

# Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with April Ryan

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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>	Ryan, April, 1967-
<b>Title:</b>	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with April Ryan,
<b>Dates:</b>	October 31, 2017
<b>Bulk Dates:</b>	2017
<b>Physical Description:</b>	8 uncompressed MOV digital video files (3:49:31).
<b>Abstract:</b>	Journalist and political analyst April Ryan (1967-) was a member of the White House press corps, a reporter for the American Urban Radio Networks, a CNN guest correspondent, and the author of several books on race and politics in America. Ryan was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on October 31, 2017, in Washington, District of Columbia. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
<b>Identification:</b>	A2017_197
<b>Language:</b>	The interview and records are in English.

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## Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Journalist and political analyst April Ryan was born on September 5, 1967 in Baltimore, Maryland to Robert C. Ryan, Sr. and Vivian Ryan. She majored in broadcast journalism at Morgan State University in Baltimore, Maryland and graduated with her B.S. degree in 1989. There, she worked at the university's radio station, WEAA-FM, as a disc jockey.

After graduating, Ryan worked as a freelance writer for a number of television stations across the eastern United States. She returned to the Baltimore area in 1991, after landing a job as radio news announcer at V-103 (now WQSR). Ryan was soon promoted to news director, and also began freelancing for the American Urban Radio Networks (AURN). In 1997, Ryan was hired as an AURN position in the White House press corps and has reported on four United States presidential administrations. Ryan conducted one-on-one interviews with President William Jefferson Clinton, President George W. Bush, President Barack Obama, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, First Lady Laura Bush, Vice President Al Gore, South African President Thabo Mbeki, and Secretary of State John Kerry. In 2011, Ryan was elected to serve on the board of the White House Correspondence Association. Ryan's first book, *The Presidency in Black and White: My Up-Close View of Three Presidents and Race in America*, was published in 2015 and won the NAACP Image Award. Her second book, *At Mama's Knee: Mothers and Race in Black and White*, was published the following year. In 2017, Ryan became a political analyst with CNN. In 2018, Ryan published her third book, *Under Fire: Reporting from the Front Lines of the Trump White House*.

Ryan was a member of the National Press Club and has appeared on MSNBC, NBC, and News One. In 2004, Ryan was named an American Swiss Foundation Young Leader. In 2011, Politico named Ryan as one of the top 50 people in Washington D.C. to watch. Ryan won the Journalist of the Year Award from the National Association of Black Journalists in 2017. She was also awarded an honorary doctorate degree from Claflin University.

Ryan has two children, Ryan and Grace.

April Ryan was interviewed by *TheHistoryMakers* on October 31, 2017.

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## Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with April Ryan was conducted by Randall Pinkston on October 31, 2017, in Washington, District of Columbia, and was recorded on 8 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Journalist and political analyst April Ryan (1967-) was a member of the White House press corps, a reporter for the American Urban Radio Networks, a CNN guest correspondent, and the author of several books on race and politics in America.

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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:

Ryan, April, 1967-

Pinkston, Randall (Interviewer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

### Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Ryan, April, 1967- --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:

Journalist

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Political Analyst

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## HistoryMakers® Category:

MediaMakers

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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 April Ryan, October 31, 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).

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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 April Ryan, Section A2017\_197\_001\_001, TRT: 1:28:05 ?

Video Oral History Interview with April Ryan, Section A2017\_197\_001\_002, TRT: 2:28:57 ?

Video Oral History Interview with April Ryan, Section A2017\_197\_001\_003, TRT: 3:28:41 ?

Video Oral History Interview with April Ryan, Section A2017\_197\_001\_004, TRT: 4:29:04 ?

Video Oral History Interview with April Ryan, Section A2017\_197\_001\_005, TRT: 5:28:31 ?

Video Oral History Interview with April Ryan, Section A2017\_197\_001\_006, TRT: 6:28:57 ?

Video Oral History Interview with April Ryan, Section A2017\_197\_001\_007, TRT: 7:28:28 ?

Video Oral History Interview with April Ryan, Section A2017\_197\_001\_008, TRT: 8:28:48 ?