

# Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Adena Williams Loston

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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>	Loston, Adena Williams, 1952-
<b>Title:</b>	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Adena Williams Loston,
<b>Dates:</b>	June 4, 2018
<b>Bulk Dates:</b>	2018
<b>Physical Description:</b>	8 uncompressed MOV digital video files (3:54:38).
<b>Abstract:</b>	Academic administrator Adena Williams Loston (1952 - ) served as president of St. Philip's College in San Antonio, Texas in 2007 and prior to that she worked as a NASA education officer. Loston was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on June 4, 2018, in San Antonio, Texas. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
<b>Identification:</b>	A2018_110
<b>Language:</b>	The interview and records are in English.

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## Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Academic administrator Adena Williams Loston was born on November 13, 1952 in Vicksburg, Mississippi to Frances Pearline Miller Williams and Tommie Lee Williams, Sr. Loston received her B.S. degree from Alcorn State University in Claiborne County, Mississippi in 1973. She then earned both her M.S. degree in education and her Ph.D. degree in education administration and supervision from Bowling Green University in Bowling Green, Ohio in 1974 and 1979, respectively. She also completed postgraduate work at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton Business School, Oxford University, and Harvard University.

Loston began her career in education as an instructor at Arkansas State University in 1974. Later, she taught as an adjunct professor at the University of Houston from 1980 to 1981, as an instructor at Houston Community College from 1979 to 1981, an adjunct assistant professor at Texas Southern University from 1984 to 1986, and an associate professor at Georgia State University 1988 to 1989. Loston also supervised the office occupations program at Houston Community College from 1982 to 1988. In 1989, Loston began working at Santa Monica College in California as the dean of professional programs; and she also served as its dean of vocational education, budgets, and facilities from 1989 to 1993. Loston then served as the executive dean and provost of the El Paso County Community College District at the Transmountain and Valle Verde campuses. From 1997 to 2002, Loston was the president of San Jacinto College South in Houston. She became the chief education officer associate administrator at NASA headquarters in Washington, D.C. in 2002, and later served as director of education and special assistant for suborbital and special orbital projects at the Goddard Space Flight Center in 2005. In 2007, Loston was appointed as president of St. Philip's College in San Antonio, Texas.

Loston received numerous awards and accolades over the course of her career, including NASA's Outstanding Leadership Medal and Exceptional Achievement Medal, the Daisy Bates Education Advocacy Award from the NAACP, and the W.E.B. DuBois Higher Education Award from the National Alliance of Black School Educators. She was also the recipient of an honorary doctorate in science from Wiley University, and was inducted into the

San Antonio Women's Hall of Fame in 2009. In 2010, Loston became an advisory board member of the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Financing Advisory Board. She also served on the American Council on Educational Inclusion Commission. Loston as NASA's chief education officer was responsible for the Educator Astronaut Program, the NASA Explorer Schools and NASA Explorer Institutes.

Loston has one son, Gilbert Williams Loston III.

Adena Williams Loston was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on June 4, 2018.

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## Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Adena Williams Loston was conducted by Larry Crowe on June 4, 2018, in San Antonio, Texas, and was recorded on 8 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Academic administrator Adena Williams Loston (1952 - ) served as president of St. Philip's College in San Antonio, Texas in 2007 and prior to that she worked as a NASA education officer.

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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:

Loston, Adena Williams, 1952-

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

### Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews  
Loston, Adena Williams, 1952- --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:

Academic Administrator

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University President

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## HistoryMakers® Category:

EducationMakers

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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 Adena Williams Loston, June 4, 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).

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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 Adena Williams Loston, Section A2018\_110\_001\_001, TRT: 1:28:24 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Adena Williams Loston, Section A2018\_110\_001\_002, TRT: 2:28:12 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Adena Williams Loston, Section A2018\_110\_001\_003, TRT: 3:27:42 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Adena Williams Loston, Section A2018\_110\_001\_004, TRT: 4:31:09 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Adena Williams Loston, Section A2018\_110\_001\_005, TRT: 5:28:33 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Adena Williams Loston, Section A2018\_110\_001\_006, TRT: 6:29:09 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Adena Williams Loston, Section A2018\_110\_001\_007, TRT: 7:28:47 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Adena Williams Loston, Section A2018\_110\_001\_008, TRT: 8:32:42 ?