

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Derek McGinty

PERSON

McGinty, Derek

Alternative Names: Derek McGinty;

Life Dates: August 17, 1959-

Place of Birth: Washington, District of Columbia, USA

Residence: Washington, D.C.

Occupations: Broadcast Journalist

Biographical Note

Broadcast journalist Derek McGinty was born on August 17, 1959 in Washington, D.C. He attended Woodrow Wilson High School in Washington, and graduated in 1977. McGinty went on to receive his B.A. degree in journalism from American University in Washington, D.C. in 1981.

McGinty was hired first as a desk assistant for ABC Radio News in the Washington bureau, and then became a reporter for United Press International's Washington Metro desk. From 1984 to 1991, McGinty worked as an anchor/reporter for WHUR-FM, where he went on to co-host "The Daily Drum," a news and interview program covering local politics. He then hosted the radio talk show called "The Derek McGinty Show" from 1991 to 1998 on WAMU in Washington, D.C. His guests included former Washington, D.C. Mayor Marion Barry, former Secretary of State James Baker, former House Speaker Newt Gingrich, jazz musician Wynton Marsalis, rapper Ice-T and author Robert Ludlum, among others. McGinty also served as an anchor for News Channel 8 in Washington, D.C. in 1994. In addition, he worked as a correspondent for the PBS series "State of the Union," as a moderator for "Straight Talk with Derek McGinty" on Washington, D.C.'s WETA-TV, and as a correspondent for the CBS News program "Coast to Coast." He has also served as host of WETA's public affairs program "Here & Now," guest host of NPR's All Things Considered, and host of Discovery Channel's weekly online talk show, "Live! With Derek McGinty." In 1998, McGinty left WAMU and was hired as a correspondent on the CBS News program "Public Eye with Bryant Gumbel." He then served as a correspondent for "Real Sports" on HBO from 1999 to 2003, and worked as a reporter and anchor for WJLA from 1999 to 2001. From 2001 to 2003, he was co-anchor of ABC's "World News Now," and anchor of "World News This Morning." In 2003, McGinty joined WUSA, where he serves as the weekday anchor for WUSA 9 News at 7pm and weeknight co-anchor for WUSA 9

News at 5pm, 6pm and 11pm. He was also the host of “Eye on Washington.” McGinty has written articles that have appeared in The New York Times; The Washington Post; The New York Daily News; and Washingtonian Magazine.

In 1994, “The Derek McGinty Show” received the Gold Award for Public Affairs Programming from the Corporation of Public Broadcasting, the highest programming honor in public radio.

Derek McGinty was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on March 19, 2014.

Related Entries

American University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

B.A. - Journalism

Woodrow Wilson High School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Diploma

Keene Elementary School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Rabaut Junior High School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Archbishop Carroll High School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

[EMPLOYEEOF]
[from ? to ?]

CBS News [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 199801 to 199811]

Correspondent/The Public Eye

HBO [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 199901 to 200307]

Correspondent, "Real Sports"

WAMU Radio [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 199111 to 199801]

Host, "The Derek McGinty Show"

WJLA TV [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 199911 to 200111]

Anchor - Reporter

WHUR-FM Radio [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1984 to 1991]

Anchor - Reporter

ABC World News This Morning [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 2001 to 2003]

Anchor

ABC News [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 200103 to 200306]

Anchor, World News Now

ABC Radio News [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 198105 to 198206]

Desk Assistant

WTOP TV [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 198206 to 198403]

News Writer

WUSA-TV 9 [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 200307 to ?]

News Anchor

Montgomery County Hospice [MEMBEROf]
[from ? to ?]

Board Member

National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ) [MEMBEROf]
[from ? to ?]

Member

Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. [MEMBEROf]
[from 198011 to ?]

Brother