

# Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with The Honorable Dwight Bush, Sr.

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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>	Bush, Dwight L., Sr. (Dwight Lamar), 1957-
<b>Title:</b>	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with The Honorable Dwight Bush, Sr.,
<b>Dates:</b>	March 22, 2014
<b>Bulk Dates:</b>	2014
<b>Physical Description:</b>	6 uncompressed MOV digital video files (2:54:50).
<b>Abstract:</b>	Bank executive and united states ambassador The Honorable Dwight Bush, Sr. (1957 - ) was the first African American managing director at Chase Manhattan Bank. He served as vice president of corporate development at Sallie Mae, president and CEO of the Urban Trust Bank, and president of D.L. Bush & Associates. He was named U.S. Ambassador to Morocco in 2014. Bush was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on March 22, 2014, in Washington, District of Columbia. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
<b>Identification:</b>	A2014_116
<b>Language:</b>	The interview and records are in English.

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## Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Bank executive and United States ambassador Dwight L. Bush, Sr. was born on February 4, 1957 in St. Louis, Missouri to Charlie and Jessie Bush. He was raised in East St. Louis, Illinois, and attended Clark Junior High School and East St. Louis High School. He graduated from Cornell University in 1979 with his B.A. degree in government and economics.

Upon graduation, Bush joined Chase Manhattan Bank as a trainee in the management development program, and went on to become the bank's first African American managing director. His tenure at Chase included international corporate banking assignments in Latin America, Asia and the Middle East, and corporate finance and project finance in New York and Washington, D.C. In 1994, he was named vice president of corporate development and chief credit officer of Sallie Mae, where he served until 1997. From 1998 to 2006, Bush worked as a principal at Stuart Mill Capital, LLC; vice president and chief financial officer at SatoTravel Holdings, Inc.; and vice chairman at Enhanced Capital Partners, LLC.

In 2002, Bush founded D.L. Bush & Associates, a financial advisory and private investment firm located in Washington, D.C., where he serves as managing partner and president. Bush then helped establish Urban Trust Bank in 2004, and went on to serve as president and CEO of Urban Trust Bank, Urban Trust Holdings and president of UTB Education Finance, LLC from 2006 until 2008. On August 1, 2013, Bush was nominated by President Barack Obama to serve as the United States Ambassador to the Kingdom of Morocco; and, in March of 2014, the U.S. Senate confirmed the appointment.

Bush was appointed a director of EntreMed Inc. in 2004, and was named vice chairman in 2010. He has also

served on the boards of the GAVI Alliance, Cornell University, The Vaccine Fund, ICBC Broadcast Holdings Inc., The Georgetown Day School, and The National Symphony Orchestra. He served on the boards of directors of Urban Trust Bank Holdings, UTB Education Finance, LLC, U.S. Education Finance, LLC, and Urban Cableworks. In addition, Bush was a director of JER Investors Trust Inc., and a member of The White House Fellows Selection Committee.

Bush is married to Antoinette Cook Bush, executive vice president and global head of government affairs at News Corp. They have two children: Dwight Bush, Jr. and Jacqueline Bush.

Dwight Bush was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on March 22, 2014.

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## Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with The Honorable Dwight Bush, Sr. was conducted by Julieanna L. Richardson on March 22, 2014, in Washington, District of Columbia, and was recorded on 6 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Bank executive and united states ambassador The Honorable Dwight Bush, Sr. (1957 - ) was the first African American managing director at Chase Manhattan Bank. He served as vice president of corporate development at Sallie Mae, president and CEO of the Urban Trust Bank, and president of D.L. Bush & Associates. He was named U.S. Ambassador to Morocco in 2014.

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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:

Bush, Dwight L., Sr. (Dwight Lamar), 1957-

Richardson, Julieanna L. (Interviewer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

## Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews  
Bush, Dwight L., Sr. (Dwight Lamar), 1957---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:

Foreign Ambassador

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## HistoryMakers® Category:

PoliticalMakers

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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 The Honorable Dwight Bush, Sr., 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).

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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 The Honorable Dwight Bush, Sr., Section A2014\_116\_001\_001, TRT: 1:29:37 ?

The Honorable Dwight Bush, Sr. was born on February 4, 1957 in St. Louis, Missouri to Jessie Mae Bush and Charlie W. Bush. His maternal family was descended from southern sharecroppers. Bush's mother was one of thirteen children born to Mary Bell Mitchell and Doc Heavens in Fairfield, Alabama. As a young child, she moved with her family to Columbus, Mississippi, where she met Bush's father. The two later reconnected and married in St. Louis, Missouri. They settled in the nearby town of East St. Louis, Illinois, where Bush's father worked the night shift as a crane operator at Cerro Copper and Brass Company and his mother worked as a cook. Due to his parents' long work hours, Bush was often left in the care of his older siblings. Bush talks about the manufacturing and meat packing industries in East St. Louis, as well as the city's prominent residents, including movie producers Reginald Hudlin and Warrington Hudlin, football player Kellen Winslow and U.S. Ambassador Donald F. McHenry.

Video Oral History Interview with The Honorable Dwight Bush, Sr., Section A2014\_116\_001\_002, TRT: 2:28:28 ?

The Honorable Dwight Bush, Sr. began his education at Park Elementary School in East St. Louis, Illinois, where he developed his love of learning. From an early age, Bush was mentored by the local funeral director, Lee Russell, and a precinct committeeman named Dupree Davis, while his father, Charlie W. Bush, worked overtime to provide for the family. Bush went on to attend George Rogers Clark Junior High School and East St. Louis Senior High School. At fifteen years old, he began working at Stouffer's Riverfront Inn and the Uptown Drug Store in St. Louis, Missouri. Bush also played basketball, football and baseball. He was one of the top students in his class, and considered attending the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign or Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. Ultimately, he decided to enroll at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York at the recommendation of his coach, Roosevelt Wilson. While there, he met students from all around the world. He also talks about the impact of the Vietnam War.

Video Oral History Interview with The Honorable Dwight Bush, Sr., Section A2014\_116\_001\_003, TRT: 3:30:53 ?

The Honorable Dwight Bush, Sr. attended Cornell University in Ithaca, New York. He initially struggled in his government and economic classes, but soon overcame his academic challenges. In addition to his full course load, Bush became a residential advisor and worked in the student union. His classmates included Nike, Inc. CEO Ronald D. McCray. After his graduation, Bush joined the junior analyst training program at Chase Manhattan Bank. In this role, he helped calculate investment analyses for companies like Pan American Airlines, and traveled to France and Chile. At the program's conclusion, Bush accepted a position in the bank's international division, and was assigned to Puerto Rico for almost three years. Then, he joined the chemicals and healthcare group, where he worked with the Huntsman Chemical Corporation, Monsanto Company and W.R. Grace and Company. He remembers other prominent African American bankers at the time, including Frederick Terrell, Christopher Williams and William M. Lewis Jr.

Video Oral History Interview with The Honorable Dwight Bush, Sr., Section A2014\_116\_001\_004,

TRT: 4:31:13 ?

The Honorable Dwight Bush, Sr. worked with Fortune 200 companies as a corporate banker at Chase Manhattan Bank. While there, he was mentored by William T. Coleman, Jr., who was a member of the board. In 1988, Bush met Antoinette Cook Bush, whom he married in 1990. At this point in the interview, he remembers their honeymoon in Paris, France. In 1994, Bush became a managing director at Chase Manhattan Bank. He commuted between Washington, D.C. and New York City until the birth of his son, Dwight Bush, Jr., when he resigned from Chase Manhattan Bank. He became the vice president of corporate development at SLM Corporation in Washington, D.C., and helped the company transition from a government sponsored enterprise to a private corporation. He went on to work in the mergers and acquisitions division. Later, Bush partnered with SLM Corporation executives Lawrence A. Hough, Timothy G. Greene, Chip Lubsen and Jeff Salinger to found Stuart Mill Capital, Inc., which acquired Sato Travel in 1999.

Video Oral History Interview with The Honorable Dwight Bush, Sr., Section A2014\_116\_001\_005,  
TRT: 5:28:49 ?

The Honorable Dwight Bush, Sr. was a part owner of Stuart Mill Capital, Inc. He served as the CFO of its subsidiary, Sato Travel, where one of his responsibilities was to restructure the company's staff and financials. Bush also founded D.L. Bush and Associates, LLC, where he worked with clients like the Inner City Broadcasting Corporation. When Stuart Mill Capital, Inc. sold Sato Travel in June of 2001, Bush partnered with BET founder Robert L. Johnson to acquire the Urban Trust Bank, and secured a contract to open banking branches in Wal-Mart stores throughout Florida. At this point in the interview, Bush talks about the untapped potential in the urban banking market, and the drawbacks of the Community Reinvestment Act of 1977. In 2001, he joined Thomas W. Jones, Ronald D. McCray and Lisa Skeete Tatum on the board of Cornell University in Ithaca, New York. He reflects upon the financial sustainability of the higher education system, and his relationship with his stepfather-in-law, Vernon E. Jordan, Jr.

Video Oral History Interview with The Honorable Dwight Bush, Sr., Section A2014\_116\_001\_006,  
TRT: 6:25:50 ?

The Honorable Dwight Bush, Sr. became a trustee of Xavier University of Louisiana at the invitation of Timothy Francis and Norman Francis. In 2014, Bush was appointed to serve as the U.S. ambassador to Morocco by President Barack Obama. Bush reflects upon his marriage to Antoinette Cook Bush, and talks about their two children: Dwight Bush, Jr. and Jacqueline Bush. Bush also talks about his extended family through his marriage, including Mercer Cook III, Janice Cook Roberts, Richard Roberts and Vickie Jordan Adams as well as his mother-in-law, Ann Dibble Jordan, and stepfather-in-law, Vernon E. Jordan, Jr. Bush reflects upon the legacy of his generation, and his hopes and concerns for the African American community. He concludes the interview by reflecting upon his personal legacy.