



Hollywood: Her Story November 2024 ENewsletter 2024 Donations to the Academy Collection

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences has an Academy Collection – a vast trove of more than 52 million film-related items. In 2024, many additional items were added to the collection. **Bette Midler** donated two ensembles that she wore in *The Rose* that were designed by **Theoni V. Aldredge**. **Jamie Lee Curtis** donated a dress she wore in *True Lies*. A dress worn by **Joanne Woodward**, designed by **Renie**, was donated as were a pair of gloves worn by Woodward. A costume designed by **Colleen Atwood** from *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street* was also donated. The 2024 donated items included the papers of film director Barbara Kopple and make-up artist Ve Neill.



Film director, producer, and documentarian **Barbara Kopple** donated photographs, historical film posters, press reviews, archival documents and production files. Over the course of her nearly 50-year career, Kopple won two Best Documentary, Feature Oscars, the first woman to do so. Kopple also won a Primetime Emmy and received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.

Her first Best Documentary, Feature Oscar was in 1977 for *Harlan County, U.S.A.* This movie documented the grueling and sometimes violent Brookside Strike in southeast Kentucky in which coal miners and their wives went to battle against the mine's owners. In 1990, the movie was selected to be preserved in the National Film Registry of the U.S. Library of Congress, one of 25 films selected annually for cultural, historic or aesthetic importance to preserve the nation's film heritage. In 1991, she won her second Oscar for *American Dream*. This movie was also about a labor strike – the unsuccessful 1985-1986 Hormel Strike in Minnesota.



A makeup artist with more than 90 credits, **Ve Neill** donated production records, scripts and photographs to the Academy. Neill started doing makeup when she was five years old. When she was 18, she attended a science fiction convention and was told that she couldn't make masks because she was a girl. Taking up that challenge, she began an odyssey of self-teaching and picking up as many skills and techniques as she could with little help from her male counterparts. Neill first began doing makeup in the movies in the 1970s and has been nominated for eight Best Makeup Oscars, winning three times – *Beetlejuice* (1989), *Mrs. Doubtfire* (1994), and *Ed Wood* (1995). She is still active in the industry having worked on two movies currently in post-production.

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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