

# Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Maxine Beatrice Baker

PERSON

**Baker, Maxine B., 1952-**

**Alternative Names:** Maxine Beatrice Baker;

**Life Dates:** February 29, 1952-

**Place of Birth:** Homestead, Pennsylvania, USA

**Residence:** Mc Lean, VA

**Work:** Washington, DC

**Occupations:** Foundation Chief Executive

## Biographical Note

Foundation chief executive Maxine Beatrice Baker was born on February 29, 1952 in Homestead, Pennsylvania. Her paternal great-grandfather, Cumberland Posey, was the first African American engineer and boat builder in Pennsylvania. Her paternal great-uncle, Cumberland Posey, Jr., played for and eventually owned the Homestead Grays baseball team. Raised in Washington, D.C. by her mother and maternal grandmother, Baker attended Washington, D.C public schools and graduated from Western High School in 1969.

Attending Emerson College in Boston on a National Merit scholarship, Baker earned her B.S. degree in speech communications in 1973. After spending several years in the aviation industry, Baker joined the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (Freddie Mac) in 1982 as a budget administrator. She quickly moved through the management ranks at Freddie Mac, serving in various leadership positions including vice president of administration & corporate properties and vice president of human resources. While working as vice president of industry & trade relations, Baker expanded minority business development programs and minority recruitment. In 1997, Baker was named vice president of community relations and president and chief executive officer of the Freddie Mac Foundation, one of the nation's largest corporate philanthropy programs. Under her leadership, the Foundation's net assets grew from \$22 million in 1997 to \$235 million in 2003.

Active in many organizations including the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute, the Washington Regional Area Grantmakers, the Metropolitan Washington Boys and Girls Club and Voices for America's Children, Baker has received many

awards for her civic leadership.

Baker was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on March 1, 2005.

## Related Entries

**Western High School** [STUDENTOF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Jefferson Middle School Academy** [STUDENTOF]  
[from ? to ?]

**John Quincy Adams Elementary School** [STUDENTOF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Mrs. Dorothy's Garden of Children** [STUDENTOF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Emerson College** [STUDENTOF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Air Transport Association** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Secretary**

**Beauvais, Robert, and Kurth** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Office Manager**

**Urban Institute** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Pacific Consultants** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Assistant Vice President of Administration and Human Resources**

**Freddie Mac Foundation** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Vice President**

**Freddie Mac** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 1982 to ?]

**Wednesday's Child** [MEMBEROF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Founder**

