

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Priscilla Hill-Ardoin

PERSON

Hill-Ardoin, Priscilla, 1951-

Alternative Names: Priscilla Hill-Ardoin;

Life Dates: June 21, 1951-

Place of Birth: Houston, Texas, USA

Residence: San Antonio, Texas

Occupations: Corporate Executive

Biographical Note

Corporate executive Priscilla Hill-Ardoin was born on June 21, 1951 in Houston, Texas to Newman and Inez Hill. She graduated from Evan E. Worthing Senior High School in Houston, Texas in 1969, received her B.A. degree from Drury College in Springfield, Missouri in 1972, and earned her M.A. degree from Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana in 1973. She later obtained her M.B.A. degree from the Olin School of Business at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri in 1988, and her J.D. degree from the St. Louis University School of Law in Missouri.

In 1973, Hill-Ardoin was hired as assistant to president Dr. Alvin I. Thomas at Prairie View A&M University in Houston, Texas, where she established the university's communications department and degree program. Two years later, she accepted a position at Southwestern Bell in Houston as a part of its management training program. In 1981, Hill-Ardoin was promoted to district level manager at Southwestern Bell Missouri where she worked for the Southwestern Bell Yellow Pages. During this period, she held positions in marketing and strategic planning and later moved to Washington, D.C. on an external assignment where she worked for the Foreign Affairs committee. In 1996, Hill-Ardoin became the first director of diversity at Southwestern Bell headquarters in San Antonio. The following year, she was named president of Southwestern Bell Missouri. In 1999, she became senior vice president of regulatory affairs in Washington, D.C. She was then named the regulatory compliance officer at Southwestern Bell headquarters in San Antonio in 2002, and later became the company's first chief privacy officer at the senior vice president level. She retired from her position at AT&T Inc. in 2007.

Hill-Ardoin served as president of the Houston Area Urban League in 1981, and was later elected to the board of directors for the Hawthorn Foundation in 1997. In 2003,

she was appointed by Federal Communications Commission chairman Michael Powell to the Chairman's Advisory Commission on Diversity in Communications in the Digital Age. In 2005, after her son, Aaron, passed away from Sickle Cell Anemia, Hill-Ardoin and her husband established The Aaron Ardoin Foundation in Sickle Cell Research and Education. Hill-Ardoin was appointed to the board of trustees at Washington University in 2006, and served on the board of directors for Enterprise Holdings.

Hill-Ardoin is also the recipient of The San Antonio Chamber of Commerce's Tribute to Women Business Leaders Legacy Award, the United Negro College Fund Excellence in Education Award, the Voices for Children Super Hero Award, the Girls Inc. Strong Smart and Bold Award, the Congressional Black Women Opening the Pipeline Award, the Purdue Distinguished Alumni Award, the Washington University Distinguished Alumni Award, and the Drury College Distinguished Alumni Award.

Hill-Ardoin and her husband, James Ardoin, had two sons, Aaron and Evan, and two grandchildren.

Priscilla Hill-Ardoin was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on February 22, 2019.

Related Entries

Evan E. Worthing Senior High School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Drury University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

B.A.

Purdue University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

M.A.

Olin School of Business at Washington University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

M.B.A.

St. Louis University School of Law [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

J.D.

James R. Reynolds Elementary School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Crispus Attucks Middle [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Southwestern Bell Missouri [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1981 to 1996]

District Manager

Southwestern Bell San Antonio [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1996 to 1997]

Director of Diversity

Southwestern Bell Missouri [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1997 to 1999]

President

State F.C.C. Department [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1999 to 2002]

Senior Vice President of Regulatory Affairs

Southwestern Bell San Antonio [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 2002 to ?]

Compliance Officer

Prairie View A & M University [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1973 to 1975]

Assistant to the president

Southwestern Bell [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1975 to 1981]

Installation Manager

Houston Area Urban League [MEMBEROf]
[from 1980 to ?]

Interim Vice President

Hawthorn Foundation [MEMBEROf]
[from 1997 to ?]

Board

Chairman's Advisory Commission on Diversity in Communications in the Digital Age [MEMBEROf]
[from 2003 to ?]

Member

The Aaron Ardoin Foundation in Sickle Cell Anemia [MEMBEROf]
[from 2005 to ?]

Founder

Washington University [MEMBEROf]
[from 2006 to ?]

Trustee

Enterprise Holdings [MEMBEROf]
[from 2006 to ?]

Director

