

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Geoff Brown

PERSON

Brown, Geoff, 1952-

Alternative Names: Geoff Brown;

Life Dates: October 30, 1952-

Place of Birth: Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA

Residence: Oak Park, IL

Work: Chicago, IL

Occupations: Journalist

Biographical Note

Journalist Geoffrey (Geoff) Franklin Brown was born on October 30, 1952, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to George F. and Helen V. Brown. Brown attended the Episcopal Cathedral School in San Juan, Puerto Rico, and graduated from Greensburg-Salem (Pennsylvania) High School in 1970. He went on to receive his B.A. degree in English literature from Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine, in 1974.

Upon graduation, Brown returned to Pennsylvania where he was hired as a general assignment reporter for the Pittsburgh Press. He worked at the Pittsburgh Press from 1974 to 1975, and again from 1977 to 1978. He also had two stints at Jet magazine, from 1975 to 1977 and 1978 to 1980, where he held various positions, including entertainment writer, copy editor, co-managing editor and features editor. He was then hired by the Chicago Tribune in 1980 as a copy editor. Brown went on to serve as the Tribune's national/foreign news editor, north suburban bureau chief, and entertainment editor. In 1998, he was promoted to associate managing editor for entertainment; in 2000, he became associate managing editor for lifestyle/features. In 2009, Brown returned to duty as the Chicago Tribune's associate managing editor for entertainment, where he supervised the daily Arts & Entertainment, Dining, Movies and On The Town sections, plus the daily and Sunday Comics pages, and related online content. In April of 2015, Brown was named the Tribune's operations and development editor.

Brown received the Chicago Tribune's Jones-Beck Award for Outstanding Professional Performance in 1988, and was awarded a fellowship at Maynard's Institute of Journalism Education in 1989. He was also honored by Chicago's Bridge to Work program, a South Side welfare-to-work program that emphasized preparing people for getting a job as well as navigating the workplace.

Geoff Brown was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on April 25, 2014.

Related Entries

School On The Hill [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Grades 4 and 5

Episcopal Cathedral School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Grades 7-11

Greensburg-Salem High School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Grade 12

Bowdoin College [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Bachelor of Arts

Pittsburgh Press [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1974 to 1975]

General Assignment Reporter

Jet Magazine [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1975 to 1977]

**Assistant Editor; Associate Editor; Columnist;
Copy Editor; Managing Editor**

Pittsburgh Press [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1977 to 1978]

General Assignment Reporter

Jet Magazine [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1978 to 1980]

Features Editor

Chicago Tribune [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1980 to 1986]

Copy Editor

Chicago Tribune [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1986 to 1987]

Associate Headline Editor

Chicago Tribune [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1987 to 1989]

National/Foreign Copy Desk Chief

Chicago Tribune [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1989 to 1990]

National/Foreign News Editor

Chicago Tribune [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1990 to 1991]

Metro Bureau Chief (Rosemont)

Chicago Tribune [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1991 to 1992]

National/Foreign Copy Editor

Chicago Tribune [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1992 to 1993]

Overnight Page Editor

Chicago Tribune [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1993 to 1998]

Entertainment Editor

Chicago Tribune [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1998 to 1999]

Associate Managing Editor / Entertainment

Chicago Tribune [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1999 to 2005]

Associate Managing Editor / Lifestyle

Chicago Tribune [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 2005 to 2009]

Associate Managing Editor / Features

Chicago Tribune [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 2009 to ?]

Associate Managing Editor / Entertainment

National Association of Black Journalist [MEMBEROF]

[from ? to ?]

Member

NABJ - Chicago Chapter [MEMBEROF]

[from ? to ?]

Member