

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Dr. June Jackson Christmas

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Christmas, June Jackson
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Dr. June Jackson Christmas,
Dates:	February 3, 2017 and January 19, 2017
Bulk Dates:	2017
Physical Description:	12 uncompressed MOV digital video files (5:20:57).
Abstract:	Psychiatrist Dr. June Jackson Christmas (1924 -) founded the Harlem Hospital Rehabilitation Center in 1964, and served as deputy chief of the New York City Department of Mental Health and Retardation Services under three consecutive New York mayoral administrations. Christmas was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on February 3, 2017 and January 19, 2017, in New York, New York. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2017_004
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Psychiatrist Dr. June Jackson Christmas was born on June 7, 1924 in Cambridge, Massachusetts to Mortimer Jackson and Lillian Jackson. She earned her B.S. degree in zoology from Vassar College in 1945, and her M.D. degree in psychiatry from the Boston University School of Medicine in 1949. Christmas completed her psychiatric residencies at Bellevue Hospital, and Queens General Hospital. She also received a certificate in psychoanalysis from the William Alanson White Institute. In addition to opening her own private practice, Christmas worked as a psychiatrist for the Riverdale Children's Association in New York City from 1953 to 1965. In 1962, she became chief of the group therapy program at the Harlem Hospital Center and founded the Harlem Hospital Rehabilitation Center in 1964. From 1964 to 1972, she served as principal investigator on research projects for the National Institute of Mental Health; and in 1971, began teaching at Columbia University's College of Physicians and Surgeons. In 1972, Christmas was appointed deputy chief of the New York City Department of Mental Health and Retardation Services by Mayor John Lindsay. She was re-appointed in 1973 by Mayor Abraham D. Beame and again in 1978 by Mayor Ed Koch. In 1976, Christmas headed the Department of Health, Education and Welfare transition team for then president-elect Jimmy Carter. In 1980, Christmas began teaching behavioral science at the C.U.N.Y. Medical School. While teaching at C.U.N.Y. she co-founded the think tank Urban Issues Group. Christmas also served as a member of New York Governor Mario Cuomo's Advisory Committee on Black Affairs in 1986, and as chair of New York City Mayor David Dinkins' Advisory Council on Child Health in New York City from 1990 to 1994.

Christmas was a member of Vassar College's Board of Trustees from 1978 to 1989. She was the first African American woman president of the American Public Health Association in 1980. In 2003, she became a member of the board for the Jackie Robinson Foundation. Christmas also received numerous awards for her work, including the 1974 Human Services Award from the Mental Health Association of New York and Bronx Cities, as well as the 1976 Award for Excellence in the Field of Domestic Health from the American Public Health Association. She

was named Vassar College's President's 1988 Distinguished Visitor, and received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Medical Fellowships in 1999.

Christmas has three children: Vincent, Rachel, and Gordon.

Dr. June Jackson Christmas was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on January 19, 2017 and February 3, 2017.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Dr. June Jackson Christmas was conducted by Harriette Cole on February 3, 2017 and January 19, 2017, in New York, New York, and was recorded on 12 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Psychiatrist Dr. June Jackson Christmas (1924 -) founded the Harlem Hospital Rehabilitation Center in 1964, and served as deputy chief of the New York City Department of Mental Health and Retardation Services under three consecutive New York mayoral administrations.

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:

Christmas, June Jackson

Cole, Harriette (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews
Christmas, June Jackson--Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Occupations:

Psychiatrist

HistoryMakers® Category:

MedicalMakers

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 Dr. June Jackson Christmas, February 3, 2017 and January 19, 2017. 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 Dr. June Jackson Christmas, Section A2017_004_001_001, TRT: 1:29:35 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. June Jackson Christmas, Section A2017_004_001_002, TRT: 2:30:14 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. June Jackson Christmas, Section A2017_004_001_003, TRT: 3:26:56 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. June Jackson Christmas, Section A2017_004_001_004, TRT: 4:27:49 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. June Jackson Christmas, Section A2017_004_001_005, TRT: 5:28:18 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. June Jackson Christmas, Section A2017_004_001_006, TRT: 6:19:42 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. June Jackson Christmas, Section A2017_004_002_007, TRT: 7:29:46 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. June Jackson Christmas, Section A2017_004_002_008, TRT: 8:29:24 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. June Jackson Christmas, Section A2017_004_002_009, TRT: 9:28:40 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. June Jackson Christmas, Section A2017_004_002_010, TRT: 10:28:17 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. June Jackson Christmas, Section A2017_004_002_011, TRT: 11:30:23 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. June Jackson Christmas, Section A2017_004_002_012, TRT: 12:11:53 ?