

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Gregory Davis

PERSON

Davis, Gregory, 1948-

Alternative Names: Gregory Davis;

Life Dates: September 24, 1948-

Place of Birth: Fort Smith , Arkansas, USA

Residence: Columbus, GA

Work: Columbus, GA

Occupations: Broadcast Chief Executive

Biographical Note

Broadcasting CEO Gregory Davis was born in Fort Smith, Arkansas in September 24, 1948. He received his B.A. degree in biology from Lane College in Jackson, Tennessee. After serving in the United States Army, he returned to school and earned his master's degree from Eastern Michigan University.

Davis then began a twelve-year television career that took him to a number of major cities, including Chicago, New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Detroit. From 1982 to 1986, he worked as a National/Local Sales Manager of Multimedia Broadcasting for WLW-TV in Cincinnati, Ohio. He began his company, Davis Broadcasting Inc., in 1986, when he acquired radio stations in Columbus and Augusta, Georgia. He later purchased stations in Macon, Columbus, and Atlanta, Georgia, as well as in Charlotte, North Carolina. In 2000, Davis sold the radio stations in Charlotte and Augusta to focus on building his operations in Columbus. Davis Broadcasting Inc. comprises ten radio stations based in Columbus and Atlanta, Georgia: WFXE-FM, WEAM-FM, WIOL-FM, WIOL-AM, WOKS-AM and WKZJ-FM in Columbus, and WCHK-FM (La Mega), WCHK-AM, WLKQ-FM (La Raza), and WNSY-FM in Atlanta. Its hip-hop and R&B station, WFXE-FM (Foxye 105), has been rated the number one radio station in the Columbus market since 1993. In 2004, La Raza became Atlanta's first Spanish language FM radio station. These ten stations offer a variety of music genres, including urban contemporary, gospel contemporary, Spanish language programming, and sports.

In addition to operating several radio stations, Davis Broadcasting Inc. has hosted many annual philanthropic events. These include the Women's Empowerment Luncheon,

held each March for National Women's History Month, Family Day in the Parks, and the Needy Children's Christmas party, which provides three to four thousand needy children with gifts every Christmas. Davis also serves his community by participating on boards both locally and nationally. These include the Columbus Chamber of Commerce, Columbus Regional Hospital, United Way, Better Business Bureau, First Union Bank, and First Citizen Bank of North Carolina. He has also served on the board for the National Association of Black Owned Broadcasters, the Georgia Association of Broadcasters, and the North Carolina Association of Broadcasters.

Davis and his wife Cheryl reside in Columbus, Georgia. They have three grown children, Geniece, Michelle, and Greg, Jr.

Gregory Davis was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on February 20, 2014.

Related Entries

St. John's HeadStart Center [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

St. Anne's Academy [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Lane College [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

B.S.

University of Arkansas at Fort Smith [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

A.A.

Eastern Michigan University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

MA

WJRT-TV Pool Broadcasting [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1974 to 1978]

Account Executive

Field Communication WKBD-TV [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1978 to 1979]

Account Executive

ABC -Television WXYZ-TV [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1979 to 1981]

Account Executive

ABC - National Sales [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1981 to 1982]

Spot Sales Executive

MultiMedia-TV [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1982 to 1986]

National & Local Sales Manager

Davis Broadcasting [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1986 to ?]

President/CEO

Flint Board of Education [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 197307 to 197410]

Assistant Principal/Community School Director

Flint Board of Education [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 197006 to 1971]

Community School Director

London Central High School [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 197209 to 197306]

High School Counselor