

Bobby Ann Owens Starnes

Ms. Starnes was born in 1946 and graduated from Northridge in 1964. She earned a B. S. in Elementary Education from Wright State University in 1971 and her master's and doctorate from Harvard in Teaching, Curriculum, and Learning Environments in 1987 and 1990.

After graduation from Wright State, Bobby taught at Twin Valley Schools (1968-1970) and at Northridge (1970-1977). She then became the founder director and teacher at the Oxford School for Young Children (1977-1986) and was field study supervisor at Western College in Oxford (1984-86).

She then moved to Cambridge, Massachusetts, where she served as a research assistant, a teaching fellow and student teacher supervisor at Harvard, and program director of the Harvard S.T.E.P. Bobby became editor of the Teachers' Network News and issue editor and book editor of the Harvard Educational Review. She also taught at the University of New Hampshire and Leslie College Graduate School between 1988-1991. In 1991 Ms. Starnes became education department head at Roger Williams University in Bristol, Rhode Island. She became president of the Foxfire Fund, Inc. in Mountain City, Georgia, in 1994 and is currently in that office. Foxfire is a national nonprofit, educational organization that began in the 1960's.

In 1975 Bobby won an outstanding service to the youth of Northridge award and between 1987-89 she was a member of the editorial board of the Harvard Educational Review. She has served as a consultant or has presented workshops at several school districts and is on the executive committee of the Appalachian Studies Association.

Ms. Starnes said, "I am really very honored to have been selected for induction into the Hall of Fame. My experiences in Northridge as a community member, student, and teacher formed the basis for everything I've been able to do since. It is an honor to serve as a role model to students who, like me, have so many wonderful surprises ahead of them, so much more potential than they realize, and prospects and hopes they can't imagine today."