

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Cheryl Lewis Burke

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Burke, Cheryl Lewis, 1953-
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Cheryl Lewis Burke,
Dates:	January 19, 2018
Bulk Dates:	2018
Physical Description:	6 uncompressed MOV digital video files (2:52:00).
Abstract:	Education administrator Cheryl Lewis Burke (1963 -) worked as an elementary school teacher for over twenty years, and served as the principal of Chimborazo Elementary School in Richmond, Virginia for eighteen years. Burke was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on January 19, 2018, in Richmond, Virginia. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2018_004
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Education administrator Cheryl Lewis Burke was born on June 16, 1953 in Richmond, Virginia to Octavia Harris Lewis and Edward Lee Lewis. Burke graduated from Powhatan High School in 1971, and enrolled at Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, North Carolina before transferring to Saint Paul's College in Lawrenceville, Virginia two years later. In 1976, Burke earned her B.A. degree in early childhood education, and began working as a preschool teacher at Clark Spring Elementary School in Richmond. Also, in 1981, Burke earned her M.A. degree in supervision and administration of education at Virginia Commonwealth University.

Burke went on to work for Overby-Shepard Middle School in 1981, but returned to Clark Springs Elementary School, where she taught the third and fourth grades for several years. She was then hired as a teacher specialist at Ginter Park Elementary School in 1991. In 1996, Burke became the principal of Chimborazo Elementary School. To improve the learning environment at the school, Burke completed the school development program at Yale University. Under her leadership, Chimborazo became the first elementary school in central Virginia to offer the International Baccalaureate primary years program. She also oversaw the installation of the city's storm water rain garden as well as an additional floral and vegetable garden, which included an outside classroom. To reward students and staff for their hard work, Burke secured funding from organizations like Central Fidelity Bank, the PASS Initiative, and Dominion Bar Association to plan field trips to Nassau, Bahamas and the White House during President Barack Obama's tenure. She retired as principal in 2014, but continued to work as a substitute administrator with Richmond Public Schools.

Burke was appointed as an interim board representative for the seventh district of the Richmond Public School board in October 2017. She was also a member of The Links Inc. Richmond chapter for many years. She has served on numerous boards, including the board of trustees of The Richmond Ballet of Virginia, the board of directors of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Richmond, and The HistoryMakers National Advisory Board.

Burke and her husband, Emmett Burke, have two sons, Emmett Lewis Burke and Edmund Glasgow Burke.

Cheryl Lewis Burke was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on January 19, 2018.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Cheryl Lewis Burke was conducted by Harriette Cole on January 19, 2018, in Richmond, Virginia, and was recorded on 6 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Education administrator Cheryl Lewis Burke (1963 -) worked as an elementary school teacher for over twenty years, and served as the principal of Chimborazo Elementary School in Richmond, Virginia for eighteen years.

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:

Burke, Cheryl Lewis, 1953-

Cole, Harriette (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Burke, Cheryl Lewis, 1953- --Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Occupations:

Elementary School Principal

HistoryMakers® Category:

EducationMakers

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 Cheryl Lewis Burke, January 19, 2018. 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 Cheryl Lewis Burke, Section A2018_004_001_001, TRT: 1:30:08 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Cheryl Lewis Burke, Section A2018_004_001_002, TRT: 2:30:03 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Cheryl Lewis Burke, Section A2018_004_001_003, TRT: 3:32:37 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Cheryl Lewis Burke, Section A2018_004_001_004, TRT: 4:29:41 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Cheryl Lewis Burke, Section A2018_004_001_005, TRT: 5:28:55 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Cheryl Lewis Burke, Section A2018_004_001_006, TRT: 6:20:36 ?