

Basic Detail Report



Title Interview with Tanaya Henry

Date 2022 August 15

Primary Maker Samariya Smith

Medium born digital audio file

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Description (a) Interview with Tanaya Henry. Interviewed by Samariya Smith on

August 15, 2022 at New Haven Free Public Library. (b) Photograph of Tanaya

Henry taken at her interview. She was interviewed as part of the Connecticut

Historical Society's Community History Project discussing her experience during

the COVID-19 Pandemic. Tanaya recalled hearing about covid for the first time

from her mother, who worked at Yale. The first disruptions to her life due to

covid were being told not to come into work and a future flight being canceled.

As a self-proclaimed germaphobe, Tanaya was already stocked up on supplies

like bleach and hand sanitizer when the pandemic hit. Further precautions

included having people remove their shoes and outerwear upon entering her

home. Tanaya received her reliable information from Yale Hospital. She

supported the use of vaccines and masks but understood why African Americans

were hesitant to receive the vaccine. She stated that it's "on you" if you

don't want to wear a mask, but that people should not make others feel

negative because of their choice to wear a mask. She would like the new normal

to be one in which people respect other people's choices to get vaccinated or

wear masks. Tanaya's mental health benefited from the pandemic. She took

on a part-time job and was able to work on outreach for her non-profit, Traveler

on a Mission. She restarted hobbies including painting, sewing, and cooking. She

described the pandemic as "awkward" and discussed the increase in the

number of animals she saw coming out of the woods. Her advice for people

living through a future pandemic is to "be prepared."

Dimensions Duration: 23 Minutes, 30 Seconds