

# Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Doris Zollar

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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>	Zollar, Doris, 1930-
<b>Title:</b>	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Doris Zollar,
<b>Dates:</b>	May 17, 2002
<b>Bulk Dates:</b>	2002
<b>Physical Description:</b>	6 Betacame SP videocassettes (2:51:10).
<b>Abstract:</b>	Civic leader and entrepreneur Doris Zollar (1930 - ) was on the Women's Board of Operation PUSH and the Women's Board of the United Negro College Fund. She was the first black president of the United Nations Children's Fund Chicago, and worked with the Chicago Heart Association, the World Service Council of the YWCA, Deborah's Place, Chicago Academy of Performing Arts, and was appointed to the board of the Chicago Port Authority. Zollar was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on May 17, 2002, in Chicago, Illinois. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
<b>Identification:</b>	A2002_097
<b>Language:</b>	The interview and records are in English.

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## Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Doris L. Zollar, educator, social service administrator, and entrepreneur, is best known for her volunteerism and civic activity. She was born as Doris L. Love on December 7, 1930, in Little Rock, Arkansas, where her grandfather, Taylor Henson, defeated the attempts of whites to take his valuable farmland. Young Doris enjoyed a relatively comfortable and happy childhood, but was always encouraged by her family to take her education seriously and to give something back to the community.

Doris graduated as Valedictorian of Little Rock's Dunbar High School in 1947. She earned her B.A. with honors from Talladega College in Talladega, Alabama, in 1951. She was a graduate student at University of California at Los Angeles and at the University of Chicago.

She married Dr. Lowell Zollar in 1954 and started a family in Chicago, where she was employed as a public school teacher. She became executive assistant to the director of the Woodlawn Organization in 1974 and director of development for The Woodlawn Organization in 1976. Since 1976, Doris Zollar has been self-employed in contracting and vending ventures. In 1977, she established Triad Consulting.

It is Doris Zollar's volunteer activities that have made history. She is on the Women's Board of Operation PUSH, The Women's Board of the United Negro College Fund, the first black president of the United Nations Children's Fund Chicago, the Chicago Heart Association, the World Service Council of the YWCA, Deborah's Place (home for battered women), Chicago Academy of Performing Arts and was appointed to the board of the Chicago Port Authority by the late Mayor Harold Washington.

Well known in social, charitable and political circles, Zollar has been a guest at the White House and honored

numerous times. She lives in Chicago with her husband and two successful grown children.

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# Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Doris Zollar was conducted by Larry Crowe on May 17, 2002, in Chicago, Illinois, and was recorded on 6 Betacame SP videocassettes. Civic leader and entrepreneur Doris Zollar (1930 - ) was on the Women's Board of Operation PUSH and the Women's Board of the United Negro College Fund. She was the first black president of the United Nations Children's Fund Chicago, and worked with the Chicago Heart Association, the World Service Council of the YWCA, Deborah's Place, Chicago Academy of Performing Arts, and was appointed to the board of the Chicago Port Authority.

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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:

Zollar, Doris, 1930-

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

## Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Zollar, Doris, 1930---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:

Civic Leader

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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 Doris Zollar, May 17, 2002. 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 Doris Zollar, Section A2002\_097\_001\_001, TRT: 0:29:28 ?

Community leader and entrepreneur Doris Zollar begins by describing her family background. She shares stories from her childhood and tales passed down her ancestors. Zollar describes growing up in Little Rock, Arkansas, focusing on the middle class black population. She also details her involvement in the

church.

Video Oral History Interview with Doris Zollar, Section A2002\_097\_001\_002, TRT: 0:29:20 ?

Community leader and entrepreneur Doris Zollar remembers her school days, describing her time in high school and college. Zollar recalls her experience at Talladega College in detail, naming some influential figures there. Zollar also describes her time as an exchange student at Cedar Crest College.

Video Oral History Interview with Doris Zollar, Section A2002\_097\_001\_003, TRT: 0:29:08 ?

Community leader and entrepreneur Doris Zollar details her lifetime involvement in a variety of civic and social organizations in her adulthood, including Operation PUSH and UNICEF. She then describes her graduate school years at UCLA, her marriage to Lowell Zollar, her ten years of teaching in Chicago Public Schools, and her husband's entry to medical school.

Video Oral History Interview with Doris Zollar, Section A2002\_097\_001\_004, TRT: 0:30:54 ?

Community leader and entrepreneur Doris Zollar talks about her time with The Woodlawn Organization, a grass roots community development organization formed to rebuild the community on Chicago's South Side. She also discusses her involvement with a number of other civic projects. Of particular note is her O'Hare Airport concession stand, which was made possible through the political action of then mayor Harold Washington. Zollar lauds the change Washington made when he insisted that city contracts must be opened to blacks, women and other minorities. Zollar then criticizes what she sees as a lack of values in the younger generation of black people. She offers her prescription for these various social problems.

Video Oral History Interview with Doris Zollar, Section A2002\_097\_001\_005, TRT: 0:31:05 ?

Community leader and entrepreneur Doris Zollar shares stories of her celebrity meetings, and tells of the impact of meeting Nelson Mandela, Bishop Desmond Tutu and Bill Clinton. Finally, Zollar considers her legacy and how she wants to be remembered, and narrates her personal photographs as they are recorded on videotape.

Video Oral History Interview with Doris Zollar, Section A2002\_097\_001\_006, TRT: 0:21:15 ?

Community leader and entrepreneur Doris Zollar narrates her personal photographs as they are recorded on videotape.