

# Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Harold Haizlip

PERSON

Haizlip, Harold C.

**Alternative Names:** Harold Haizlip; "Haizzy"

**Life Dates:** May 30, 1935-January 31, 2018

**Place of Birth:** Washington, District of Columbia, USA

**Residence:** Los Angeles, CA

**Occupations:** Educator

## Biographical Note

Educator Harold C. Haizlip was born in Washington, D.C. on May 30, 1935 to parents Allen Joshua Haizlip and Nellie Hill Haizlip. In 1953, he graduated as the valedictorian of Dunbar High School in Washington, D.C. Haizlip then attended Amherst College and graduated with honors with his B.A. degree in Latin, Greek and classical philology in 1957. He went on to earn his M.A. degree in classics and education and his Ed.D. degree in education policy and management from the Harvard Graduate School of Education. While earning his M.A. degree, Haizlip taught English and Latin at Wellesley High School and during summers was assistant director of the Harvard Newton Summer School. While pursuing his doctorate, he served as education director of Action for Boston Community Development, a Ford Foundation funded antipoverty program. Haizlip subsequently worked as an associate director of educational planning at Xerox Corporation's Basic Systems, Inc. before being hired as the headmaster of the New Lincoln School in New York City.

In 1971, Haizlip was appointed as the Commissioner of Education to the U.S. Virgin Islands for St. Thomas, St. Croix and St. John. He then worked for seven years as vice president of Manhattan Community College, City University of New York. From 1996 to 2000, Haizlip served as the western region director of Communities in Schools, Inc., where he supervised support for minority education and training in Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Oregon, and Washington. From 2000 to 2002, he served as the executive director of the "I Have A Dream" Foundation of Los Angeles and Pasadena, California. In May of 2003, Haizlip was appointed as the executive director and corporate consultant for the After School Arts Program (ASAP) of LA's BEST, where he worked until 2010 designing, funding and implementing arts residencies in Visual Arts, Music, Dance and Theatre Arts taught by professional artists to 50,000 low income students.

Haizlip has consulted for numerous organizations, including Earth Force, The Film Directors' Guild of Hollywood, the Los Angeles Unified School District, The Archdiocese and diocesan schools of Los Angeles, The Western Synod of the Lutheran Church, the University of Southern California, the University of California-Los Angeles, the Los Angeles Museum of Natural History, and the Los Angeles Museum of Science and Industry. He has served as board member of The American Museum of Natural History (NYC) and chair of the Education Outreach Committee of Southern California's Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic; as a board member of Child Advocates for Children; chair of the Multicultural Commission of the United States Environmental Protection Agency; board member of Harvey Mudd College; advisor to The Natural Guard; and board member of The New Visions Foundation of Santa Monica, California.

Haizlip lives in Los Angeles, California with his wife, Shirlee Ann Taylor Haizlip, author of the bestselling memoir *The Sweeter the Juice*. In 1999, Haizlip and his wife co-authored *In the Garden of Our Dreams: Memoirs of Our Marriage*. They have two daughters, both Yale alumnae.

Harold C. Haizlip was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on July 30, 2014.

Haizlip passed away on January 31, 2018.

## Related Entries

**George Washington Carver Elementary School** [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

**Diploma**

**Brown Junior High School** [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

**Diploma**

**Paul Laurence Dunbar High School** [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

**Diploma**

**Amherst College** [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

**B.A., Magna Cum Laude**

**Harvard Graduate School of Education** [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

**M.A. Degree**

**Harvard Graduate School of Education** [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

**Ed.D. (Doctorate of/in Education)**

**Communities in Schools** [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1996 to 2000]

**Executive Director**

**I Have A Dream Foundation** [EMPLOYEEOf]  
[from 200006 to 200207]

**Executive Director**

**LA's Best** [EMPLOYEEOf]  
[from 200306 to 201007]

**Founding Executive Director**

**Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO)** [MEMBEROf]  
[from ? to ?]

**Member and Grand (Greatest) Host**

**National HeadStart Program** [MEMBEROf]  
[from ? to ?]

**Advisory Council Member**

**U.S. Forest Service Advisory Development Program** [MEMBEROf]  
[from ? to ?]

**Advisor**

**Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity** [MEMBEROf]  
[from ? to ?]

**Brother**

**American Museum of Natural History** [MEMBEROf]  
[from 1964 to 1969]

**Board Member**

**Harvey Mudd** [MEMBEROf]  
[from 1995 to 1999]

**Board Member**

**Jubilee Consortium** [MEMBEROf]  
[from 2009 to ?]

**Board Member**

**New Vision's Foundation** [MEMBEROf]  
[from 2012 to ?]

**Board Member**