

Hollywood: Her Story May 2021 ENewsletter Oscar Wrap up

The Academy Awards were held on April 25 with fewer people and a smaller red carpet because of COVID restrictions, but nevertheless a salute to movies and the people who make them possible. Let's learn how women fared at the 93rd Oscars.



Chloe Zhao was one of two women (the sixth and the seventh in Oscar history) to be nominated for the Best Director Oscar. When she won, she became only the second woman and the first woman of color to win the Best Director Oscar. Zhao also took home the Best Picture Oscar for her movie *Nomadland*, shared with two men and two women, **Mollye Asher** and **Frances McDormand**. McDormand also won the Best Actress Oscar for her performance in the movie – her third Best Actress Oscar. Zhao was born in China and attended school in England before finishing high school in the U.S. She is a graduate of Mount Holyoke College and studied film at New York University. Zhao's debut film *Songs My Brother Taught Me* was released in 2015 and premiered at the Sundance Film Festival. Her 2017 film *The Rider* premiered at the Cannes Film Festival. *Normadland* was her third feature film, which she directed,

wrote, produced and edited.



Ann Roth made Academy Award history when she won the Best Costume Design Oscar for *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom*. At 89 years old, she is the oldest woman to win an Oscar. It was her second Best Costume Design Oscar – she had won in 1997 for *The English Patient*. Roth has been nominated for Best Costume Design another three times. She has more than 100 film credits.

Mia Neal and **Jamika Wilson** were the first Black women to win the Best Makeup and Hairstyling Oscar. They shared an Oscar with a man for their work in *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom*. Neal, who headed the hair department, credited Ann Roth as her mentor – who suggested using a horsehair wig for Viola Davis' character in the movie. Neal attended the Juilliard School Professional Apprentice Program for Wigs and Makeup. Wilson has been Viola Davis' personal hairstylist for more than a decade.



Youn Yuh-Jung became the first Korean person to win an acting Oscar. She received the Best Supporting Actress Academy Award for *Minari*. Yuh-Jung has been acting for five decades. Her performance in *Minari* also garnered her other awards and she is first Korean actress to be nominated for a Critics' Choice Movie Award.

The Best Original Song Oscar eluded **Diane Warren** again for the twelfth time. Instead, **H.E.R.** and **Tiara Thomas** shared the Best Original Song Oscar for the song "Fight for You" from the movie *Judas and the Black Messiah*.





Michelle Couttolenc took home a shared Best Sound Oscar for her work in*Sound of Metal.* She has more than 130 film credits in sound going back to 2006.

Women also won Oscars this year for: Writing, Original Screenplay; Production Design; Film Editing; Documentary, Short Subject; Documentary, Feature; and Animated Feature Film. For a complete list of all the women who have been nominated for and who have won Oscars, by year and by category, please go to our website – <u>www.hollywoodherstory.com</u>.

Women in front of and behind the camera make the movies that we all welcome into our hearts and homes. Women across all the areas of moviemaking from actress to animator, editor to stuntwoman, costume designer to screenwriter, producer to director have contributed to the success of the movie industry since its founding in the 1890s. Help us celebrate these women who are written into movie history in *Hollywood: Her Story*.

Jill S.Tietjen and Barbara Bridges

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