

# Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Gwendolyn DuBose Rogers

PERSON

Rogers, Gwendolyn DuBose, 1931-

**Alternative Names:** Gwendolyn DuBose Rogers;

**Life Dates:** May 30, 1931-August 22, 2021

**Place of Birth:** Birmingham, Alabama, USA

**Residence:** Chicago, IL

**Occupations:** Education Administrator

## Biographical Note

Educator Gwendolyn DuBose Rogers was born May 30, 1931, in Birmingham, Alabama, the youngest of three children. She graduated from Fairfield High School in 1948 and earned a B.A. in elementary education from Talladega College in 1952. Rogers received her M.S. in education from the University of Chicago the following year and her Ph.D. in educational psychology from Northwestern University in 1980.

From 1953 to 1955, Rogers worked as a primary school teacher in Chicago Heights, and in Chicago Public Schools from 1955 to 1966. She also spent 1958 teaching at the American Dependents' Schools in Toul, France. Beginning in 1966, Rogers worked as curriculum consultant for Head Start, where she remained for the next eleven years. From 1969 to 1975, she served as director of the Early Childhood Center at Walt Disney Magnet School. In 1972, she was hired as a lecturer at Chicago State University. From 1978 to 1979, Rogers was the director of the master's of teaching program at Northwestern University and from 1979 to 1981, she taught at the Stockton Child-Parent Center. Rogers was then hired as director of the education department of the Chicago Urban League where she advocated for public education from 1981 to 1993. In 1993, she was appointed director of the Department of Internal Affairs for the Chicago Park District, and from there she retired in 2001.

Rogers has served on the Illinois Community College Board, the Art Institute Advisory Committee and the Board of the Chicago Children's Museum. Her numerous awards include: the Kathy Osterman Award – Outstanding Executive Employee (1995), League of Women Voters of Chicago Civic Contribution Award (1993), Women's Hall of Fame, Chicago Human Relations Commission (1990), and the Award of Merit, Northwestern University (1990).

Rogers was married to former Judge John Rogers, Sr. and lived in Chicago.

Rogers passed away on August 22, 2021.

## Related Entries

**Fairfield Industrial High School** [STUDENTOF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Fairfield High Preparatory School** [STUDENTOF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Jefferson Davis High School** [STUDENTOF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Chicago Public Schools** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 1996 to ?]

**Teacher**

**Head Start** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 1982 to ?]

**Curriculum Consultant**

**Walt Disney Magnet School** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 197405 to 1976]

**Early Childhood Center Director**

**Chicago State University** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Lecturer**

**Northwestern University** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 1998 to ?]

**Director of the Master's of Teaching Program**

**Stockton Child-Parent Center** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 1978 to ?]

**Teacher**

**Chicago Urban League** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 1981 to 1993]

**Director of the Education Department**

**Chicago Park District** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 1993 to 2001]

**Director of the Department of Internal Affairs**

