

# Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Andrew Ingraham

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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>	Ingraham, Andrew, 1954-
<b>Title:</b>	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Andrew Ingraham,
<b>Dates:</b>	March 2, 2006
<b>Bulk Dates:</b>	2006
<b>Physical Description:</b>	5 Betacame SP videocassettes (2:21:57).
<b>Abstract:</b>	Association chief executive Andrew Ingraham (1954 - ) is the president and co-founder for the National Association of Black Hotel Owners, Operators and Developers; and is president of Horizons Marketing Group International. He has served on the White House Conference on Tourism and the National Tourism Advisory Committee for the NAACP. Ingraham was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on March 2, 2006, in Short Hills, New Jersey. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
<b>Identification:</b>	A2006_033
<b>Language:</b>	The interview and records are in English.

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## Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Entrepreneur Andrew Ingraham was born on August 20, 1954, in Nassau, Bahamas, where his family owned several businesses, including one in the travel industry. After completing his education, he moved to Fort Lauderdale, Florida, where he began his career in the travel and tourism industry.

In 1999, Ingraham became the president/CEO of the National Association of Black Hotel Owners, Operators and Developers, Incorporated, an organization created to empower African American in the hospitality industry. Ingraham is also the president of Horizons Marketing Group International, which focuses on African American and multicultural tourism.

As an appointee to the White House Conference on Tourism, Ingraham founded the International Multicultural Tourism and Hotel Ownership Conference. Ingraham was also appointed to the National Tourism Advisory Committee for the NAACP. Ingraham has lectured at the American Hotel & Motel Association, National Coalition of Black Meeting Planners, Congressional Black Caucus, and National Association of Black McDonald's Owners Association. He is a member of the National Coalition of Black Meeting Planners, National Black Hospitality Professionals, African American Travel & Tourism Association, and the National Black Hospitality Professionals.

Ingraham lives in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, with his family.

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## Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Andrew Ingraham was conducted by Shawn Wilson on March 2, 2006, in Short Hills, New Jersey, and was recorded on 5 Betacame SP videocassettes. Association chief executive Andrew

Ingraham (1954 - ) is the president and co-founder for the National Association of Black Hotel Owners, Operators and Developers; and is president of Horizons Marketing Group International. He has served on the White House Conference on Tourism and the National Tourism Advisory Committee for the NAACP.

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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:

Ingraham, Andrew, 1954-

Wilson, Shawn (Interviewer)

Burghelea, Neculai (Videographer)

### Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews  
Ingraham, Andrew, 1954- --Interviews

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Tourism--Employees--Interviews

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African American executives--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:

Association 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 Andrew Ingraham, March 2, 2006. 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 Andrew Ingraham, Section A2006\_033\_001\_001, TRT: 0:29:55  
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Andrew Ingraham was born on August 8, 1954 in Nassau, Bahamas to Doris Ingraham and Arlington Ingraham. His mother was born in Tarpum Bay on Eleuthera in the Bahamas. She attended school in Nassau and later owned clothing and hairdressing shops. Her grandfather, Mike Cartwright, was a farmer and her father, Ralph Spence, owned shops and taught at Nassau's Boys'

Industrial school. Ingraham's father worked as a firefighter and a laborer in Florida before becoming a shop owner. His father, Wilberforce Ingraham, owned a farm where he grew fruits like watermelon and peppers. Each summer, Ingraham and his siblings were sent there. They worked in the morning and played on the beach in the evening. The community was very close, and they were recognized in town. After immigrating to Florida, Ingraham's father opened two Bahamian restaurants. Ingraham recalls Junkanoo, the traditional Bahamian Christmas carnival, and his impression of the United States as a child. He also comments on slavery in the Bahamas.

Tourism--Employees--Interviews.

African American executives--Interviews.

Video Oral History Interview with Andrew Ingraham, Section A2006\_033\_001\_002, TRT: 0:28:03  
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Andrew Ingraham remembers celebrating Junkanoo with his family in Nassau, where groups competed to give the best performance in the winter festival. Ingraham was raised in the Catholic church, and his family followed priest Father Marcian Peters when he was transferred between churches. Ingraham attended Catholic schools until high school, when he and his brother, Richard Ingraham, enrolled in the West Indies College, a Seventh Day Adventist school in Jamaica. There, he played sports and regularly attended the school's church, which Ingraham compares to Catholic services. Growing up, Ingraham did not consider the Bahamas' colonial government to be racist, although he and his family supported the independence movement. The first Bahamian Governor-General, Milo Butler, owned a shop near his grandfather's store, and Ingraham remembers the response to Lynden Pindling's protest before he became prime minister in 1972. Ingraham graduated that year, and his family moved to the United States.

Video Oral History Interview with Andrew Ingraham, Section A2006\_033\_001\_003, TRT: 0:29:59  
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Andrew Ingraham graduated from West Indies College in Jamaica in 1972 then moved to Florida to attend Miami-Dade Junior College. Although he attended on a track scholarship, he was cut from the team after one year. He joined the Bahamian student association, where he met Sam Haven, who later became president of Lloyds Banking International in the Bahamas. After two years, Ingraham transferred to Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, where he experienced harassment after he began dating a white woman. He then transferred to Florida International University, where he studied political science. During college, Ingraham worked as a dishwasher and at a phone company, studying at night. In the late 1980s, he began to create travel packages for Bahamians to visit Miami. He expanded the program to African Americans, who were not served by most travel agencies. Ingraham recalls how a boycott on travel to Miami, led by H.T. Smith in 1993 to support Nelson Mandella, helped to integrate the city's tourism industry.

Video Oral History Interview with Andrew Ingraham, Section A2006\_033\_001\_004, TRT: 0:29:47  
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Andrew Ingraham talked about African American hotel ownership with Romeo Spaulding, president of the International Association of Black Professional Firefighters. Ingraham also worked with H.T. Smith, the leader of the Miami tourism boycott, to build up black ownership of hotels, beginning with R. Donahue Peebles' Royal Palm Crowne Plaza in Miami Beach, Florida. In 1997, Ingraham founded the National Association of Black Hotel Owners, Operators and Developers, Inc. with Solomon Herbert. He later negotiated with Byron

Lewis, Josephus Eggelletion and the tourism boards of Fort Lauderdale and Miami to bring the American Black Film Festival to Miami Beach. In 1999, Ingraham created a travel package to the island of St. Maarten for FUBU Y2G, a new millennium celebration. Ingraham describes how black-owned businesses attract tourists. He also talks about Sheila C. Johnson's hotel, Salamander Hotel and Resort in Virginia, and why the business of hotel ownership involves buying and selling hotels.

Video Oral History Interview with Andrew Ingraham, Section A2006\_033\_001\_005, TRT: 0:24:13  
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Andrew Ingraham's organization, National Association of Black Owners, Operators and Developers, Inc., worked to increase African American hotels ownership, a figure reported annually by the NAACP. Ingraham also worked with the Asian American Hotel Owners Association and Hispanic Hotel Owners Association to improve training programs and networks. He describes the Hilton Hotels and Resorts' development of black hotel ownership, and the scholarship he created with H.T. Smith to allow more African American students to study hospitality. Ingraham was appointed to the White House Conference on Travel and Tourism by Congressman Alcee Hastings in 2000. Ingraham reflects upon the progress of his organization, his legacy and his hopes and concerns for the African American community. He talks about his organization memberships and the effects of politics on his work. Ingraham also considers the possibility of an African American hotel brand.