

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Sam Ford

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Ford, Sam
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Sam Ford,
Dates:	December 3, 2013, December 5, 2013 and March 22, 2014
Bulk Dates:	2013 and 2014
Physical Description:	10 uncompressed MOV digital video files (4:51:09).
Abstract:	Television news reporter Sam Ford (1953 -) Television news reporter Sam Ford (1953 -) is the Bureau Chief of ABC7 News in Washington, D.C. He has produced the Emmy Award-winning African American Connection, as well as the Emmy-winning news special <i>Field Trip to Ballou</i> . Ford was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on December 3, 2013, December 5, 2013 and March 22, 2014, in Arlington, West Virginia and Washington, District of Columbia. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2013_328
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Television news reporter Sam Ford was born on May 29, 1953 in Coffeyville, Kansas to construction worker Sammie Ford and laundry worker Kathleen Owens. In 1974, Ford graduated with his B.S. degree in journalism from the University of Kansas. While at the university, he began his career in media with a job as a disc jockey at the college and local radio station.

Ford's career soon made the transition into news journalism, and, in 1974, Ford was hired as a reporter/announcer on both KSJN Radio (a Minnesota Public Radio station) and KMSP-TV (an ABC affiliate television channel). He then studied journalism at the graduate level at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, and worked as a reporter at WCCO-TV, where he wrote and produced the first of many African American history TV features of his career. In 1975, Ford was one of the forty-four founding members of the National Association of Black Journalists in Washington, D.C. He spent nine years as a reporter for CBS News, before moving to Washington, D.C. in 1987 to work for ABC News. Ford worked his way up the ranks at ABC News, and was promoted to bureau chief for the NJLA-TV/ABC7 Network.

Ford has produced several television features on African American issues, including *Black Slaves, Red Masters* (1990), and the Emmy Award-winning *African American Connection* (1991). In 2003, he traveled to Nigeria to explore his Yoruban ancestry; the resulting TV feature, *Journey to Africa*, garnered a Broadcast Excellence Award from Columbia University. Ford is active in the Prime Movers Media mentorship program at Ballou High School in Washington, D.C., where his work with aspiring journalism students earned him another Emmy for the news special *Field Trip to Ballou* (2006).

Ford is married to freelance reporter and media manager Gloria Murry; they have a son, Murry Ford, and a

daughter, Gina Ford.

Sam Ford was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on December 3, 2013.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Sam Ford was conducted by Larry Crowe on December 3, 2013, December 5, 2013 and March 22, 2014, in Arlington, West Virginia and Washington, District of Columbia, and was recorded on 10 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Television news reporter Sam Ford (1953 -) Television news reporter Sam Ford (1953 -) is the Bureau Chief of ABC7 News in Washington, D.C. He has produced the Emmy Award-winning African American Connection, as well as the Emmy-winning news special Field Trip to Ballou.

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:

Ford, Sam

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Ford, Sam--Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Occupations:

Television News Reporter

HistoryMakers® Category:

MediaMakers

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 Sam Ford, December 3, 2013, December 5, 2013 and March 22, 2014. 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 Sam Ford, Section A2013_328_001_001, TRT: 1:30:09 ?
Video Oral History Interview with Sam Ford, Section A2013_328_001_002, TRT: 2:29:42 ?
Video Oral History Interview with Sam Ford, Section A2013_328_002_003, TRT: 3:27:22 ?
Video Oral History Interview with Sam Ford, Section A2013_328_002_004, TRT: 4:29:36 ?
Video Oral History Interview with Sam Ford, Section A2013_328_002_005, TRT: 5:29:58 ?
Video Oral History Interview with Sam Ford, Section A2013_328_002_006, TRT: 6:28:29 ?
Video Oral History Interview with Sam Ford, Section A2013_328_003_007, TRT: 7:30:05 ?
Video Oral History Interview with Sam Ford, Section A2013_328_003_008, TRT: 8:28:46 ?
Video Oral History Interview with Sam Ford, Section A2013_328_003_009, TRT: 9:28:37 ?
Video Oral History Interview with Sam Ford, Section A2013_328_003_010, TRT: 10:28:25 ?