

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Carol Fulp

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Fulp, Carol, 1952-
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Carol Fulp,
Dates:	October 21, 2016
Bulk Dates:	2016
Physical Description:	5 uncompressed MOV digital video files (2:09:11).
Abstract:	Corporate executive Carol Fulp (1952 -) worked at the Gillette Company, WCVB-TV in Boston, and John Hancock Financial Services before becoming the president and CEO of The Partnership, Inc. in 2012. Fulp was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on October 21, 2016, in Boston, Massachusetts. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2016_077
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Corporate executive Carol Fulp was born on January 28, 1952 in Queens, New York to Paris Nicholson, Jr. and Miriam Nicholson, the first African American female manager at Swissair Airlines. Fulp graduated from Springfield Gardens High School in Queens, New York in 1970. She initially studied at Boston University, but earned her B.S. degree in liberal arts from the State University of New York at Albany in 1974.

Fulp first worked as a customer service representative at the Gillette Company in Boston, Massachusetts. Over the next decade, she was promoted to corporate employee relations manager at Gillette. In 1987, Fulp transitioned to the television industry as a human resource manager at WCVB, Boston's ABC-TV affiliate, where she was eventually promoted to director of community programming and human resources. In 1998, Fulp left WCVB to become the assistant vice president of community relations at John Hancock Financial Services. She was promoted to vice president of community relations in 2002, and senior vice president of corporate responsibility and brand initiatives in 2009. In 2010, Fulp was selected by President Barack Obama as a representative of the United States to the 65th Session of the United Nations General Assembly. In 2012, Fulp left John Hancock to become president and CEO of The Partnership, Inc., a leadership development organization for executives and professionals of color. She was appointed to the board of trustees of the University of the Virgin Islands by U.S. Virgin Islands Governor John de Jongh, and the board of trustees of Boston Public Library as well as the City of Boston Compensation Advisory Board by Boston Mayor Marty Walsh. Appointed by Governor Deval L. Patrick, Fulp served for five years on the Massachusetts Convention Center Authority Board. She was also appointed to the Massachusetts State Treasurer Deborah Goldberg's Advisory Committee on Wage Equality, and served on the Harvard Kennedy School Women's Leadership board. Fulp joined the Boston University Board of Trustees in 2015.

Fulp received numerous awards, including the Eleanor Roosevelt Award and the Patriot's Award as well as the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce 2000 Pinnacle Award and 2017 Distinguished Bostonian Award. In 2003, Fulp was named one of the "50 Most Powerful Women In Boston" by *Boston Magazine*. Fulp was a founding co-

chair of the Massachusetts Conference for Women in 2005, the largest women's leadership conference in the country with 10,000 attendees. Fulp was the recipient of an honorary doctorate of law from New England Law Boston and an honorary doctorate from Salem State University.

Fulp is married to bank executive C. Bernard Fulp.

Carol Fulp was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on October 21, 2016.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Carol Fulp was conducted by Larry Crowe on October 21, 2016, in Boston, Massachusetts, and was recorded on 5 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Corporate executive Carol Fulp (1952 -) worked at the Gillette Company, WCVB-TV in Boston, and John Hancock Financial Services before becoming the president and CEO of The Partnership, Inc. in 2012.

Restrictions

Restrictions on Access

Restrictions may be applied on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of The HistoryMakers®.

Restrictions on Use

All use of materials and use credits must be pre-approved by The HistoryMakers®. Appropriate credit must be given. Copyright is held by The HistoryMakers®.

Related Material

Information about the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview, as well as correspondence with the interview subject is stored electronically both on The HistoryMakers® server and in two databases maintained by The HistoryMakers®, though this information is not included in this finding aid.

Controlled Access Terms

This interview collection is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

Persons:

Fulp, Carol, 1952-

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Fulp, Carol, 1952---Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Occupations:

Corporate Executive

HistoryMakers® Category:

BusinessMakers

Administrative Information

Custodial History

Interview footage was recorded by The HistoryMakers®. All rights to the interview have been transferred to The HistoryMakers® by the interview subject through a signed interview release form. Signed interview release forms have been deposited with Jenner & Block, LLP, Chicago.

Preferred Citation

The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Carol Fulp, October 21, 2016. The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection, 1900 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

Processing Information

This interview collection was processed and encoded on 5/30/2023 by The HistoryMakers® staff. The finding aid was created adhering to the following standards: DACS, AACR2, and the Oral History Cataloging Manual (Matters 1995).

Other Finding Aid

A Microsoft Access contact database and a FileMaker Pro tracking database, both maintained by The HistoryMakers®, keep track of the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview.

Detailed Description of the Collection

Series I: Original Interview Footage

Video Oral History Interview with Carol Fulp, Section A2016_077_001_001, TRT: 1:29:08 ?

Carol Fulp was born on January 28, 1952 in Queens, New York to Miriam Riley Nicholson and Paris Nicholson, Jr. Her maternal grandparents, Viola Hattersen Riley and MacDonald Riley, were born on St. Croix in the U.S. Virgin Islands, and moved to Queens, where her grandfather worked at the post office. Fulp's paternal grandparents, Osee Lockhart Nicholson and Paris Nicholson, Sr., were also from the U.S. Virgin Islands. After marrying in St. Thomas, they moved to Queens, as Fulp's great-grandfather, Alfred Lockhart, Sr., disapproved of their relationship. Fulp was raised in Queens' Jamaica neighborhood, where she attended P.S. 120. She spent the summers with her relatives in the U.S. Virgin Islands. When she was twelve year old, her family moved to Rochdale Village, a predominantly Jewish community in Queens. She went on to attend the International Summer Camp Montana in Crans-Montana, Switzerland. There, she learned to speak French, which angered her white peers at J.H.S. 8.

Video Oral History Interview with Carol Fulp, Section A2016_077_001_002, TRT: 2:28:27 ?

Carol Fulp developed petit mal epilepsy at the age of seven years old, and continued to have seizures until her late twenties. She began acting in school plays at P.S. 140 in Queens, New York. She took piano lessons from her paternal grandmother, Osee Lockhart Nicholson, and performed at J.H.S. 8. She went on to develop an interest in dance, and formed the Royal Eight girls club at Springfield Gardens High School. Fulp stopped attending the International Summer Camp Montana in 1968, when her father, Paris Nicholson, Jr., passed away. From that time, she spent the summers visiting her paternal grandparents and brother, Paris Nicholson III, who had moved to the U.S. Virgin Islands. Later, Fulp's mother remarried to her deceased husband's half-brother, Liston Nicholson. Fulp studied liberal arts at Boston University in Massachusetts, but struggled to cope with the side effects of her epilepsy medication. She received her bachelor's degree in 1984 from the University of the State of New York at Albany.

Video Oral History Interview with Carol Fulp, Section A2016_077_001_003, TRT: 3:29:11 ?

Carol Fulp was introduced to politics by her stepfather, Liston Nicholson, who ran for the New York City Council. Fulp later married Bruce Bolling, who was the first black president of the Boston City Council. Her father-in-law, Royal L. Bolling, and brother-in-law, Royal Bolling, Jr., both served in the Massachusetts state legislature. Fulp and Bolling later divorced. In 1987, Fulp joined the staff of Boston's WCVB-TV station. She combined their human resources (HR) and community relations departments, and earned the title of vice president. She represented the station on the board of The Ad Club, where she met a board member from John Hancock Financial Services Inc. Through that contact, Fulp was recruited to the firm as the second vice president of HR, and created the Summer of Opportunity and Kenya Project youth programs. She met her second husband, C. Bernard Fulp, in 2000 at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Fulp also organized Boston Women Build in the Bayou after Hurricane Katrina.

Video Oral History Interview with Carol Fulp, Section A2016_077_001_004, TRT: 4:31:30 ?

Carol Fulp was the senior vice president of human resources and community relations at John Hancock Financial Services Inc. in Boston, Massachusetts. In this capacity, she developed partnerships with Edward Everett Elementary School and the South Boston Neighborhood House, and created the Boston Marathon Kenya Project to educate youth about the Kenyan culture. She also founded the Massachusetts Conference for Women, and helped open the Maranyundo Girls School in Nyamata, Rwanda. In 2008, Fulp co-chaired the New England branch of Obama for America, for which she received the Eleanor Roosevelt Award from the Massachusetts Democratic Party. In 2009, Fulp was

named a trustee of the University of the Virgin Islands by Governor John de Jongh, Jr. In 2011, President Obama appointed Fulp as a delegate to the United Nation General Assembly. In 2012, she became president and CEO of The Partnership, Inc. in Boston. Fulp was also a board member of Citizens United for Research in Epilepsy.

Video Oral History Interview with Carol Fulp, Section A2016_077_001_005, TRT: 5:10:55 ?

Carol Fulp narrates her photographs.