

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Sheila Brooks

Overview of the Collection

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| Repository: | The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com |
| Creator: | Brooks, Sheila Dean, 1956- |
| Title: | The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Sheila Brooks, |
| Dates: | January 30, 2014 and November 2, 2017 |
| Bulk Dates: | 2014 and 2017 |
| Physical Description: | 11 uncompressed MOV digital video files (5:12:38). |
| Abstract: | Broadcast journalist and entrepreneur Sheila Brooks (1956 -) was the founder, president and CEO of SRB Communications. She received 47 national Telly Awards; a national Gracie Award; three Emmy Awards; and the inaugural Pat Tobin Entrepreneurial Award from the National Association of Black Journalists. Brooks was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on January 30, 2014 and November 2, 2017, in Washington, District of Columbia. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview. |
| Identification: | A2014_043 |
| Language: | The interview and records are in English. |

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Broadcast journalist and entrepreneur Sheila Dean Brooks, Ph.D. was born on June 24, 1956 in Kansas City, Missouri to Gussie Mae Dean Smith and Stanley Benjamin Smith. She received her B.A. degree in communications from the University of Washington in Seattle in 1978. Brooks paid for her final two years of college while serving in the Advanced Placement Program of the United States Navy Reserves from 1976 to 1978. She went on to receive both her M.A. degree in political science in 2003, and her Ph.D. degree in communication, culture and media studies in 2015, from Howard University.

In 1978, Brooks joined KCTS-TV in Seattle, Washington as a reporter and producer, where she worked until 1981. From 1981 to 1983, she worked for KREM-TV in Spokane, Washington, as a reporter and anchor. Brooks was then hired as a news director and anchor for KAMU-TV/FM in College Station, Texas, working until 1985, when she accepted a management trainee position at the Dallas Morning News in Dallas, Texas. She moved to Washington, D.C. in 1988, and worked as a senior producer at Vanita Productions in Baltimore, Maryland. From 1989 to 1990, Brooks served as executive producer for special projects and the documentary unit at WTTG-TV Channel 5 in Washington, D.C. She founded SRB Communications in 1990, a full-service advertising and marketing agency specializing in multicultural markets, serving as founder, president and CEO.

Brooks has served as a board trustee on the Federal City Council in Washington, D.C., on the boards of ColorComm and Morgan State University's Global School of Journalism and Communication. She also served as chair of The Presidents' RoundTable, a board member of the Greater Baltimore Committee and on the boards the Capital Region Minority Supplier Development Council and the Center for Women's Business Research.

Brooks has won more than 150 entrepreneurial, marketing and journalism awards. She was inducted into the National Academy of Television Arts and Science Silver Circle, an Emmy Award Hall of Fame by the National

Capital/Chesapeake Bay Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. She was the first National Association of Black Journalists' member to receive the President's Award three times.

Her other honors include the 2016 Top MBE Award, 2015 Advocate of the Year Award, and 2012 and 1995 Supplier of the Year Awards from the Capital Region Minority Supplier Development Council; the 2014 Women in Business Champion from the D.C. Chamber of Commerce; the 2011 Pat Tobin Entrepreneurial Award from the National Association of Black Journalists; the 2011 Shining Star Award from the National Organization of Black Elected Legislative Women; the 2011 Entrepreneurial Trailblazer Award from Howard University's School of Communications; the 2009 Black Rose Entrepreneur Award from New York State Black Women Enterprises; the 2005 Enterprising Women of the Year Award from *Enterprising Women Magazine*; and the 2002 and 1998 Women in Business Advocate of the Year Award from the U.S. Small Business Administration, among others.

Dr. Sheila Brooks was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on January 30, 2014.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Sheila Brooks was conducted by Larry Crowe and Randall Pinkston on January 30, 2014 and November 2, 2017, in Washington, District of Columbia, and was recorded on 11 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Broadcast journalist and entrepreneur Sheila Brooks (1956 -) was the founder, president and CEO of SRB Communications. She received 47 national Telly Awards; a national Gracie Award; three Emmy Awards; and the inaugural Pat Tobin Entrepreneurial Award from the National Association of Black Journalists.

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:

Brooks, Sheila Dean, 1956-

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Pinkston, Randall (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Brooks, Sheila Dean, 1956---Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Occupations:

Broadcast Journalist

Entrepreneur

HistoryMakers® Category:

MediaMakers

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 Sheila Brooks, January 30, 2014 and November 2, 2017. 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 Sheila Brooks, Section A2014_043_001_001, TRT: 1:29:47 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Sheila Brooks, Section A2014_043_001_002, TRT: 2:29:31 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Sheila Brooks, Section A2014_043_001_003, TRT: 3:29:29 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Sheila Brooks, Section A2014_043_001_004, TRT: 4:29:08 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Sheila Brooks, Section A2014_043_001_005, TRT: 5:29:23 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Sheila Brooks, Section A2014_043_001_006, TRT: 6:25:26 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Sheila Brooks, Section A2014_043_002_007, TRT: 7:32:29 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Sheila Brooks, Section A2014_043_002_008, TRT: 8:28:10 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Sheila Brooks, Section A2014_043_002_009, TRT: 9:29:09 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Sheila Brooks, Section A2014_043_002_010, TRT: 10:28:32 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Sheila Brooks, Section A2014_043_002_011, TRT: 11:21:34 ?