

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with A. Peter Bailey

PERSON

Bailey, A. Peter

Alternative Names: A. Peter Bailey;

Life Dates: February 24, 1938-

Place of Birth: Columbus , Georgia, USA

Residence: Washington, D.C.

Occupations: Journalist; Author

Biographical Note

Journalist and author A. Peter Bailey was born on February 24, 1938 in Columbus, Georgia to Upson and Alga Bailey. He was raised in Tuskegee, Alabama, and attended Tuskegee Institute High School, but graduated from Nuremberg American High School in Germany in 1955. Bailey served in the U.S. Army from 1956 to 1959, and went on to attend Howard University until 1961.

In 1962, Bailey moved to Harlem, New York City; and, in 1964, became a founding member of Malcolm X's Organization of Afro-American Unity (OAAU), where he was editor of the OAAU newsletter, *Blacklash*. From 1968 to 1975, he worked as associate editor for *Ebony* magazine. From 1975 to 1981, Bailey served as associate director of the Black Theatre Alliance (BTA), where he also edited the BTA Newsletter. He has also contributed articles to numerous publications including *Essence*, *Black Enterprise*, *Jet*, *The New York Times*, the *Negro Digest*, *Black World*, *The Black Collegian*, and the *New York Daily News*. He also writes a bi-monthly column for the *Trice-Edney Wire Service*.

Bailey has lectured on Malcolm X at thirty-five colleges and universities, and taught as an adjunct professor at Hunter College, Virginia Commonwealth University and the University of the District of Columbia. In addition, he has written the play, *Malcolm, Martin, Medgar*, which has been presented at several staged readings. He is the author of *Witnessing Brother Malcolm X*, *The Master Teacher: A Memoir*; *Harlem: Precious Memories*, *Great Expectations*; co-author of *Revelations: The Autobiography of Alvin Ailey* with Alvin Ailey; and co-author of *Seventh Child: A Family Memoir of Malcolm X* with Rodnell P. Collins.

Bailey served as president of the New York Association of Black Journalists from 1983

to 1985, and was a member of the Tony Awards Nominating Committee in the 1975-76 Broadway season. He also served on the board of the Bethune-DuBois Institute, and is a member of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History. Bailey has received several awards, including Lifetime Achievement awards from the National Newspaper Publishers Association and the New York Association of Black Journalists.

A. Peter Bailey was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on March 18, 2014.

Related Entries

St. Joseph Catholic School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Tuskegee Institute High School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Nurnberg American High School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

High School Diploma

Howard University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Dropped out after 2 years and got involved in the Civil Rights Movement.

The Black Theatre Alliance [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1975 to 1981]

Associate Director

Virginia Union University [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1986 to 1990]

Sports Information Director

Bethune-DuBois Institute [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1998 to ?]

Communications Consultant, Editor

Ebony Magazine [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 196811 to 199508]

Associate Editor

Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

Member

National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ) [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

Member

Capital Press Club [MEMBEROF]

[from ? to ?]

Member

Organization of Afro-American Unity Council [MEMBEROF]

[from 1964 to 1965]

Editor of the Newsletter

Tony Awards Nominating Committee [MEMBEROF]

[from 1975 to 1976]

Member

New York Association of Black Journalists [MEMBEROF]

[from 1983 to 1985]

President