

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Neil Brown

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Brown, Clarence O'Neill, III, 1952-
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Neil Brown,
Dates:	June 17, 2014
Bulk Dates:	2014
Physical Description:	8 uncompressed MOV digital video files (4:07:17).
Abstract:	Businessman and lawyer Neil Brown (1952 -) was the CEO of Amsale Aberra, Inc. and coowner and founder of Anavista Entertainment, L.L.C. He also served as vice president of programming for Home Box Office (HBO). Brown was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on June 17, 2014, in New York, New York. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2014_163
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Businessman and lawyer Clarence O'Neill "Neil" Brown III was born on November 1, 1952 in Jersey City, New Jersey to Clarence Brown and Betty Bascome. After Brown's father died when he was three, his mother worked as a secretary and then became a loan officer at a bank. He attended Nishuane Elementary school, a public school in Montclair, New Jersey, and then Newark Academy, a private high school in Livingston, New Jersey. In 1974, Brown graduated from Harvard University with his A.B. degree in government. He went on to receive his M.B.A. degree from the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration and his J.D. degree from Harvard Law School in 1979.

Brown moved to New York City in 1980 and worked as an attorney with the law firm of Sherman & Sterling. In 1981, he was hired at Home Box Office (HBO), where he went on to serve as vice president of programming. In 1986, Brown and his wife, Amsale Aberra, launched Amsale Aberra, Inc., a bridal gown company generally known as Amsale, out of their New York City apartment. In 1998, he founded Anavista Entertainment, L.L.C., a music, film and television production, distribution and consulting company. Brown then became chief executive officer of Amsale in 2001, now known as The Amsale Group, and includes the three luxury bridal collections of Amsale, Christos and Kenneth Pool.

He is a member of the Sigma Pi Phi fraternity, and served as Sire Archon of Beta Zeta Boule from 2005 to 2007. Brown and his wife live in Manhattan, New York City. They have one daughter, singer-songwriter Rachel Brown.

Neil Brown was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on June 17, 2014.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Neil Brown was conducted by Julieanna L. Richardson on June 17, 2014, in New York, New York, and was recorded on 8 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Businessman and lawyer Neil Brown (1952 -) was the CEO of Amsale Abera, Inc. and coowner and founder of Anavista Entertainment, L.L.C. He also served as vice president of programming for Home Box Office (HBO).

Restrictions

Restrictions on Access

Restrictions may be applied on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of The HistoryMakers®.

Restrictions on Use

All use of materials and use credits must be pre-approved by The HistoryMakers®. Appropriate credit must be given. Copyright is held by The HistoryMakers®.

Related Material

Information about the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview, as well as correspondence with the interview subject is stored electronically both on The HistoryMakers® server and in two databases maintained by The HistoryMakers®, though this information is not included in this finding aid.

Controlled Access Terms

This interview collection is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

Persons:

Brown, Clarence O'Neill, III, 1952-

Richardson, Julieanna L. (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Brown, Clarence O'Neill, III, 1952---Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Occupations:

Lawyer

HistoryMakers® Category:

LawMakers

Administrative Information

Custodial History

Interview footage was recorded by The HistoryMakers®. All rights to the interview have been transferred to The HistoryMakers® by the interview subject through a signed interview release form. Signed interview release forms have been deposited with Jenner & Block, LLP, Chicago.

Preferred Citation

The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Neil Brown, June 17, 2014. The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection, 1900 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

Processing Information

This interview collection was processed and encoded on 5/30/2023 by The HistoryMakers® staff. The finding aid was created adhering to the following standards: DACS, AACR2, and the Oral History Cataloging Manual (Matters 1995).

Other Finding Aid

A Microsoft Access contact database and a FileMaker Pro tracking database, both maintained by The HistoryMakers®, keep track of the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview.

Detailed Description of the Collection

Series I: Original Interview Footage

- Video Oral History Interview with Neil Brown, Section A2014_163_001_001, TRT: 1:30:24 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Neil Brown, Section A2014_163_001_002, TRT: 2:29:53 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Neil Brown, Section A2014_163_001_003, TRT: 3:28:54 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Neil Brown, Section A2014_163_001_004, TRT: 4:29:27 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Neil Brown, Section A2014_163_001_005, TRT: 5:29:32 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Neil Brown, Section A2014_163_001_006, TRT: 6:36:19 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Neil Brown, Section A2014_163_001_007, TRT: 7:29:40 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Neil Brown, Section A2014_163_001_008, TRT: 8:33:08 ?