



Francesca McKee, 2017

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1

00:00:00,030 --> 00:00:05,910

so can you just tell me your name and

2

00:00:03,030 --> 00:00:07,830

how you relate to crosswords my name is

3

00:00:05,910 --> 00:00:10,590

Francesca McKee and that was one of the

4

00:00:07,830 --> 00:00:14,190

first interns of the program that first

5

00:00:10,590 --> 00:00:17,070

summer in 2007 can you tell me a little

6

00:00:14,190 --> 00:00:20,850

bit how crossroads has impact impacted

7

00:00:17,070 --> 00:00:22,500

your life yeah absolutely while I was a

8

00:00:20,850 --> 00:00:25,470

student here I didn't really kind of

9

00:00:22,500 --> 00:00:26,910

fully grasp the importance of what we

10

00:00:25,470 --> 00:00:29,400

were doing why was important

11

00:00:26,910 --> 00:00:31,619

insignificant to the city into roads as

12

00:00:29,400 --> 00:00:33,840

well it wasn't until later after I

13

00:00:31,619 --> 00:00:36,300

graduated and went away from Memphis and

14

00:00:33,840 --> 00:00:39,660

came back and just fell in love with my

15

00:00:36,300 --> 00:00:40,950

city again and just like the story of

16

00:00:39,660 --> 00:00:42,809

Memphis is a story of the everyday

17

00:00:40,950 --> 00:00:45,480

person and the everyday man and women

18

00:00:42,809 --> 00:00:46,770

men and women who just wake up and try

19

00:00:45,480 --> 00:00:48,899

to do the right thing and so I think

20

00:00:46,770 --> 00:00:51,270

reflecting back on my time at Crossroads

21

00:00:48,899 --> 00:00:52,770

that's the common thread that is

22

00:00:51,270 --> 00:00:54,480

throughout all of the interviews people

23

00:00:52,770 --> 00:00:56,309

were just living their lives they were

24

00:00:54,480 --> 00:00:58,820

lawyers and teachers and doctors and

25

00:00:56,309 --> 00:01:02,520

they were workers during this very

26

00:00:58,820 --> 00:01:05,339

significant and impactful part of our

27

00:01:02,520 --> 00:01:07,380

city's history and just a just - they

28

00:01:05,339 --> 00:01:09,030

woke up one morning and they had this

29

00:01:07,380 --> 00:01:10,950

experience and they were able to share

30

00:01:09,030 --> 00:01:13,860

it and tell it and it impacted them in a

31

00:01:10,950 --> 00:01:17,159

in a very significant way just hearing

32

00:01:13,860 --> 00:01:19,080

their stories just allowed me to fall in

33

00:01:17,159 --> 00:01:21,810

love with Memphis again and fall in love

34

00:01:19,080 --> 00:01:24,810

with the beauty of the people that are

35

00:01:21,810 --> 00:01:26,820

here awesome can you tell me one

36

00:01:24,810 --> 00:01:28,140

specific story that you experienced when

37

00:01:26,820 --> 00:01:32,840

you were working for crossroads that

38

00:01:28,140 --> 00:01:34,549

like was really important to you mmm

39

00:01:32,840 --> 00:01:37,880

trying to think of a particular

40

00:01:34,549 --> 00:01:40,380

interview that really really stands out

41

00:01:37,880 --> 00:01:43,979

to me I think one of our first

42

00:01:40,380 --> 00:01:46,380

interviews was Lynn Turley and at the

43

00:01:43,979 --> 00:01:48,119

very first interview we had no idea what

44

00:01:46,380 --> 00:01:50,549

we were doing like setting up a camera

45

00:01:48,119 --> 00:01:53,070

and mics and pre-interview and different

46

00:01:50,549 --> 00:01:54,770

things like that but literally she she

47

00:01:53,070 --> 00:01:57,840

was a teacher she's a retired teacher

48

00:01:54,770 --> 00:02:00,600

here in legacy Memphis City Schools and

49

00:01:57,840 --> 00:02:04,229

the day that dr. King was assassinated

50

00:02:00,600 --> 00:02:05,610

she was at school working and so what

51

00:02:04,229 --> 00:02:07,680

I'm recalling from the story that she

52

00:02:05,610 --> 00:02:09,030

told us that they had to gather all of

53

00:02:07,680 --> 00:02:12,480

the students into

54

00:02:09,030 --> 00:02:15,690

the gymnasium or the cafetorium in her

55

00:02:12,480 --> 00:02:17,850

school and I remember she paused because

56

00:02:15,690 --> 00:02:19,920

she I could she was like transported

57

00:02:17,850 --> 00:02:21,840

back to that moment and it was a dead

58

00:02:19,920 --> 00:02:24,840

silence in the room I I vividly remember

59

00:02:21,840 --> 00:02:26,730

that but she remembers the songs that

60

00:02:24,840 --> 00:02:29,550

they were singing to the students and

61

00:02:26,730 --> 00:02:32,070

together as like a whole community at

62

00:02:29,550 --> 00:02:34,020

that school and it was just so powerful

63

00:02:32,070 --> 00:02:37,110

in their moment to be transported back

64

00:02:34,020 --> 00:02:39,360

to her with her during that moment that

65

00:02:37,110 --> 00:02:40,830

you know you hear about growing up from

66

00:02:39,360 --> 00:02:43,200

my family and parents and different

67

00:02:40,830 --> 00:02:45,330

things like that but to to feel like I

68

00:02:43,200 --> 00:02:47,489

was there with her in that moment on

69

00:02:45,330 --> 00:02:49,590

such an important data in our history it

70

00:02:47,489 --> 00:02:52,260

was it was just really powerful it was

71

00:02:49,590 --> 00:02:54,510

very very magical I think that was being

72

00:02:52,260 --> 00:02:56,160

our first interview and being very very

73

00:02:54,510 --> 00:02:57,630

nervous about it and how it was gonna go

74

00:02:56,160 --> 00:02:58,320

making sure we were asking the right

75

00:02:57,630 --> 00:03:00,660

questions

76

00:02:58,320 --> 00:03:02,520

the fact that you know we asked one

77

00:03:00,660 --> 00:03:05,100

question and and from that came this one

78

00:03:02,520 --> 00:03:07,530

powerful story and one significant part

79

00:03:05,100 --> 00:03:09,959

in her life in her career as a teacher

80

00:03:07,530 --> 00:03:12,900

that it really really moved me it was it

81

00:03:09,959 --> 00:03:15,420

was really awesome so cool thank you so

82

00:03:12,900 --> 00:03:17,750

much for coming again thank you for

83

00:03:15,420 --> 00:03:17,750

interviewing