



**Hines Ward** is perhaps the greatest wide receiver in Steelers' history and certainly the best blocking wide receiver in NFL history. He is a two-time Super Bowl champion; the MVP of Super Bowl XL; a four-time pro bowler; the all-time team leader in receptions, receiving yards, and receiving touchdowns; the only receiver in Steelers history to surpass 1,000 receiving yards for four straight seasons; was named to the Steelers' 75th Season All-Time Team; and owns every receiving record in franchise history.

Born in South Korea to a Korean mother and an African American father, Ward was raised in the Atlanta area by his single mom, Young-He Ward, who managed to provide for her son despite coming to the US without any friends and not knowing English. In recognition of his mother's sacrifice, he would embody that sense of determination throughout his life. Perhaps former Steelers offensive coordinator and current Arizona Cardinals coach Ken Whisenhunt put it best when he said, "Hines makes all the overachievers in the world proud. I'm just so proud of him because of what a team guy he is. Whatever obstacles have been put in his way, he's surpassed that because he burns with a competitive spirit unlike anyone I've ever seen."

In 2006, Ward returned to South Korea for the first time since he moved to the US and spent two months there on a mission to use his celebrity status to encourage social and political reform in the country, focusing on the discrimination that mixed-racial children endure there. On his final day in South Korea, he donated \$1 million to create the Hines Ward Helping Hands Foundation to further that cause. Passionate about speaking out against mixed-race discrimination, Hines Ward discusses his multi-racial upbringing...

## Hines Ward

### Speech Topics

- Sports
- Motivation
- Inspiration
- Diversity
- Celebrity

