

# Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Roslyn Artis

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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>	Artis, Roslyn, 1970-
<b>Title:</b>	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Roslyn Artis,
<b>Dates:</b>	March 9, 2017
<b>Bulk Dates:</b>	2017
<b>Physical Description:</b>	8 uncompressed MOV digital video files (3:50:58).
<b>Abstract:</b>	Academic administrator and lawyer Roslyn Artis (1970 - ) worked as an attorney and later became the first woman president of Florida Memorial University. Artis was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on March 9, 2017, in Miami Gardens, Florida. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
<b>Identification:</b>	A2017_061
<b>Language:</b>	The interview and records are in English.

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## Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Academic administrator and lawyer Roslyn Artis was born on June 16, 1970 in Springfield, Massachusetts to Robert M. Clark and Christine E. Clark. Artis graduated from Woodrow Wilson High School in 1988 and attended West Virginia State College, where she earned her B.A. degree in political science in 1991. In 1995, Artis earned her J.D. degree from West Virginia University's College of Law. She later received her Ed.D. degree in higher education leadership and policy from Vanderbilt University in 2010. She also earned a Certificate of Fundraising Management from Indiana University, as well as a Certificate of Mastery in Prior Learning Assessment from DePaul University's School of Continuing & Professional Education.

Artis began working at Nationwide Insurance in Canton, Ohio after college. After graduating from law school, she joined the law firm of Brown and Levicoff, PLLC. In 1997, Artis then joined The Wooton Law Firm and pursued a plaintiff's practice. That same year, she worked as an adjunct professor at Mountain State University and later became director of its legal studies program in 2002. The following year, she left The Wooton Law Firm and was appointed to the position of senior academic officer for distance education at Mountain State University. In this position, Artis oversaw the university's regional campuses, which included Martinsburg, West Virginia, Orlando, Florida and Center Township, Pennsylvania. By 2006, Artis was promoted to chief advancement officer and president of the Mountain State University Foundation. In 2012, she was named provost of the university and executive vice president of the Beckley campus. Artis was appointed as interim president of Florida Memorial University in 2013, as the first woman president in school history.

Artis has been honored for her commitment to education by President Bill Clinton, who named her one of the "1,000 Points of Light" in communities across the country for public service in 1999. She was also honored by the U.S. Congressional Black Caucus, who recognized her as "A Leader in the Making" in 2000, and by the *West Virginia Executive* magazine as a "Young Gun" in 2008. Artis was also the recipient of the Martin Luther King Jr. Living the Dream Award for Community Service.

Artis was an active member of several boards and organizations, including United Way of Southern West Virginia, the YMCA of Southern West Virginia, Raleigh General Hospital Board of Trustees, Mountain State Bar Association and the West Virginia Board of Law Examiners.

Artis and her husband, Selby Artis have three children: Christopher, Jayden, and Jocelyn. She is a stepmother to Will, Wesley, Rebecca, Tawana, Darien and Nicholas.

Roslyn Artis was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on March 9, 2017.

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## Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Roslyn Artis was conducted by Harriette Cole on March 9, 2017, in Miami Gardens, Florida, and was recorded on 8 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Academic administrator and lawyer Roslyn Artis (1970 - ) worked as an attorney and later became the first woman president of Florida Memorial University.

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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:

Artis, Roslyn, 1970-

Cole, Harriette (Interviewer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

### Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews  
Artis, Roslyn, 1970- --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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## Occupations:

Academic Administrator

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## HistoryMakers® Category:

EducationMakers

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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 Roslyn Artis, March 9, 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 Roslyn Artis, Section A2017\_061\_001\_001, TRT: 1:29:13 ?  
Video Oral History Interview with Roslyn Artis, Section A2017\_061\_001\_002, TRT: 2:28:00 ?  
Video Oral History Interview with Roslyn Artis, Section A2017\_061\_001\_003, TRT: 3:32:01 ?  
Video Oral History Interview with Roslyn Artis, Section A2017\_061\_001\_004, TRT: 4:31:00 ?  
Video Oral History Interview with Roslyn Artis, Section A2017\_061\_001\_005, TRT: 5:29:45 ?  
Video Oral History Interview with Roslyn Artis, Section A2017\_061\_001\_006, TRT: 6:30:30 ?  
Video Oral History Interview with Roslyn Artis, Section A2017\_061\_001\_007, TRT: 7:28:55 ?  
Video Oral History Interview with Roslyn Artis, Section A2017\_061\_001\_008, TRT: 8:21:34 ?