

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with David A. Wilson

PERSON

Wilson, David A., 1977-

Alternative Names: David A. Wilson;

Life Dates: April 15, 1977-

Place of Birth: Newark, New Jersey, USA

Residence: Brooklyn, NY

Occupations: Journalist; Media Executive

Biographical Note

Journalist and media executive David A. Wilson was born in Newark, New Jersey in 1977 to Vernon and Beverly Wilson. One of ten children, he was raised in the Georgia King Village housing projects in Newark. Wilson went on to attend Rowan University in Glassboro, New Jersey. In 1997, during his sophomore year in college, he was hired as an intern at WABC-TV in New York City, where he worked on the show Like It Is and was mentored by Gil Noble. Wilson received his B.S. degree in communications from Rowan University in 1999.

Upon graduation, Wilson worked at the assignment desk for local news outlets. In 2000, he was hired at Network News Service (NNS), where he served as lead producer and oversaw newsroom operations. Wilson went on to research and develop content for the award-winning CBS News program 48 Hours. In 2005, he left his job at CBS, co-founded the film production company Three Part Media LLC, and began work on the film Meeting David Wilson, a documentary that chronicles Wilson's personal journey to find answers to today's racial disparities in America, where he served as director and writer. Meeting David Wilson premiered on MSNBC in 2008, and won the Radio-Television News Directors Association/UNITY: Journalists of Color Award.

In 2009, following the success of Meeting David Wilson, Wilson and Three Part Media founded NBC News' TheGrio.com, the first video-centric news community site devoted to providing African Americans with stories and perspectives that are underrepresented in existing national news outlets. Wilson first served as managing editor of TheGrio, and was named executive editor in 2011. In 2013, TheGrio became a division of the MSNBC cable channel.

Wilson has been honored as one of The Network Journal's 40 Under 40.

David Wilson was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on February 19, 2014.

Related Entries

Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

Milton Hershey School [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

Arts High School [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

High School Diploma

Rowan University [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

B.A.

CBS News [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from ? to 2005]

Researcher and Content Developer

Three Part Media LLC [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from ? to ?]

Co-Founder

WABC-TV [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1997 to 1997]

Intern

Network News Service [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 2000 to ?]

Lead Producer

TheGrio.com [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 2009 to 2011]

Managing Editor

TheGrio.com [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 2011 to ?]

Executive Editor