on August 28, 1964 in Oakland, California. received his B.S. degree in mechanical engineering from the University of California, Berkeley. He went on to receive advanced degrees in mechanical engineering from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, his M.S. degree in 1988 and his Ph.D. degree in 1992.

Pines worked for the Chevron Corporation and Space Tethers, Inc. before joining Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL)’s Advance Technology Program. At LLNL, he helped design the sensor technology of Clementine-1
spacecraft. In 1995, Pines joined the faculty of the University of Maryland (UMD) as an assistant professor. He became the director of UMD’s Sloan Scholars Program in 1996 and the director of the GEM Program in 1999. Pines has also served as chair of the Engineering Council, director of the NASA CUIP Program and director of the SAMPEX flight experiment. He took a leave of absence from 2003 to 2006 to serve as the program manager for the Tactical Technology Office and Defense Sciences Office of DARPA (Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency). In 2006, Pines became chair of UMD’s Department of Aerospace Engineering, where under his leadership, the department was ranked eighth overall among United States universities. Three years later, he was named dean of the A. James Clark School of Engineering and the Nariman Farvardin Professor of Engineering. Pines’ research focuses on structural dynamics, smart sensors, biologically inspired structures as well as the guidance and control of aerospace vehicles.

Pines was named a fellow of the Institute of Physics, the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics. He has received the NACME Alumni Circle Award and a National Science Foundation CAREER Award.

Darryl Pines was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on July 13, 2012.

**Scope and Content**

This life oral history interview with Darryll Pines was conducted by Larry Crowe on July 13, 2012, in Washington, District of Columbia, and was recorded on 5 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Aerospace engineer and mechanical engineer Darryll Pines (1964 - ) is the dean of the A. James Clark School of Engineering at the University of Maryland, College Park.

**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:

Pines, Darryll J. (Darryll John)

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews
Pines, Darryll J. (Darryll John)--Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection
Occupations:

Aerospace Engineer

Mechanical Engineer

HistoryMakers® Category:

ScienceMakers

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


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).
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 Darryll Pines, Section A2012_155_001_001, TRT: 1:29:04 2012/07/13

Darryll Pines describes his family background and his childhood. Pines was born in 1964 in Oakland, California. His mother, Maureen Foster, was born in 1940 in Liverpool, England. Pines’ maternal grandfather and grandmother had immigrated to England from Nigeria and Ireland, respectively. His father, Claude Pines, was born in 1939 in Hammond, Louisiana, and raised by foster parents. He joined the U.S. Air Force in the late 1950s, and met Pines’ mother while on duty in Liverpool. Pines’ mother worked as a book binder, and his father spent his career working at naval shipyards. Pines grew up in the blue-collar community of East Oakland, at the onset of the Black Panther Party. He describes the loss of jobs in his community, which led to the gradual deterioration of his neighborhood. Pines has an older sister and a twin brother.

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Darryll Pines describes his upbringing and education in the San Francisco Bay Area in California. While growing up in East Oakland, Pines was able to closely experience California’s left-wing political activism and Silicon
Valley’s technological advancement. He attended Markham Elementary School and St. Benedict’s Catholic School, where his favorite subject was mathematics. Owing to his mother’s insistence on a quality education for her children, Pines and his twin brother were able to attend Berkeley High School, the best public school in the state of California. Pines played basketball on the junior league and varsity teams. Encouraged by his high school math teacher, Pines participated in the Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement (MESA) program, which influenced his decision to become an engineer. In 1982, Pines began his B.S. degree in mechanical engineering at the University of California, Berkeley, where he met his professional mentor, Daniel Mote.

Video Oral History Interview with Darryll Pines, Section A2012_155_001_003, TRT: 3:29:35 2012/07/13

Darryll Pines pursued his B.S. degree in mechanical engineering at the University of California, Berkeley, where he formed lasting relationships with the African American community. After graduating from Berkeley in 1986, Pines attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge, Massachusetts, to pursue a Ph.D. focusing on control systems for space structures, under the mentorship of Andy von Flowtow. Pines’ experience at MIT proved to be invaluable to his professional career. Inspired by his MIT colleagues’ success at creating the first human-powered aircraft, Pines later created the first human-powered helicopter with his students at the University of Maryland. After earning his Ph.D. in 1992, Pines pursued space research at Livermore National Laboratory. He married in 1993, and in 1995, moved to the University of Maryland, College Park, as an assistant professor in the school of engineering.

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Darryll Pines describes his research and administrative roles at the University of Maryland at College Park. Pines joined the faculty of the department of aerospace engineering at the University of Maryland in 1995. Over the course of his research career at Maryland, Pines has worked in collaboration with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the U.S. Department of Defense to develop technologies with applications in deep space navigation, uninhabited air vehicle systems, and nano air vehicles. Pines also played an active role in the advancement of minority students in science and engineering, through his involvement with the Sloan Foundation program and the National Consortium for Graduate Degrees for Minorities in Engineering and Science (GEM) program. From 2006 to 2009, Pines served as the chair of the department of aerospace engineering. He currently serves as the dean of the College of Engineering.

Darryll Pines reflects upon his legacy and how he would like to be remembered. As the dean of the College of Engineering at the University of Maryland at College Park, Pines encourages his students to apply their skills for society’s gain. He describes the history and future of technological evolution, and its impact on security, healthcare and energy. He believes that his legacy lies in contributing to his field such that the next generation can
progress even further. He hopes to be remembered as a big thinker in his efforts to leave the world as a better place. Pines is married, and has two children.

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