

# Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Andrew Humphrey

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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>	Humphrey, Andrew, 1970-
<b>Title:</b>	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Andrew Humphrey,
<b>Dates:</b>	October 25, 2012
<b>Bulk Dates:</b>	2012
<b>Physical Description:</b>	4 uncompressed MOV digital video files (1:53:13).
<b>Abstract:</b>	Meteorologist Andrew Humphrey (1970 - ) is an Emmy-award winning meteorologist and reporter for WDIV-TV (NBC) in Detroit, Michigan. Humphrey was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on October 25, 2012, in Detroit, Michigan. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
<b>Identification:</b>	A2012_183
<b>Language:</b>	The interview and records are in English.

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## Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Meteorologist Andrew Humphrey was born in Silver Spring, Maryland. As a child, he loved sports, math and science. His early fascination with weather caused him to earn his B.S.E. in meteorology from the University of Michigan in Ann, Arbor in 1992. He then went on to receive his M.S. degree in meteorology in February 1995 from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Under the supervision of Dr. Kerry A. Emanuel, his masters' thesis entitled "The Behavior of the Total Mass of the Atmosphere" examined a one hundred year behavior period (1890-1990) of the total mass of the atmosphere. He concluded that the total atmospheric mass decreased over this

time period.

In 1995, he started his career as a meteorologist at the local NBC affiliate WRC-TV in Washington, D.C. He also worked in Maryland as a research scientist with the Biosphere and Planetary Sciences branches of NASA Goddard Space Flight Center and at the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration's National Center for Environmental Protection. In 1996, he worked for NBC and CNBC Europe covering weather throughout Europe and North Africa. In 2000, he joined local Fox affiliate WUPW-TV in Toledo, Ohio as their chief meteorologist and served as a freelance meteorologist for CNN and CNNI in Atlanta, Georgia. In 2002, he became a meteorologist and reporter for WDIV-TV (NBC) in Detroit.

In addition to his work in meteorology, Humphrey holds numerous awards and distinctions. He received the Community Service Award from the National Association for Black Journalists (NABJ) in 2000. The Detroit City Council awarded him with the 2006 Spirit of Detroit Award for his community service. In 2009, he won an Emmy for weather anchoring from the Michigan Chapter of the National Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. While at WDIV (NBC) in Detroit, he received the American Meteorological Society (AMS) Certified Broadcast Meteorologist distinction. Humphrey also earned certification in Motion Picture Production by the Motion Picture Institute of Michigan.

He was the founder and co-chairs the Digital Journalism Task Force of the National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ); is Past President of NABJ's Detroit chapter and Board Member of FIRST (Robotics) in Michigan and the Detroit Science Center; and was an active leader and team member of the Alumni Association of the University of Michigan's Alumni Leadership Council, the Charles H. Wright African American History Museum and Cranbrook Institute of Science.

Andrew Humphrey was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on October 25, 2012.

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## Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Andrew Humphrey was conducted by Larry Crowe on October 25, 2012, in Detroit, Michigan, and was recorded on 4 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Meteorologist Andrew Humphrey (1970 - ) is an Emmy-award winning meteorologist and reporter for WDIV-TV (NBC) in Detroit, Michigan.

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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:

Humphrey, Andrew, 1970-

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

### Subjects:

## **Organizations:**

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

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The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

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## **Occupations:**

Meteorologist

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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 Andrew Humphrey, October 25, 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 2/5/2020 by The HistoryMakers® staff. The finding aid was created adhering to the following

## 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 Andrew Humphrey, Section A2012\_183\_001\_001, TRT: 1:28:41 2012/10/25

Andrew Humphrey, Jr. was born in Silver Spring, Maryland. His mother, Susanne Kriss, was born in 1945, in Shanghai, China. Humphrey's maternal grandparents, who were from Vienna, Austria, fled to China during World War II and the Nazi invasion. After the war, Humphrey's mother and grandmother immigrated to the U.S., settling on the east coast. His mother earned a degree in German at the University of Maryland. She spent her career working at the National Library of Medicine as an information scientist. Humphrey's father, Andrew Humphrey, Sr., was born in 1927, in Jacksonville, North Carolina. He lived in North Carolina until he graduated from St. Augustine College in Raleigh. After college, he first joined the U.S. Army, and then went on to a career as a teacher and administrator in the Washington, D.C. and Montgomery County public school systems. Humphrey, Sr. obtained a graduate degree from American University in D.C.

World War, 1939-1945.

Emigration and immigration--United States.

Education--United States.

Parents--Employment--United States.

Racially mixed people--Maryland.

Video Oral History Interview with Andrew Humphrey, Section  
A2012\_183\_001\_002, TRT: 2:24:50 2012/10/25

Andrew Humphrey describes his parents, and his childhood memories in Bethesda and Wheaton, Maryland. Humphrey's interest in math, science and meteorology developed at an early age. He recalls that his interest in pursuing a career as a meteorologist stemmed from his love of the weather, and his parents' advice on picking a profession that he loved. Humphrey began his schooling at Fernwood Elementary in Bethesda, Maryland, and then moved to Arcola Elementary, when he and his family moved to Wheaton, Maryland. He attended Colonel E. Brook Lee Junior High School and John F. Kennedy High School in Silver Spring, Maryland. Throughout his schooling, Humphrey recalls having teachers who made an impression on him, and became important to him. As a teenager in high school in the 1980s, Humphrey's heroes were his parents and the entertainer, Prince, whose love and passion for his work made a deep impression on Humphrey.

Childhood--Maryland--Bethesda--1970-1990

Meteorology--Vocational guidance.

African Americans--Education--United States.

Parents--Influence.

Prince.

Video Oral History Interview with Andrew Humphrey, Section  
A2012\_183\_001\_003, TRT: 3:29:38 2012/10/25

Andrew Humphrey attended John F. Kennedy High School in Silver Spring, Maryland. He discusses the impact that the social and political events of the 1980s on his formative years. Although he loved to play football, after taking the PSAT and SAT for college, he decided that he would instead pursue a career that would accommodate his academic interests in science and mathematics. After graduating from high school in 1988, Humphrey attended the University of Michigan and pursued his B.S.E. degree in meteorology. He credits the Multicultural Engineering Programming Office as being a source of guidance during his years at the University of Michigan.

Nineteen eighties--United States.

African American high school students.

University of Michigan.

Meteorology--Study and teaching--United States.

Video Oral History Interview with Andrew Humphrey, Section  
A2012\_183\_001\_004, TRT: 4:30:04 2012/10/25

Andrew Humphrey describes his experience at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and his work as a television meteorologist. After graduating from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, in 1992, Humphrey attended MIT for his master's degree. He worked in the Earth, Atmospheric and Planetary Science (EAPS) department, under the mentorship of Dr. Kerry Emanuel, an expert in hurricanes and weather forecasting. Humphrey's research focused on the behavior of the total mass of the atmosphere. As an undergraduate, Humphrey interned at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, the National Weather Service, and Channel Four WRC television station in Washington, D.C., under the mentorship of his role model, Bob Ryan. This internship led to his first job. Humphrey currently works as a television meteorologist at Channel Four in Detroit, Michigan, and describes a typical day's work. He discusses climate change, global warming, and the lessons learned from Hurricane Katrina.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

African American television weathercasters.

Emanuel, Kerry A., 1955-

Interns (Meteorology)--United States.

Hurricane Katrina, 2005.