

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Wes Coleman

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Coleman, Wes, 1950-
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Wes Coleman,
Dates:	July 19, 2017
Bulk Dates:	2017
Physical Description:	6 uncompressed MOV digital video files (2:54:02).
Abstract:	Entrepreneur Wes Coleman (1951 -) worked for S.C. Johnson for over twenty years and served as executive vice president and chief resources officer at the Walt Disney Company. Coleman was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on July 19, 2017, in Los Angeles, California. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2017_114
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Entrepreneur Wes Coleman was born on March 12, 1950 in Halifax, Virginia to Bessie Bowman Coleman and Nathaniel Wyatt Coleman. He earned his B.S. degree in business management from Hampton University in Hampton, Virginia in 1971, and his M.B.A. degree from the University of Pittsburgh Katz Graduate School of Business in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in 1972.

In 1981, Coleman began working as a manager of compensation and benefits at S.C. Johnson. In 1989, he was transferred to London, United Kingdom as the regional human resources director of Southern Europe; he also had responsibilities in the Africa and Middle-Eastern divisions and a manufacturing plant in Holland. In 1993, Coleman was given a two-year assignment as the assistant to the president and chief executive officer of the company, William George. Coleman was then promoted in 1995 to the position of vice president of human resources for Asia-Pacific and North America, as the first African American to hold that position. Coleman remained at S.C. Johnson for over twenty years and in 2002, he was hired as vice president of global human resources for Nike, Inc. He then became executive vice president and chief resources officer at the Walt Disney Company in 2006, and served until he retired in 2008.

After retiring in 2008, Coleman was active in his community through different organizations. In 2016, he became the Grand Sire Archon of the Sigma Pi Phi fraternity. Coleman was also a member of INROADS, SMART (Start Making a Reader Today), and SEI (Self-Enhancing Inc.), the United Negro College Fund, and the Milwaukee Art Museum. He also sat on the presidential advisory council for Hampton University and served as chairman of the board of trustees for, Hampton University, and on Pasadena's Art Center College of Design. Coleman is a Life Member of the NAACP, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and a member of the National Association of Guardsmen.

Coleman was recognized for his contributions to the community as well. During his time with S.C. Johnson, he was the recipient of the H.F. Johnson Community Service Award.

Wes Coleman was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on July 18, 2017.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Wes Coleman was conducted by Harriette Cole on July 19, 2017, in Los Angeles, California, and was recorded on 6 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Entrepreneur Wes Coleman (1951 -) worked for S.C. Johnson for over twenty years and served as executive vice president and chief resources officer at the Walt Disney 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:

Coleman, Wes, 1950-

Cole, Harriette (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Coleman, Wes, 1950- --Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Occupations:

Entrepreneur

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 Wes Coleman, July 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 Wes Coleman, Section A2017_114_001_001, TRT: 1:29:32 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Wes Coleman, Section A2017_114_001_002, TRT: 2:31:10 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Wes Coleman, Section A2017_114_001_003, TRT: 3:29:54 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Wes Coleman, Section A2017_114_001_004, TRT: 4:33:53 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Wes Coleman, Section A2017_114_001_005, TRT: 5:24:04 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Wes Coleman, Section A2017_114_001_006, TRT: 6:25:29 ?