

# Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Linda Whitlock

---

## 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>	Whitlock, Linda, 1947-
<b>Title:</b>	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Linda Whitlock,
<b>Dates:</b>	August 23, 2019
<b>Bulk Dates:</b>	2019
<b>Physical Description:</b>	6 uncompressed MOV digital video files (2:37:07).
<b>Abstract:</b>	Nonprofit executive Linda Whitlock (1947 - ) served as the Nicholas president and chief executive officer of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston from 1999 to 2008. In 2021, Whitlock was appointed by President Joe Biden to the Presidential Commission on White House Fellows. Whitlock was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on August 23, 2019, in Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
<b>Identification:</b>	A2019_090
<b>Language:</b>	The interview and records are in English.

---

## Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Nonprofit executive Linda Whitlock was born on December 3, 1947 in Richmond, Virginia to Sarah Johnson Whitlock and Kenneth Edward Whitlock. Whitlock received her B.A. degree in psychology from Mount Holyoke College in 1972 and her M.A. degree in psychology from the University of Michigan in 1981. In 1980, Whitlock was hired as an instructor in the Department of Urban Studies and Planning at MIT and as director of the Massachusetts Government Land Bank. Three years later, she was appointed director of the Massachusetts Office of Real Property. In 1984, Whitlock joined Tufts University as an instructor in the Department of Urban and Environmental Policy. She became vice president of Harvard Real Estate in 1989. In 1990, she was hired by Concord Academy as assistant head for marketing and associate director of admissions. Two years later, she joined Buckingham Browne & Nichols School where she served as assistant head for enrollment management. From 1999 to 2008, Whitlock served as the Nicholas president and CEO of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston. In 2008, she founded and became principal of The Whitlock Group, which provides management and governance consulting to boards of directors and CEOs. In 2021, Whitlock was appointed by President Joe Biden to the Presidential Commission on White House Fellows.

Whitlock has served on numerous boards including those of the Cambridge Trust Company, Red Sox Foundation, Brigham and Women's Hospital, The Princeton Review, National Association of Corporate Directors New England, Boston Museum of African American History, and Brandeis University. She also has served as co-chair of Women Corporate Directors Boston and has been a member of The Boston Club's Executive Advisory Council, the Boston Women Leaders Network, and the Boston Library Society. Whitlock was appointed to various commissions by Democratic and Republican governors and mayors and served as associate finance director for Dukakis for President in 1987, co-chaired Obama Victory Trustees in 2012, and was a leading national fundraiser for Hillary for America in 2016.

In 2009, Whitlock was inducted into the Academy of Distinguished Bostonians by the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce. In 2003, she was named one of the Most Powerful Women in Boston by Boston Magazine and was the Boston Municipal Research Bureau's Shattuck City Champion. Whitlock received the National Service to Youth Award from Boys & Girls Clubs of America as well as the Woman of Valor Award from the Anti-Defamation League New England in 2008. In 2011, Whitlock received the Advancing Women Award from the Boston Business Journal, and, in 2017, she received the Abigail Adams Award from the Massachusetts Women's Political Caucus. Whitlock holds honorary doctorates from Babson College, Suffolk University, and Pine Manor College.

Whitlock and her husband, Marc Cumsy, have two children, Jake and Leah, and seven grandchildren.

Linda Whitlock was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on August 23, 2019 and August 20, 2022.

---

## Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Linda Whitlock was conducted by Harriette Cole on August 23, 2019, in Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts, and was recorded on 6 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Nonprofit executive Linda Whitlock (1947 - ) served as the Nicholas president and chief executive officer of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston from 1999 to 2008. In 2021, Whitlock was appointed by President Joe Biden to the Presidential Commission on White House Fellows.

---

## 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:

Whitlock, Linda, 1947-

Cole, Harriette (Interviewer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

## Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews  
Whitlock, Linda, 1947---Interviews

---

## Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

---

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

---

--

---

## Occupations:

Nonprofit Chief Executive

---

## HistoryMakers® Category:

CivicMakers

---

## 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 Linda Whitlock, August 23, 2019. 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 Linda Whitlock, Section A2019\_090\_001\_001, TRT: 1:29:40 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Linda Whitlock, Section A2019\_090\_001\_002, TRT: 2:28:20 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Linda Whitlock, Section A2019\_090\_001\_003, TRT: 3:28:09 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Linda Whitlock, Section A2019\_090\_001\_004, TRT: 4:29:14 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Linda Whitlock, Section A2019\_090\_001\_005, TRT: 5:28:29 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Linda Whitlock, Section A2019\_090\_001\_006, TRT: 6:13:15 ?