

# Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Charles Ward

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## Overview of the Collection

<b>Repository:</b>	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
<b>Creator:</b>	Ward, Charles, 1946-
<b>Title:</b>	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Charles Ward,
<b>Dates:</b>	December 13, 2015 and November 30, 2017
<b>Bulk Dates:</b>	2015 and 2017
<b>Physical Description:</b>	12 uncompressed MOV digital video files (5:44:46).
<b>Abstract:</b>	Lawyer, telecommunications executive, and nonprofit chief executive Charles Ward (1946 - ) served as Congressman Ron Dellums' Chief-of-Staff, before serving as a development officer for several San Francisco cultural institutions, including the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts. Ward was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on December 13, 2015 and November 30, 2017, in San Francisco, California. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
<b>Identification:</b>	A2015_006
<b>Language:</b>	The interview and records are in English.

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## Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Lawyer and nonprofit executive Charles Ward was born on September 20, 1946 to Francis Lewellen Crowe and Mattie Sue Branch. He received his B.A. degree from California Western University in San Diego and obtained his J.D. degree from the University of San Diego School of Law in 1971. He served as a legislative research coordinator for the founding contingent of the Congressional Black Caucus in Washington, D.C., before Congressman Ronald Dellums appointed him his Chief-of-Staff in 1971. In 1974, Ward became a staff attorney for the Federal Communications Commission.

In 1975, Ward moved to the San Francisco, where he joined the entertainment law firm of Rohan & Stepanian. That year, he also served as an administrator for the University of California, Berkeley's Summer Program for Minority Journalists. After leaving Rohan & Stepanian in 1983, Ward was named Director of Programming at Times Mirror Cable, Inc. He remained there for nine years, and helped to negotiate carriage agreements with HBO, CNN, ESPN and others, and rose to the position of Vice President of National Marketing & Programming. After leaving Times Mirror in 1992, Ward worked as an independent cable programming and book publishing consultant until 1996, when he became Director of Marketing and Corporate Sponsorships at the San Francisco Jazz Festival. Ward oversaw a campaign to rebrand the festival as SFJAZZ; helped launch a spring subscription series; instituted a corporate sponsorship program; and oversaw the distribution of six compilation albums. After leaving SFJAZZ in 2001, Ward was named Senior Vice President of Institutional Advancement at the Family Service Agency of San Francisco in 2002. In 2005, he accepted the position of Director of Development and Corporate Sponsorships for the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, where he was subsequently named Chief Development Officer.

Ward has served on the boards or advisory committees of the Museum of the African Diaspora, which opened in 2005; SF Travel, a nonprofit organization that oversees San Francisco's Moscone Center; Baycat in the Bayview-Hunters Point community; the Young Musicians Choral Orchestra at U.C. Berkeley; and the Mechanics Institute in

San Francisco's Financial District. He was also appointed by then-Mayor Willie L. Brown to serve on the San Francisco Human Rights Commission from 2001 to 2005, and by the San Francisco district attorney, Kamala Harris, to serve on the city's Ethics Commission in 2012.

Ward lives with his wife, Cheryl, in San Francisco's Pacific Heights neighborhood.

Charles Ward was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on December 13, 2015.

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## Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Charles Ward was conducted by Harriette Cole and Larry Crowe on December 13, 2015 and November 30, 2017, in San Francisco, California, and was recorded on 12 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Lawyer, telecommunications executive, and nonprofit chief executive Charles Ward (1946 - ) served as Congressman Ron Dellums' Chief-of-Staff, before serving as a development officer for several San Francisco cultural institutions, including the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts.

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## 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®.

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## 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.

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## Controlled Access Terms

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

### Persons:

Ward, Charles, 1946-

Cole, Harriette (Interviewer)

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

## Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews  
Ward, Charles, 1946- --Interviews

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## Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

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The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

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Center for the Arts at Yerba Buena Gardens

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## Occupations:

Nonprofit Chief Executive

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## HistoryMakers® Category:

CivicMakers

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## 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 Charles Ward, December 13, 2015 and November 30, 2017. 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).

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## 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.

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## Detailed Description of the Collection

### Series I: Original Interview Footage

- Video Oral History Interview with Charles Ward, Section A2015\_006\_001\_001, TRT: 1:28:10 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Charles Ward, Section A2015\_006\_001\_002, TRT: 2:27:55 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Charles Ward, Section A2015\_006\_001\_003, TRT: 3:35:01 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Charles Ward, Section A2015\_006\_001\_004, TRT: 4:27:17 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Charles Ward, Section A2015\_006\_001\_005, TRT: 5:32:00 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Charles Ward, Section A2015\_006\_001\_006, TRT: 6:30:19 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Charles Ward, Section A2015\_006\_001\_007, TRT: 7:29:39 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Charles Ward, Section A2015\_006\_002\_008, TRT: 8:29:43 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Charles Ward, Section A2015\_006\_002\_009, TRT: 9:28:28 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Charles Ward, Section A2015\_006\_002\_010, TRT: 10:28:41 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Charles Ward, Section A2015\_006\_002\_011, TRT: 11:28:56 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Charles Ward, Section A2015\_006\_002\_012, TRT: 12:18:37 ?