Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Teri Agins

Agins, Teri
Alternative Names: Teri Agins;
Life Dates: November 14, 1953-
Place of Birth: Kansas City, Kansas, USA
Residence: Bronx, NY
Occupations: Journalist

Biographical Note

Journalist Teri Agins was born on November 14, 1953 in Kansas City, Kansas. Agins graduated with her B.A. degree in English and political science from Wellesley College in 1975. She received her M.A. degree in journalism from the University of Missouri.

In the 1970s, Agins was hired as an intern at the Kansas City Star and the Boston Globe. She also worked as a writer for Fairchild Publications, now Fairchild Fashion Media, in New York City in the
1970s. Agins then moved to Brazil for five years with her former husband, and worked as a freelance writer for the New York Times and Time Magazine. In 1984, she was hired as a reporter for the Wall Street Journal, where she wrote a small business column. Then, in 1989, Agins was assigned to develop the fashion beat for the Wall Street Journal, becoming one of the reporters at the paper to cover fashion from a business perspective. She was made senior special writer in 1995. Agins retired from her post at the Wall Street Journal in 2009, but continued to write freelance for the newspaper, including authoring the popular fashion column “Ask Teri.” She has also written for other publications, including Vogue, Town & Country, O: The Oprah Magazine, and Essence.


Agins has received several awards, including the Atrium Award from the University of Georgia College of Journalism and the Atlanta Apparel Mart in 1990 and 1996; the Front Page Award from the Newswomen's Club of New York in 1991 and 2002; and the Missouri Lifestyle Journalism award in 1996 and 2000. In 2004, the Council of Fashion Designers of America awarded her with the Eugenia Sheppard Award for Excellence in Fashion Journalism.

Teri Agins was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on January 16, 2013.

Related Entries

University of Missouri [STUDENTOF] [from ? to ?]
Masters Degree

Quindaro Elementary School [STUDENT OF]
[from ? to ?]

Northwest Middle School [STUDENT OF]
[from ? to ?]

Wyandotte High School [STUDENT OF]
[from ? to ?]

Wellesley College [STUDENT OF]
[from ? to ?]

Bachelors Degree

Fairchild Publications, Chicago Bureau of NY Publication [EMPLOYEE OF]
[from 1977 to 1979]

Midwest Correspondent, Daily News Record

Wall Street Journal [EMPLOYEE OF]
[from 1984 to 1995]

Reporter

Wall Street Journal [EMPLOYEE OF]
[from 1995 to 2009]

Senior Special Writer

Kansas City Star [EMPLOYEE OF]
[from 1973 to 1973]

Obituary Writer and News Desk

Boston Globe [EMPLOYEE OF]
[from 1974 to 1974]

Features Writer and General Assignment Writer

National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ) [MEMBER OF]
[from 1984 to 1990]

Member