

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Nancy Washington

PERSON

Washington, Nancy, 1939-

Alternative Names: Nancy Washington;

Life Dates: March 15, 1939-

Place of Birth: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA

Residence: Pittsburgh, PA

Work: Pittsburgh, PA

Occupations: Academic Administrator; Educator

Biographical Note

Educator and academic administrator Nancy Washington, was born on March 5, 1939 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to Courtney Duckrey and Tanner Duckrey. She received her B.S. degree in education from Boston University in 1960, and her M.Ed. degree from Temple University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1963. She went on to receive her M.S. degree from Temple University in 1967, and her Ph.D. in psychology from the University of Pittsburgh in 1973.

Washington began her twenty seven year career with the University of Pittsburgh in 1972 when she was hired as an assistant professor of psychology at the Greensburg campus, while also finishing her Ph.D. After graduating, she became a senate officer for the university, representing the Greensburg campus. She served on various committees around women's issues, and issues of affirmative action, campus safety, campus diversity, and budget policy. In 1979, she became an associate professor of psychology. Throughout the 1980s, Washington worked with the student affairs committee on issues of South Africa and developed minority enrollment and retention programs. In 1989, Washington was appointed to assistant professor of clinical epidemiology and family medicine and assistant dean of minority affairs at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. In February 1993, Chancellor J. Dennis O'Connor appointed Washington as assistant to the chancellor, where she focused on minority affairs at affiliated schools and helped the Black Action Society start a black cultural center on campus. In 1994, she helped establish the Center for Minority Health, with funding from the R.K. Mellon Foundation. Washington retired from the University of Pittsburgh in 1999.

During her career, Washington also served on various boards, including Pennsylvania's

Council on the Arts, The Carnegie Museum of Art, the Pittsburgh Symphony, the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust, and the Pittsburgh Foundation, where the Nancy and Milt Washington Fund was established in 1994.

Additionally, Washington has received many awards for her work, which include the YWCA's Voluntary Community Service Leadership Award in 2001, the Humanitarian Award from Three Rivers Youth in 2008, the Outstanding Community Leaders Award by the Community College of Allegheny County in 2010, and the History Makers Award in the field of community service, given by the Senator John Heinz History Center for contributions to the history of Western Pennsylvania.

Washington has two daughters, Linda Armstrong and Lara Washington, as well as three grandchildren: Zoe, Kendall, and Tanner.

Nancy Washington was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on August 22, 2019.

Related Entries

Boston University [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

B.S.

Temple University [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

M.Ed.

Temple University [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

M.S.

University of Pittsburgh [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

Ph.D.

Thaddeus Stevens Elementary School [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

Jay Cook Junior High School [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

Philadelphia High School for Girls [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

University of Pittsburgh, Greensburg [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1995 to 1997]

Assistant Professor of Psychology

University of Pittsburgh, Greensburg [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from ? to ?]

Associate Professor of Psychology

University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1989 to 1993]

Assistant Dean of Student Affairs

University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1970 to ?]

Director of Minority Programs

University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1986 to ?]

Assistant Professor of Clinical Epidemiology and Family Medicine

University of Pittsburgh [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1979 to ?]

Assistant to the Chancellor

Philadelphia Board of Education [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1960 to 1967]

Teacher

Pennsylvania Council on the Arts [MEMBEROf]
[from ? to ?]

Board Member

The Carnegie Museum of Art [MEMBEROf]
[from ? to ?]

Board Member

Pittsburgh Symphony [MEMBEROf]
[from ? to ?]

Board Member

Pittsburgh Cultural Trust [MEMBEROf]
[from ? to ?]

Executive Committee

Pittsburgh Foundation [MEMBEROf]
[from ? to ?]

Board Member

August Wilson African American Cultural Center [MEMBEROf]
[from ? to ?]

Vice Chairman

Wilson College [MEMBEROf]
[from ? to ?]

Executive Committee

Partner 4 Work [MEMBEROF]

[from ? to ?]

Executive Committee

PCBC [MEMBEROF]

[from ? to ?]

Board Member