

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Cornell William Brooks

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Brooks, Cornell William, 1961-
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Cornell William Brooks,
Dates:	June 8, 2022
Bulk Dates:	2022
Physical Description:	14 uncompressed MOV digital video files (7:09:03).
Abstract:	Civic leader Cornell William Brooks (1961 -) served as the eighteenth president and CEO of the NAACP from 2014 to 2017. A professor at Harvard Kennedy School, Brooks also served as executive director of the Fair Housing Council of Greater Washington, senior counsel of the FCC, and president and CEO of the New Jersey Institute for Social Justice. Brooks was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on June 8, 2022, in Washington, District of Columbia. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2022_059
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Civic leader Cornell William Brooks was born on January 29, 1961 in El Paso, Texas to Jamee Rosa Maria Prioleau and Willie Brooks. He received his B.A. degree in political science in 1983 from Jackson State University in Jackson, Mississippi, his M.Div. degree in social ethics and systematic theology in 1987 from Boston University School of Theology in Boston, Massachusetts, and his J.D. degree in 1990 from Yale Law School in New Haven, Connecticut.

After receiving his J.D. degree, Brooks served a judicial clerkship with Chief Judge Sam J. Ervin, III on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit in Richmond, Virginia. He then served as a trial lawyer with the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law and the United States Department of Justice before being named the executive director of the Fair Housing Council of Greater Washington in Washington, D.C. After running as the Democratic nominee for U.S. Congress for the Tenth District of Virginia in 1998, Brooks served as the senior counsel of the Federal Communications Commission, where he also directed the Office of Communications Business Opportunities. In 2007, he was named president and CEO of the New Jersey Institute for Social Justice in Newark, New Jersey. In 2014, Brooks was elected the eighteenth president and CEO of the NAACP in New York, New York. In 2017, Brooks served as a senior fellow at the New York University School of Law and visiting professor of social ethics, law, and justice movements at Boston University. In 2018, he was named Hauser Professor of the Practice of Nonprofit Organizations and Professor of the Practice of Public Leadership and Social Justice at the Harvard Kennedy School in Cambridge, Massachusetts. He also serves as director of the William Monroe Trotter Collaborative for Social Justice at the Harvard Kennedy School's Center for Public Leadership and as Visiting Professor of the Practice of Prophetic Religion and Public Leadership at Harvard Divinity School. Brooks is an ordained minister in the AME Church.

Brooks has served as a member of several boards, including those of Humanity in Action, Inc., the East Orange Hospital, and Common Cause.

Brooks is the recipient of numerous honors and awards, including honorary doctorates from Boston University, Drexel University, Saint Peter's University, and Payne Theological Seminary and the highest alumni awards from Boston University and Boston University School of Theology.

Brooks and his wife, Hertha Janice Broome, live in Cambridge, Massachusetts. They have two sons, Cornell Brooks II and Hamilton Brooks.

Cornell William Brooks was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on June 8, 2022.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Cornell William Brooks was conducted by Larry Crowe on June 8, 2022, in Washington, District of Columbia, and was recorded on 14 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Civic leader Cornell William Brooks (1961 -) served as the eighteenth president and CEO of the NAACP from 2014 to 2017. A professor at Harvard Kennedy School, Brooks also served as executive director of the Fair Housing Council of Greater Washington, senior counsel of the FCC, and president and CEO of the New Jersey Institute for Social Justice.

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:

Brooks, Cornell William, 1961-

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews
Brooks, Cornell William, 1961---Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

Occupations:

Association Branch Executive

HistoryMakers® Category:

CivicMakers

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 Cornell William Brooks, June 8, 2022. 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 Cornell William Brooks, Section A2022_059_001_001, TRT: 1:33:17 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Cornell William Brooks, Section A2022_059_001_002, TRT: 2:35:19 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Cornell William Brooks, Section A2022_059_001_003, TRT: 3:31:04 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Cornell William Brooks, Section A2022_059_001_004, TRT: 4:29:54 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Cornell William Brooks, Section A2022_059_001_005, TRT: 5:28:49 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Cornell William Brooks, Section A2022_059_001_006, TRT: 6:29:14 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Cornell William Brooks, Section A2022_059_001_007, TRT: 7:29:07 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Cornell William Brooks, Section A2022_059_001_008, TRT: 8:29:50 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Cornell William Brooks, Section A2022_059_001_009, TRT: 9:31:29 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Cornell William Brooks, Section A2022_059_001_010, TRT: 10:29:23 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Cornell William Brooks, Section A2022_059_001_011, TRT: 11:30:13 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Cornell William Brooks, Section A2022_059_001_012, TRT: 12:29:04 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Cornell William Brooks, Section A2022_059_001_013, TRT: 13:27:54 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Cornell William Brooks, Section A2022_059_001_014, TRT: 14:34:26 ?