

# Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Caretha Coleman

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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>	Coleman, Caretha, 1950-
<b>Title:</b>	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Caretha Coleman,
<b>Dates:</b>	June 29, 2022
<b>Bulk Dates:</b>	2022
<b>Physical Description:</b>	8 uncompressed MOV digital video files (4:22:54).
<b>Abstract:</b>	Executive consultant Caretha Coleman (1950 - ) is the founder of Coleman Consulting and a co-founder of The Angels Forum. She has served in executive roles at Software Publishing and Interval Research and as chair of Dignity Health and The Leverage Network. Coleman was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on June 29, 2022, in Los Altos Hills, California. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
<b>Identification:</b>	A2022_070
<b>Language:</b>	The interview and records are in English.

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## Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Executive consultant Caretha Coleman was born on February 21, 1950 in Yokohama, Japan to Chizuko Murata Watkins and Clifford Watkins. After graduating from St. Bernard's High School in Fitchburg, Massachusetts in 1968, Coleman briefly attended Mount Wachusett Community College in Gardner, Massachusetts.

From 1969 to 1973, Coleman worked as a flight attendant for Trans World Airlines. She then joined the human resources department at Hewlett-Packard in Palo Alto, California. Coleman remained with Hewlett-Packard for six years as its workforce grew from 21,000 to 52,000 employees. In 1979, Coleman was hired as a staffing manager at Spectra-Physics in Mountain View, California. In 1982, she was recruited to work as director of human resources at Software Publishing Corporation, also in Mountain View, where she was a vice president for nine years and where she helped guide one of the earliest successful desktop computer software companies.

Following a brief appointment at Verifone in 1991, Coleman worked as a consultant for Interval Research in Palo Alto, eventually becoming their chief administration officer, and with Mayfield, a venture capital firm in Menlo Park. In 1997, she became a founding member of The Angels Forum, a venture capital firm in Silicon Valley. In 1998, Coleman founded Coleman Consulting in Los Altos, which focuses on executive and CEO coaching, especially for minority entrepreneurs. In 2020, Coleman was elected a director of The RealReal, an online marketplace for resale luxury goods.

Coleman has served on numerous boards and committees. She chaired Dignity Health, the largest not-for-profit hospital provider in California, for three years. In 2015, she was appointed chair of The Leverage Network, which aims to increase the number of African Americans on healthcare boards and to eliminate health disparities in communities of color. Coleman has also served the Silicon Valley Community Foundation, Peninsula Community Foundation, YMCA, Facing History and Ourselves, Accion Opportunity Fund, Black Economic Alliance,

Ravenswood Health Clinic, LifeMap Communications, and Viridis Learning. She is an advisor to the Santa Clara University Black Corporate Board Readiness program, Culture Shift, Illuminate Ventures, and Launch with Goldman Sachs.

Coleman is the recipient of numerous honors and awards, including being named one of the Bay Area's Most Influential Women by the *San Francisco Business Times*, an Outstanding Director by the *Silicon Valley Business Journal*, a Visionary Leader by the *SF Chronicle*, and an American Leadership Forum Fellow. She received the YMCA's Red Triangle award and the Black Enterprise Trailblazer award in 2016 and was nominated as a Visionary Leader in the Bay Area for her work towards creating a more diverse community inside and outside the workplace. In 2017, Coleman and her husband, Kenneth L. Coleman, were honored by the City of Palo Alto for their philanthropic contributions to the Silicon Valley community, including their fundraising efforts to build a YMCA in East Palo Alto.

Coleman and her husband, Kenneth L. Coleman, live in Los Altos Hills, California. Together they have six children and thirteen grandchildren.

Caretha Coleman was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on June 29, 2022.

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## Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Caretha Coleman was conducted by Julieanna L. Richardson on June 29, 2022, in Los Altos Hills, California, and was recorded on 8 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Executive consultant Caretha Coleman (1950 - ) is the founder of Coleman Consulting and a co-founder of The Angels Forum. She has served in executive roles at Software Publishing and Interval Research and as chair of Dignity Health and The Leverage Network.

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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:

Coleman, Caretha, 1950-

Richardson, Julieanna L. (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

## **Subjects:**

African Americans--Interviews

Coleman, Caretha, 1950---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:**

Human Resources Chief Executive

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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 Caretha Coleman, June 29, 2022. 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 Caretha Coleman, Section A2022\_070\_001\_001, TRT: 1:31:57 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Caretha Coleman, Section A2022\_070\_001\_002, TRT: 2:28:13 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Caretha Coleman, Section A2022\_070\_001\_003, TRT: 3:33:04 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Caretha Coleman, Section A2022\_070\_001\_004, TRT: 4:35:22 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Caretha Coleman, Section A2022\_070\_001\_005, TRT: 5:31:22 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Caretha Coleman, Section A2022\_070\_001\_006, TRT: 6:37:05 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Caretha Coleman, Section A2022\_070\_001\_007, TRT: 7:30:45 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Caretha Coleman, Section A2022\_070\_001\_008, TRT: 8:35:06 ?