

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Barbara Rodgers

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Rodgers, Barbara, 1946-
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Barbara Rodgers,
Dates:	December 15, 2015
Bulk Dates:	2015
Physical Description:	9 uncompressed MOV digital video files (4:21:18).
Abstract:	Television news anchor Barbara Rodgers (1946 -) was an anchor for KPIX-TV in San Francisco, California for thirty years, and co-founded the Bay Area Black Journalist Association. Rodgers was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on December 15, 2015, in San Francisco, California. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2015_007
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Television news anchor Barbara Rodgers was born on September 27, 1946 in Knoxville, Tennessee to Anna Connor, a homemaker, and Jackson Rodgers, a minister. In 1968, she received her B.S. degree in business education from Knoxville College. She attended graduate school at SUNY Buffalo in 1976 for creative writing, and also completed graduate coursework at the University of Chicago in 1986.

The Eastman Kodak Company in Rochester, New York hired Rodgers in 1968 as a computer programmer, one of only a few African American female computer programmers at the time. Rodgers later became a public affairs researcher for Kodak, before becoming an instructor and department head of the business skills department of the Rochester Educational Opportunity Center in 1971. In 1972, Rodgers joined WOKR-TV in Rochester, New York where she became the station's first female news reporter and first African American news anchor. Rodgers joined KPIX-TV, a CBS affiliate in San Francisco, California in 1979 as a reporter, later becoming a co-anchor on the weekend and noon Eyewitness News broadcasts. She helped to create and host Bay Sunday in 1989, an award-winning public affairs program. She co-founded the Bay Area Black Journalists Association (BABJA), the Bay Area chapter of the National Association of Black Journalists, in 1982. In 1985, Rodgers was selected for the William Benton Fellowship in Broadcast Journalism at the University of Chicago, the first African American woman to become a Benton Fellow. Rodgers was chosen in 1993 as one of five journalists to participate in the South Africa Journalists Exchange, a collaboration between the National Association of Black Journalists, the Freedom Forum and South Africa. She earned an Emmy for her hour-long documentary, "South Africa After Apartheid." Rodgers retired from KPIX in 2008. In 2010, she joined Comcast as a regular host on Comcast Newsmakers, and in 2011 became host of the "Bronze Report" cable show. Rodgers co-founded Friends of Faith, Inc., an organization that helps provide information and financial support to low income and underinsured individuals undergoing breast cancer treatment.

Rodgers received numerous honors and awards for her work. She won seven Emmy Awards and the Governors'

Award from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. In 1992, she was selected by the San Francisco League of Women Voters as a “Woman Who Could Be President.” Between 1981 and 2007, she won five “Excellence in Journalism Awards” from the National Association of Black Journalists, and was awarded the Madam C.J. Walker Pioneer Award from the National Coalition of 100 Black Women in 2004. Rodgers received the Frederick D. Patterson Outstanding Individual Award from the United Negro College Fund in 2008, and was recognized twice by American Women in Radio and Television, Inc. for her outstanding work in broadcasting.

Barbara Rodgers was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on December 15, 2015.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Barbara Rodgers was conducted by Larry Crowe on December 15, 2015, in San Francisco, California, and was recorded on 9 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Television news anchor Barbara Rodgers (1946 -) was an anchor for KPIX-TV in San Francisco, California for thirty years, and co-founded the Bay Area Black Journalist Association.

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:

Rodgers, Barbara, 1946-

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews
Rodgers, Barbara, 1946- --Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Occupations:

Television News Anchor

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 Barbara Rodgers, December 15, 2015. 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 Barbara Rodgers, Section A2015_007_001_001, TRT: 1:29:17 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Barbara Rodgers, Section A2015_007_001_002, TRT: 2:30:03 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Barbara Rodgers, Section A2015_007_001_003, TRT: 3:28:23 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Barbara Rodgers, Section A2015_007_001_004, TRT: 4:29:23 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Barbara Rodgers, Section A2015_007_001_005, TRT: 5:28:22 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Barbara Rodgers, Section A2015_007_001_006, TRT: 6:32:08 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Barbara Rodgers, Section A2015_007_001_007, TRT: 7:32:18 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Barbara Rodgers, Section A2015_007_001_008, TRT: 8:28:15 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Barbara Rodgers, Section A2015_007_001_009, TRT: 9:23:09 ?