

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Percy Bates

PERSON

Bates, Percy

Alternative Names: Percy Bates;

Life Dates: July 8, 1932-

Place of Birth: Pensacola, Florida, USA

Residence: Ann Arbor, MI

Work: Ann Arbor, MI

Occupations: Education Professor

Biographical Note

Educational psychologist Percy Bates was born July 8, 1932 in Pensacola, Florida. Raised by his mother, Gladys Travis Bates, he attended Spencer Bibbs Elementary School and Booker T. Washington High School. After moving to Detroit, Bates ran track and played football at Hamtramck High School, and he graduated from there in 1950. Entering the United States Army in 1952, Bates served at Fort Bliss in El Paso, Texas, where he sang with fellow soldier and pianist Earl Grant. After earning his B.S. degree in biology from Central Michigan University in 1958, Bates received his M.A. in vocational rehabilitation in 1961 from Wayne State University and his Ph.D. in educational psychology from the University of Michigan in 1968.

In 1968, during a strike of black students demanding black faculty at the University of Michigan, Bates was promoted to assistant professor of education. At the University of Michigan's School of Education, Bates served as assistant division director of curriculum, teaching and psychological studies and as director of programs for educational opportunity. He later became deputy assistant secretary of special education in the United States Department of Education.

Bates is a member of the Board in Control of Intercollegiate Athletics at the University of Michigan. He is also very active in University of Michigan's Student Athlete Advisory Committee. A founding board member and former chairman of the Higher Education Commission of the National Alliance of Black School Educators, Bates has received numerous awards. Bates lives in Ann Arbor with his wife Cheryl.

Related Entries

Booker T. Washington High School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Spencer Bibbs Elementary School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Spencer Bibbs Academy [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Hamtramck High School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Central Michigan University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Wayne State University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

University of Michigan [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

University of Michigan [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from ? to ?]

Detroit Public Schools [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1959 to 1961]

Special Education Teacher

Ypsilanti Public Schools, Program in Educable Mentally Impaired [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1961 to 1964]

Psychologist and Director

Boys Training School [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1963 to 1964]

Psychologist

U.S. Department of Education [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1980 to 1981]

Deputy Assistant and Director, Office of Special Education

National Council for the Project on Equal Education Rights (PEER) [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

Member

High Education Commission, National Alliance of Black School Educators [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

Chair

Father Patrick Jackson House [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

Member

Board in Control of Intercollegiate Athletics, University of Michigan [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

Member

American Association on Mental Retardation [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

American Educational Research Association [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

American Psychological Association [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

Council for Exceptional Children [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

Michigan Psychological Association [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

National Alliance of Black School Educators [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

National Association for Multicultural Education [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

National Association for School Desegregation [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]