

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with James F. Blue, III

PERSON

Blue, James (James F.)

Alternative Names: James F. Blue, III;

Life Dates: August 5, 1969-

Place of Birth: Richmond, Virginia, USA

Residence: New York, New York

Occupations: Television News Producer

Biographical Note

Producer James F. Blue III was born on August 5, 1969 in Richmond, Virginia to James F. Blue, Jr. and Addie L. Wall. In 1991, Blue received his B.A. degree from Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs.

In 1991, Blue was hired by NBC News as an editorial producer and guest booker for The Today Show. Two years later, he served as a field producer for a primetime magazine show at NBC News. In 1994, he was hired as a Nightline producer for ABC News in London, United Kingdom. During his twelve year career with Nightline, Blue produced stories on the Oklahoma City Bombing, the 1996 presidential elections, colorism within the Black community, and the auction of the estate of Jackie Kennedy. In 2006, he joined Discovery Communications as a producer with the Koppel Unit. The same year, Blue's debut documentary for Discovery, Iran – Most Dangerous Nation, won the national Emmy Award for best long-form program. In 2008, Blue founded Public Affairs Media Group, Inc. in Baltimore, Maryland. He went on to serve as executive producer at BET Networks in 2011, where he produced the documentary "Michelle Obama on a Mission: Impact Africa." In 2013, Blue was appointed as the Washington Bureau Chief and White House Correspondent by ARISE News. In 2015, Blue joined PBS NewsHour as the senior content and special senior producer.

Blue served on the advisory board of The Samaritan Community beginning in 2008. In 2009, he was elected to the board of trustees of the Maryland Institute College of Art and the board of overseers of the Baltimore School for the Arts. In 2013, Blue became a member of the board of trustees of the Princeton Alumni Weekly. He was a member of the Overseas Press Club, the National Association of Black Journalists, and the National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association.

Blue has won every major broadcast journalism award including eight national Emmy Awards, two Alfred I. DuPont-Columbia Awards, two George Foster Peabody Awards, and two Overseas Press Club Awards. In 2012, he received the NABJ Award for Overall Excellence. Blue was also twice a finalist for the Livingston Award for Young Journalists.

Blue and his husband have two children: Alden and Effie.

James F. Blue III was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on August 13, 2019.

Related Entries

Princeton University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Hillsdale High School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

NBC News [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1991 to 1993]

Editorial Producer

NBC News [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from ? to ?]

Producer

ABC News [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from ? to ?]

Producer

Discovery Communications [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1992 to ?]

Producer

Public Affairs Media Group, Inc. [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1991 to ?]

Founder and executive producer

Black Entertainment Television [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1987 to ?]

Executive Producer

ARISE News [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 2013 to 2015]

Washington Bureau Chief and White House Correspondent

PBS NewsHour [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 2015 to ?]

Senior Content and Special Senior Producer

Princeton University Alumni Association [MEMBEROF]

[from ? to ?]

Board Member

Overseas Press Club [MEMBEROF]

[from ? to ?]

Member

National Association of Black Journalists [MEMBEROF]

[from ? to ?]

Member

National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association [MEMBEROF]

[from ? to ?]

Member

The Samaritan Community [MEMBEROF]

[from ? to ?]

Board Member