

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Isisara Bey

PERSON

Bey, Isisara, 1953-

Alternative Names: Isisara Bey;

Life Dates: July 18, 1953-

Place of Birth: Brooklyn, New York, USA

Residence: New York, NY

Work: Washington, NY

Occupations: Entertainment Executive

Biographical Note

Corporate entertainment executive and event producer Isisara Bey was born on July 18, 1953 in Brooklyn, New York to Shirley and Eustace Jones of Guyana. She graduated from the Academy of St. Joseph in Brentwood, New York with honors in 1970. Bey earned her B.A. degree in theater in 1976 and her M.A. degree in media communications in 1980, both from Antioch University.

Bey's career began as an on-air personality for WEAA.FM at Morgan State University in Baltimore, Maryland. She then worked as an award-winning news writer and producer for WJZ-TV. In 1988, Bey began working at Sony Pictures Entertainment in Los Angeles, California as a management associate. She was promoted to director of corporate affairs in 1992, later becoming the senior director. She then transferred to Sony Music Entertainment in New York City as vice president, corporate affairs. She retired from the position in 2007, and became the vice president of programs for the non-profit organization, Count Me in For Women's Economic Independence. She also founded her own consulting company, Journey Agent Productions, serving as a keynote speaker, live events producer and workshop facilitator. Her U.S. and international clients included the Institute for Veterans and Military Families, the Apollo Theater, New York Public Radio, American Society of Transplantation, New Jersey Performing Arts Center, Odyssey Media Business Women's Retreat, Association of Southeast Asian Nations Women of the World (WOW) Festival, Vital Voices and Pathways to Prosperity. She served as the artistic director of the March on Washington Film Festival in Washington, D.C. since 2014.

Bey served on the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation board, and organized the

first Congressional Tri-Caucus retreats of Black, Hispanic, and Asian & Pacific Islander members of Congress. Bey also served on the boards of the National Book Foundation, Tony Bennett's Exploring the Arts Foundation, Rhythm & Blues Foundation and the e-Women Network Advisory Council.

As a news producer for WJZ-TV, Bey received the National Unity Award for reporting on social issues and Maryland's Associated Press award for best investigative/documentary. She was also awarded the Outstanding Radio, Producer, Short Form award from Associated Press.

Bey has one daughter named Makara Bey.

Isisara Bey was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on August 29, 2016.

Related Entries

St. Peter Claver Elementary [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

St. Pascal Baylon School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Academy of St. Joseph [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Regents Diploma

Antioch College [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

B.A.

Antioch College [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

M.A.

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

WEAA.FM [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1979 to 1984]

On-Air Talent, Producer

WJZ-TV [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1984 to 1988]

News Producer, Weekend On-Air Talent

Sony Pictures Entertainment [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1988 to 1994]

Director, Corporate Affairs

Sony Music Entertainment [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1994 to 2007]

VP, Corporate Affairs

Count Me In for Women's Economic Independence [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 2007 to 2013]

VP, Programs

Journey Agent Productions [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 2013 to ?]

Consultant, Producer

March on Washington Film Festival [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 2015 to ?]

Executive Producer

KPFW Pacifica [MEMBEROF]

[from 1990 to 1993]

Board Member

Congressional Black Caucus Foundation [MEMBEROF]

[from 2000 to 2004]

Board Member

Rhythm & Blues Foundation [MEMBEROF]

[from 2001 to 2006]

Board Member

Bill T. Jones Dance Company [MEMBEROF]

[from 2002 to 2006]

Board Member

National Book Foundation [MEMBEROF]

[from 2003 to 2006]

Board Member

Center for Traditional Dance and Music [MEMBEROF]

[from 2004 to 2007]

Board Member

Exploring the Arts Foundation [MEMBEROF]

[from 2004 to 2006]

Board Member