

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Steve Baskerville

PERSON

Baskerville, Steve

Alternative Names: Steve Baskerville;

Life Dates: May 12, 1950-

Place of Birth: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA

Residence: Glenview, IL

Work: Chicago, IL

Occupations: Television Personality; Weatherman

Biographical Note

Broadcast meteorologist Steve Baskerville was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1950. He attended the School of Communications and Theater at Temple University and graduated from there in 1972 with his B.S. degree in communications. Later, in 2006, Baskerville earned a certificate in broadcast meteorology from Mississippi State University. He received his American Meteorological Society (AMS)

Seal of Approval in 2007.

In 1972, Baskerville began his broadcasting career and was hired by the Philadelphia School District Office of Curriculum where he hosted a children's show on public radio. He then joined KYW-TV, the NBC affiliate in Philadelphia, from 1977 to 1984. While there, Baskerville worked as a weatherman, co-hosted a morning talk show with Maurice "Maury" Povich, and hosted a daily children's program which was honored by Action for Children's Television. In 1984, Baskerville was hired by CBS as a broadcast meteorologist on their "Morning News" segment, making him the first African American network weatherman. Then, in 1987, he became the weatherman for WBBM-Channel 2 in Chicago, Illinois.

Baskerville's interest in children's programming led him to host a two-hour special, "Dealing with Dope." He also co-hosted a children's issues program for WCBS-TV titled, "What If." In addition, Baskerville has displayed his diverse skills by hosting projects such as "Thanks to Teachers," a salute to area educators; "Taste of the Taste," a half-hour live broadcast from the Taste of Chicago; the "All-City Jamboree," a high school talent competition; and "Beautiful Babies," a public service campaign.

Baskerville has been honored for excellence throughout his career. In 1999, he won an Emmy Award for the news feature series, "Best of Chicago"; and, in 2001, he was honored by the Illinois Broadcasters Association for "Best Weather Segment." Baskerville served as host for CBS 2 Chicago's Emmy-Award winning program, "Sunday! With Steve Baskerville!" He received local Emmy Awards for his work on CBS 2's 2004 broadcast of the LaSalle Bank of Chicago Marathon, and his coverage of the deadly tornado in Utica, Illinois in 2004. In addition, he received an Emmy Award in 2005 for the news feature, "Steve's Getaway Guide." In 2006, Baskerville earned

several more local Emmy Awards including the
“Outstanding Achievement for Individual Excellence.”

Baskerville and his wife live in Glenview, Illinois.
They have two children: Aaron Baskerville and Sheena
Baskerville.

Steve Baskerville was interviewed by The
HistoryMakers August 24, 2013.

Related Entries

Temple University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

B.S.

Mississippi State University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Broadcast Meteorology Certificate

KYW TV Philadelphia [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1976 to 1984]

Meteorologist/Show Host

CBS News [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1984 to 1987]

Meteorologist/Reporter

CBS News [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 198709 to ?]

Meteorologist/Reporter

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

Member

Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity (Boule) [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

Member

American Meteorological Society [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

Member

ETA [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to 2012]

Gala Committee