# Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers ® Video Oral History with Ted Childs, Jr.

## **Overview of the Collection**

**Repository:** The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616

info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com

Creator: Childs, Ted, Jr., 1944-

**Title:** The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Ted Childs, Jr.,

**Dates:** March 20, 2014

Bulk Dates: 2014

**Physical Description:** 7 uncompressed MOV digital video files (3:09:03).

**Abstract:** Diversity strategist Ted Childs, Jr. (1944 - ) was founder of Ted Childs, LLC. He retired

as IBM's vice president of global workforce diversity in 2006 after thirty-nine years of employment at the company. Childs was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on March 20, 2014, in New York, New York. This collection is comprised of the original video

footage of the interview.

**Identification:** A2014 115

**Language:** The interview and records are in English.

# Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Diversity strategist J.T. (Ted) Childs, Jr. was born on November 26, 1944 in Springfield, Massachusetts to John and Clara Childs. He graduated from Classical High School in 1962, and received his B.A. degree in psychology from West Virginia State University in 1967.

Upon graduation, Childs joined IBM as a personnel administration trainee. He went on to work in several staff and managerial positions at IBM, including program manager of personnel operations. He was subsequently appointed IBM's vice president of global workforce diversity, where he oversaw the company's diversity programs and policies. From March of 1983 to September of 1984, Childs served as executive assistant to Dr. Benjamin L. Hooks, executive director of the NAACP, on an IBM Social Service Leave. In 1989, he was appointed by Governor Mario Cuomo to the New York State Governor's Advisory Council on Child Care; and, in 1995, Childs was appointed as an official delegate to the White House Conference on Aging. In 1997, U.S. Treasury Secretary, Robert E. Rubin, appointed Childs as an advisor to the Secretary's Working Group on Child Care. In 2006, Childs retired from IBM and founded the consulting firm, Ted Childs, LLC, where he serves as a strategic diversity advisor.

Childs is a member of the board of trustees, and past chair of the West Virginia State University Foundation. He is a member of the Executive Leadership Council (ELC); The Families and Work Institute board of directors; was installed as a Fellow of The National Academy of Human Resources in 2001; and has served as co-chair of the National Council of Jewish Women's Work Family Advisory Board. Childs holds life memberships in the National Association of African Americans in Human Resources, The National Council of Negro Women, Inc., The National Organization of Women (NOW), Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., the NAACP, the Sierra Club, and the Bass Anglers Sportsmen Society.

In 1997, Childs was named by Working Mother magazine as one of the 25 Men Friends of the Family who have

made it easier for working parents to raise and nurture children. In 1998, the National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies presented Joan Lombardi, U.S. Senators Ted Kennedy and Orrin Hatch, and Childs with its Lifetime Achievement Award. Childs also received the Corporate Leadership Award from the Human Rights Campaign in 2003, the Work/Life Legacy Award from the Families and Work Institute in 2004, and the Trailblazers in Diversity Award from the Chief Diversity Officer's Forum in 2006. In addition, Working Mother Media announced The Ted Childs Life / Work Excellence Award to be given annually to the individual who by their distinctive performance has contributed to the field of Life / Work in the business community. Childs has received Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters degrees from Pace University, West Virginia State University and Our Lady of the Elms College.

Ted Childs was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on March 20, 2014.

# **Scope and Content**

This life oral history interview with Ted Childs, Jr. was conducted by Julieanna L. Richardson on March 20, 2014, in New York, New York, and was recorded on 7 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Diversity strategist Ted Childs, Jr. (1944 - ) was founder of Ted Childs, LLC. He retired as IBM's vice president of global workforce diversity in 2006 after thirty-nine years of employment at the company.

#### 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:

Childs, Ted, Jr., 1944-

Richardson, Julieanna L. (Interviewer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

## Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews Childs, Ted, Jr., 1944---Interviews

# **Organizations:**

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

## **Occupations:**

**Diversity Strategist** 

# **HistoryMakers® Category:**

**BusinessMakers** 

## 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 Ted Childs, Jr., March 20, 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 Ted Childs, Jr., Section A2014\_115\_001\_001, TRT: 1:38:20? Video Oral History Interview with Ted Childs, Jr., Section A2014\_115\_001\_002, TRT: 2:22:08? Video Oral History Interview with Ted Childs, Jr., Section A2014\_115\_001\_003, TRT: 3:29:54? Video Oral History Interview with Ted Childs, Jr., Section A2014\_115\_001\_004, TRT: 4:30:37? Video Oral History Interview with Ted Childs, Jr., Section A2014\_115\_001\_005, TRT: 5:28:59? Video Oral History Interview with Ted Childs, Jr., Section A2014\_115\_001\_006, TRT: 6:28:35? Video Oral History Interview with Ted Childs, Jr., Section A2014\_115\_001\_006, TRT: 7:10:30?