

# Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Joe Randall

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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>	Randall, Joe
<b>Title:</b>	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Joe Randall,
<b>Dates:</b>	November 16, 2021
<b>Bulk Dates:</b>	2021
<b>Physical Description:</b>	7 uncompressed MOV digital video files (3:25:04).
<b>Abstract:</b>	Chef Joe Randall (1946 - ) founded the African American Chefs Hall of Fame and the Edna Lewis Foundation and was a founding member of the Southern Foodways Alliance. He operated Chef Joe Randall's Cooking School in Savannah, Georgia, from 2000 to 2016 and opened Good Times Jazz Bar & Restaurant in Savannah in 2017, where he serves restaurant consultant and executive chef. Randall was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on November 16, 2021, in Savannah, Georgia. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
<b>Identification:</b>	A2021_017
<b>Language:</b>	The interview and records are in English.

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## Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Chef Joe Randall was born on July 23, 1946, in McKeesport, Pennsylvania, to Margaret and Washington Glascoe. He was raised by Dr. Joseph A. Randall and Laura M. Randall, his aunt and uncle who adopted him in 1954. Randall attended William Penn High School in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and received restaurant management certificates from the University of California, Berkeley, and the University of California, Davis.

As a teenager, Randall worked for his uncle Richard Ross at his restaurant, Ross's, in Large, Pennsylvania, before enlisting in the Air Force, where he worked in flight line kitchens. In the 1960s, Randall apprenticed under Robert W. Lee at the Harrisburg Hotel and Frank E. Castelli at the Penn Harris Hotel, both in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. In 1989, he opened the Restaurant at Kellogg Ranch, a training restaurant, at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, as part of its Collins College of Hospitality Management. Randall founded the African American Chefs Hall of Fame in 1993 as part of the Taste of Heritage Foundation. In 1995, he launched Chef Joe Randall & Associates, a culinary consulting firm. In 1998, Randall and Toni Tipton-Martin published the cookbook *A Taste of Heritage: The New African-American Cuisine*. Randall became a founding member of the Southern Foodways Alliance in 1999. That same year, he became director of food service for the Savannah College of Art and Design. In 2000, Randall opened Chef Joe Randall's Cooking School in Savannah, Georgia. In 2012, he founded the Edna Lewis Foundation in Savannah. In 2016, he was featured in the National Museum of African American History and Culture alongside chefs Edna Lewis, Patrick Clark, Leah Chase, and Hercules Posey. In 2017, Randall became the restaurant consultant and executive chef at Good Times Jazz Bar & Restaurant in Savannah.

Randall has cooked in over fifteen establishments across the country, including The Cloister in Buffalo, New York, and The Fishmarket in Baltimore, Maryland. Randall also has taught in several institutions, including the Fremont School for Adults, American River College, Baltimore Culinary College, California State Polytechnic University,

Pomona, and Cheyney University.

Randall has served as the sergeant at arms of the American Culinary Federation, president of the United Culinary Association, chairman of the Edna Lewis Foundation, and member of the American Academy of Chefs.

Randall has been the recipient of numerous awards, including a Lifetime Leadership Award from the Culinary Institute of America's Black Culinary Alumni, the President's Award for Excellence in Mentoring from 100 Black Men of Savannah, the Culinary Historian Award from Culinary Wonders USA, the Beach Institute Education Award from the King Tisdale Cottage Foundation, the Milestone Award from the Chef Darryl E. Evans Foundation, and the Tom Macrina Presidential Medallion and Certificate from the American Culinary Federation-Chicago Chapter, and recognition for his contributions to Southern cuisine and culture from the president and faculty of Georgia Southern University. He is known as the "Dean of Southern Cuisine."

Randall and his wife, Barbara Randall, live in Savannah, Georgia. They have three children: J. Christopher Randall, Kenneth A. Randall, and Cari Randall.

Joe Randall was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on November 16, 2021.

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## Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Joe Randall was conducted by Larry Crowe on November 16, 2021, in Savannah, Georgia, and was recorded on 7 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Chef Joe Randall (1946 - ) founded the African American Chefs Hall of Fame and the Edna Lewis Foundation and was a founding member of the Southern Foodways Alliance. He operated Chef Joe Randall's Cooking School in Savannah, Georgia, from 2000 to 2016 and opened Good Times Jazz Bar & Restaurant in Savannah in 2017, where he serves restaurant consultant and executive chef.

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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:**

Randall, Joe

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

## **Subjects:**

African Americans--Interviews

Randall, Joe--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:**

Chef

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## **HistoryMakers® Category:**

BusinessMakers

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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 Joe Randall, November 16, 2021. 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 Joe Randall, Section A2021\_017\_001\_001, TRT: 1:29:46 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Joe Randall, Section A2021\_017\_001\_002, TRT: 2:29:29 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Joe Randall, Section A2021\_017\_001\_003, TRT: 3:29:01 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Joe Randall, Section A2021\_017\_001\_004, TRT: 4:28:49 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Joe Randall, Section A2021\_017\_001\_005, TRT: 5:31:43 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Joe Randall, Section A2021\_017\_001\_006, TRT: 6:28:31 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Joe Randall, Section A2021\_017\_001\_007, TRT: 7:27:45 ?