

# Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Jeraldine Williams

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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>	Williams, Jeraldine, 1946-
<b>Title:</b>	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Jeraldine Williams,
<b>Dates:</b>	September 9, 2018
<b>Bulk Dates:</b>	2018
<b>Physical Description:</b>	9 uncompressed MOV digital video files (4:07:42).
<b>Abstract:</b>	Journalist and lawyer Jeraldine Williams (1946 - ) was the owner of the newspaper Capitol Outlook, in addition to practicing law for over thirty years. Williams was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on September 9, 2018, in Tampa, Florida. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
<b>Identification:</b>	A2018_182
<b>Language:</b>	The interview and records are in English.

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## Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Journalist and lawyer Jeraldine Williams was born on January 14, 1946 in Ybor City, Florida to Mildred Williams and Judge Williams. Williams graduated from George S. Middleton High School in 1963, and enrolled at the University of Florida, where she and thirteen other African American students integrated the College of Journalism. Williams received her B.S. degree in journalism and communication in 1967, and was the first African American to be awarded the Hearst Journalism Award. Upon graduating, she accepted a position as a general assignment reporter at *The St. Petersburg Times*. Williams earned her M.B.A. degree from Atlanta University in 1972.

During the early 1970s, Williams worked as an assistant manager at First Federal Savings and Loan before becoming the first African American female manager of Freedom Savings and Loan in Tampa, Florida in 1973. She also worked as an education planner and state coordinator with the Model Cities Program for the City of Tampa. Williams enrolled at the Florida State University College of Law in 1977, earning her J.D. degree in 1981. She was then hired by the Florida Department of Insurance, where she worked as a staff attorney. In 1982, she became the owner and publisher of the *Capitol Outlook* newspaper in Tallahassee, Florida. In the early 1990s, Williams moved to South Africa, where she worked as a writer for *Ebony - South Africa*. She also established Management Consultancies and conceptualized her book *Up to the Bottom* while living in Johannesburg, South Africa. Upon returning to the United States in the late 1990s, Williams practiced law with her daughter, Salesia Smith-Gordon, in Palm Beach, Florida before moving to Hillsborough County, Florida, where she worked as an attorney in the 13th Judicial Circuit Court.

Williams helped to establish the Greater Tampa Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc., and served on the board of the Bob Gilbertson Central City Family YMCA. She also served on the board of the Joshua House, Infants and Young Children of West Central Florida, Inc. and founded the East Ybor Historic & Civic Association, Inc. She was also a marathon runner, participating in a Lymphoma and Leukemia marathon in 2001, the 60-mile walk for Breast Cancer in 2006, and the Egyptian Pyramids Marathon for Infants and Young Children of West Central

Florida, Inc. in 2011. Williams received the Tampa NAACP's Living Legend Award in 2015 and the Griot Drum Award from the Tampa Bay Association of Black Journalists in 2017.

Williams has one daughter, Salesia Smith-Gordon, one son, Walter L. Smith, II, and one grandson, Walter L. Smith, III.

Jeraldine Williams was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on September 9, 2018.

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## Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Jeraldine Williams was conducted by Larry Crowe on September 9, 2018, in Tampa, Florida, and was recorded on 9 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Journalist and lawyer Jeraldine Williams (1946 - ) was the owner of the newspaper Capitol Outlook, in addition to practicing law for over thirty years.

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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:

Williams, Jeraldine, 1946-

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

### Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Williams, Jeraldine, 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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## Occupations:

Journalist

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## HistoryMakers® Category:

MediaMakers

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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 Jeraldine Williams, September 9, 2018. 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 Jeraldine Williams, Section A2018\_182\_001\_001, TRT: 1:29:31  
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Video Oral History Interview with Jeraldine Williams, Section A2018\_182\_001\_002, TRT: 2:28:06  
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Video Oral History Interview with Jeraldine Williams, Section A2018\_182\_001\_003, TRT: 3:29:00  
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Video Oral History Interview with Jeraldine Williams, Section A2018\_182\_001\_004, TRT: 4:29:20  
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Video Oral History Interview with Jeraldine Williams, Section A2018\_182\_001\_005, TRT: 5:29:05  
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Video Oral History Interview with Jeraldine Williams, Section A2018\_182\_001\_006, TRT: 6:30:21  
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Video Oral History Interview with Jeraldine Williams, Section A2018\_182\_001\_007, TRT: 7:33:02  
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Video Oral History Interview with Jeraldine Williams, Section A2018\_182\_001\_008, TRT: 8:27:26  
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Video Oral History Interview with Jeraldine Williams, Section A2018\_182\_001\_009, TRT: 9:11:51  
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