

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with John E. Oxendine

PERSON

Oxendine, John E.

Alternative Names: John E. Oxendine;

Life Dates: January 20, 1943-

Place of Birth: Harlem, New York, USA

Residence: Boca Raton, FL

Work: FL

Occupations: Media Executive

Biographical Note

Media executive and entrepreneur John Edward Oxendine was born on January 20, 1943 in New York City, New York. He graduated from the Bronx High School of Science in 1959 and then received his B.A. degree in political science and sociology from Hunter College in 1965. Oxendine went on to serve in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1967 to 1973, and, in 1971, earned his M.B.A. degree from Harvard University's Graduate School of Business, where he was awarded the John Hay Whitney Fellowship.

Oxendine worked first as a teacher for the New York City Board of Education, and then as a management advisor for the Bedford-Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation. In 1971, he became a management consultant for Fry Consultants in San Francisco, California, and in 1972, was hired as a senior associate by Korn Ferry Associates in Los Angeles, California. From 1974 to 1979, Oxendine worked as an assistant manager at the First National Bank of Chicago, and from 1979 to 1981, served as assistant chief in the Finance Assistant Division of the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation. Then, in 1981, Oxendine was named president and chief executive officer of Broadcast Capital Fund, Inc., a venture capital organization that provided assistance to minority controlled communications businesses.

In 1987, Oxendine founded and became chairman and chief executive officer of Blackstar Communications, Inc., a company that acquired, owned and operated commercial television stations. He then formed Blackstar, LLC with Fox Broadcasting in 1994, and purchased Broadcast Capital, Inc. in 1999. Oxendine went on to serve as chairman, president and CEO of both Blackstar, LLC and Broadcast Capital, Inc.

Oxendine served as interim CEO and a member of the board of directors of Equity Media Holdings Corporation from June 2008 until January of 2009. He also served on the boards of Paxson Communications Corporation; Lockhart Companies, Inc.; Medlantic Healthcare Group; Family and Child Services of Washington, D.C.; the Interracial Council for Business Opportunity; the Minority Media and Telecommunications Council; the Monterey Institute of International Studies; the National Capitol Area YMCA; HSN, Inc.; Black Student Fund; the Palm Beach International Film Festival; Adopt-A-Classroom; and the Palm Beach County Film and Television Institute. In addition, he has authored several articles on venture capital and media investing that have been published in the Bar Association Law Journal, Duke University Law Review, Journal of Minority Business Finance, and Sound Management.

Oxendine was inducted into the Hunter College Alumni Hall of Fame in 1987 and the Minority Media and Telecommunications Council Hall of Fame in 2001. He lives in Boca Raton, Florida.

John E. Oxendine was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on September 9, 2014.

Related Entries

P.S. 46 Arthur Tappan School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Jhs 123 James M Kiernan [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Bronx High School of Science [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Hunter College [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

B.A.

Harvard Business School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

M.B.A.

Bedford-Stuyvesant Restoration [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1968 to 1969]

Advisor

Fry Consultants [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1971 to 1972]

Consultant

Korn Ferry [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1972 to 1974]

Senior Associate

First National Bank of Chicago [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1974 to 1979]

Asst. Manager

Federal Home Loan Bank [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1979 to 1981]

Asst. Chief

Broadcap [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1981 to 1995]

CEO / President

Blackstar [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1987 to ?]

CEO / President

Sportsmen [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

Member

Peace Corps [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

U.S. Marine Corps [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]