

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with H. Mitsy Wilson

PERSON

Wilson, H. Mitsy, 1950-

Alternative Names: H. Mitsy Wilson;

Life Dates: December 13, 1950-

Place of Birth: Georgetown, Guyana

Residence: Mission Viejo, CA

Work: Mission Viejo, CA

Occupations: Diversity Specialist

Biographical Note

Entertainment executive H. Mitsy Wilson was born on December 13, 1950 in Georgetown, Guyana. She grew up in New York, where she spent her formative years. Wilson graduated from the College of Mount Saint Vincent with her B.A. degree in sociology and social work.

In 1972, Wilson worked as a commercial coordinator

for the New York broadcast station WPIX-TV. In 1973, she was hired as a social worker for the Seamen's Society for Children and Families. Wilson went on to work for the New York Board of Education as director of counseling and special projects. In 1981, she was hired at New York Airlines, where she worked as both manager of training and consumer relations and manager of consumer affairs and baggage services until 1986. Continental Airlines acquired New York Airlines in 1986 and Wilson was promoted to director of consumer affairs and training.

In 1988, Wilson was hired as manager of management training and diversity at Times-Mirror Cable Television. She was promoted to director of leadership development and diversity at Times-Mirror Company in 1995; and, in 1999, she was named corporate vice president of leadership and organizational development. Then, in 2000, Fox Entertainment Group hired Wilson as senior vice president of diversity development, where she was responsible for development, execution and evaluation of all diversity initiatives. The appointment made her the highest-ranking African American female executive at the company. In 2005, she assumed responsibility for all diversity efforts for News Corporation. In 2011, Wilson became a founding partner of ForAfrica, an international consultancy firm specializing in leadership development solutions.

Wilson has received numerous awards, including the New York Governor's Award in 1980, the Minorities in Broadcasting's Phoenix Award in 2003, the 2006 NAACP President's Award, and the 2010 Corporate Executive of the Year Award from the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York. She is the Chairperson of Workplace Hollywood, a non-profit organization dedicated to developing, training and placing a diverse workforce in entertainment, and is a former member of the UCLA Medical Affairs Board, Nielsen Media Research African American Advisory Council, and Howard University School of

Communications Board.

Wilson lives with her husband, Greg James, and has two daughters, Meisha and Alia; a stepdaughter, Shermian; and three granddaughters, Sherine, Shermika and Esther.

H. Mitsy Wilson was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on December 20, 2013.

Related Entries

University of California, Los Angeles [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Certificate Executive Leadership

University of California, Los Angeles [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Certificate Co-Developer: African American Leadership Institute

Queens College, City University of New York
[STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Certificate

College of Mount Saint Vincent [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

B.A. in Sociology

St. Nicholas Of Tolentine High School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

High School Academic Diploma

St. Nicholas of Tolentine Elementary School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

P.S. 91- Bronx School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

St. Philip's School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Society of Seaman's Children [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1973 to 1975]

Social Worker

Board of Education [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1975 to 1981]

Director of Counseling and Special Projects

New York Airlines [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1981 to 1986]

Manager, Training and Customer Service

Continental Airlines [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1986 to 1988]

Director of Training and Customer Service

Times Mirror Company [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1988 to 1995]

Manager of Management Development

Times Mirror Company [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1995 to 2000]

Corporation Vice President

News Corp. Fox Entertainment [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 2000 to 2012]

Sr. Vice President

ForAfrica [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 2010 to ?]

Founding Partner

**National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies
(NAMIC)** [MEMBEROF]

[from 1990 to 1995]

Founding Member

Silver Wings Track Club [MEMBEROF]

[from 1990 to 2002]

Founding Member

Newspaper Association of America [MEMBEROF]

[from 1995 to 2000]

Board Member

Academy of Television Arts & Sciences [MEMBEROF]

[from 2001 to 2003]

Board Member

Workplace Hollywood [MEMBEROF]

[from 2005 to 2013]

Chair

Howard University [MEMBEROF]

[from 2005 to 2010]

Board Member, School of Communication

Team In Training (TNT) [MEMBEROF]

[from 2005 to 2006]

Marathoner. 26.2 Miles

UCLA Medical [MEMBEROF]

[from 2007 to 2011]

Board Member

Nielsen Corporation [MEMBEROF]

[from 2007 to 2010]

**Board Member, Nielsen African American
Advisory Council**

Leets Consortium [MEMBEROF]

[from 2012 to ?]

