

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Rodney Reynolds

PERSON

Reynolds, Rodney J., 1958-

Alternative Names: Rodney Reynolds;

Life Dates: September 9, 1958-

Place of Birth: Cleveland, Ohio, USA

Residence: Mt. Vernon, NY

Occupations: Magazine Publishing Entrepreneur

Biographical Note

Magazine publisher Rodney J. Reynolds was born in Cleveland, Ohio. He attended the University of Cincinnati where he studied graphic design and advertising. Reynolds undertook his first publishing venture with a national, general purpose publication targeted towards African American men, Spectrum Magazine.

In 1992, Reynolds and Corporate Cleveland Magazine developed Minority Business, a quarterly publication where he served as publisher and editor. He went on to publish New Visions and Renaissance Magazine. He also developed Today, a magazine that focused on African American families. Reynolds founded RJR Communications, Inc. in 1992. In 1995, Reynolds, along with Forbes, Inc., began publishing American Legacy Magazine, which centered on African American history and culture. In February of 2001, RJR Communications and New Millennium Studios, founded by entertainer Timothy Reid, launched American Legacy Television, a nationally syndicated television program. Reynolds has served on the board of directors for the Mount Vernon Public Library, the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) of Central & Northern Westchester, the Harriett Tubman Home, and the Rye Country Day School. He was appointed as the diversity chairperson for the New York Blood Center - Westchester Region. In addition, Reynolds is a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.

In 1998, Reynolds received the "Forty Under 40 Award" from The Network Journal. In addition, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. honored his work with the Lillian Award. He received the Percy E. Sutton Award from the Harlem Business Alliance; the Visionary Award from the African American Men of Westchester; the National Business Leader of the Year Award from the African American Chamber of Commerce of Westchester & Rockland County; and the 2002 Triangle of Service Award from the Southeast

Regional African American Preservation Alliance. In 2004, Reynolds received the inaugural Earl G. Graves Entrepreneurial Award; and, in 2005 he was the recipient of the W.O. Walker Community Excellence Award.

Rodney J. Reynolds was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on July 13, 2013.

Related Entries

University of Cincinnati [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

N/A

Dartmouth College [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Certificate of Completion

RJR Communications, Inc. [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1986 to 1994]

President/CEO

Wesley & Associates [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 198406 to 1988]

Vice President, Account Services

Reynolds Publishing Co. [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 198809 to 199202]

President

Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

Member

Rye County Day School [MEMBEROF]
[from 2005 to 2013]

Trustee

African American Experience Fund [MEMBEROF]
[from 2005 to 2013]

Trustee

Mount Vernon Public Library [MEMBEROF]
[from 2006 to 2012]

Trustee

