



AMIA the association of moving image archivists

The Dan and Kathy Leab Award was established to acknowledge the contribution of archivists who seldom have the opportunity of being recognized outside their institutions. The Leab Award was presented annually to one individual chosen by the AMIA Board of Directors with advice and consultation from the association's Awards Committee.

Conceived originally to honor the "unsung" work of moving image archivists, the Dan and Kathy Leab Award was central to AMIA's development as a professional organization. The Award was retired in 2010.

Award recipients have worked in a moving image archive or with a moving image collection, and have made a significant contribution to their institution or the field as a whole. Contributions are either in the form of a notable achievement or special project, or through the noteworthy performance of daily tasks carried out over a long period of time.

The award was funded through the generous support of Dan and Kathy Leab, long-time patrons of the archives and library community and long-time friends of AMIA. Dan Leab was the keynote speaker at AMIA's 1991 conference in New York, where he spoke on the relationship between film and history. He is a professor at Seton Hall University, and he and Kathy Leab own American Books Prices Current, the authoritative publication on antiquarian books. Upon receiving the donation that established the award in 1995, AMIA President Eddie Richmond thanked the Leabs "...not only for your contributions to AMIA, but for your belief that collecting, preserving and providing access to moving images is important work which should be recognized.

Previous Award Recipients

2009, Charles Hopkins
2008, Elaine Burrows
2007, Arthur (Artie) Wehrhahn
2006, Madeline Matz
2005, Todd Van
2004, Andrew Murdoch
2003, Marlena Wyman
2002, Dick Fauss
2001, Michele Kribs
2000, William D. Kirby
1999, Susan Wester
1998, Edward Stratmann
1997, Michael Godwin
1996, Rosemary Bergeron



**2009 Dan & Kathy Leab Award Winner:
Charles Hopkins, UCLA Film and Television Archive**

For 38 years Charles Hopkins has been a pillar for UCLA. In that time, he has seen the archive grow from a small university collection to the second largest in the United States. Charles began as a volunteer in 1971, eventually went part-time, and in 1974 full-time. In the early years, he was both the archivist, as well as a film programmer. Over the years, he has been involved in various capacities as motion picture archivist, curator of film programs, special assistant for grant writing, and senior administrator. He has also been an incredible resource for the existence and location of prints to almost everyone in the field. His film historical knowledge is legendary. Charles continues to be an invaluable asset for the UCLA Film and Television Archive, as well as its institutional memory.



**2008 Dan & Kathy Leab Award Winner:
Elaine Burrows**

An unsung heroine in the fields of collections documentation and public outreach, during 38 years of service with the (then) National Film and Television Archive at the British Film Institute, London, Elaine assisted countless researchers, archivists, programmers, students and members of the public with access to and information about the collections. Elaine champions the often unrecognized work of other film technicians and archivists, interviewing and recording them to ensure their contributions are not lost to history.



2007 Dan & Kathy Leab Award Winner:

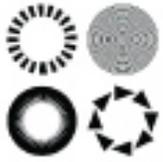
Arthur (Artie) Wehrhahn, MOMA

Arthur Wehrhahn was enthusiastically nominated by colleague who worked with him in Pennsylvania, who wrote, "Artie has been taking care of the Moma collection for over 30 years now. He was vault manager in Jersey when it was there and oversaw its move to Pennsylvania when their new facility was built. He was very much involved in the construction and research of the new facility. I had the opportunity to work with Artie in Pennsylvania but had met him earlier when I was a Selznick Student. I have been impressed by his dedication and diligence to that collection. He has also been very available to the many Selznick students who have come to him seeking advice. He's been a longtime AMIA member and supporter and really is one of those people that works quietly behind the scenes - always has a smile on his face."



2006 Dan & Kathy Leab Award Winner: Madeline Matz, Library of Congress

Madeline Matz was enthusiastically nominated by two of her colleagues at the Library of Congress, who wrote that she “retired in January, 2006, but continues to volunteer in the Division, working on important projects to help prepare for the move to the Library’s new National AudioVisual Conservation Center. Throughout her long and impressive career in motion picture preservation and reference, Madeline has been an inspiration to all her colleagues. As a preservationist, she has worked tirelessly to identify, preserve, restore, and exhibit film. She helped set the standards that have made our facility one of the finest publicly funded preservation laboratories in the world. As a reference librarian, her constant efforts on behalf of researchers and staff and her unparalleled knowledge of our collections have added tremendously to our collective understanding of media history. The success of such efforts as the *The Griffith Project*, the multi-volume study of the creative output of D.W. Griffith, would be unthinkable without her work. In addition to continually improving the MBRS collection of books and periodicals, she is creating such a collection for the National AudioVisual Conservation Center.”



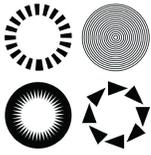
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2005 Dan & Kathy Leab Award Winner:

Todd Van Dusen

Todd Van Dusen has literally worked his way up the Archives, beginning in the 1970s when he worked in the shipping and receiving department. He then became the resident operator of their new telecine equipment in the 1980s, and for over 20 years worked transferring archival footage for in-house preservation and reference projects as well as outside documentary projects. Despite his breadth of work (having transferred countless hours of materials for the archive and even playing a lead role in the planning design and acquisition of new a digital scanning suite) Todd remains unsung to the larger archival community, and even to his own institution. He is heavily relied on, but rarely recognized, finding it sometimes even difficult to get funding to attend the annual AMIA conference.

In November of last year, Todd was one of only a few staff members who were hand selected to be part of a high-security tour of the Gatineau Preservation Centre for US President George W. Bush and First Lady Laura Bush. This wasn't a typical tour, but it was entirely typical that Todd was selected. A recent evaluation described Todd in these words - "Virtually all of the work performed by Mr. Van Dusen is scrutinized by clients of the LAC. Mr. Van Dusen transcends all of the aspects of competencies in personal integrity, reliability, judgement, leadership and effective interpersonal skills that are required in his unique position."



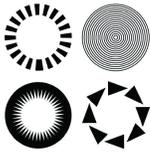
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**2004 Dan & Kathy Leab Award Winner:
Andrew Murdoch, University of South Carolina Newsfilm Archive**

Andrew Murdoch was enthusiastically nominated by Dan Streible, who details the impressive career and important roles of Andrew by stating that he, "embodies the quality of archivist for which the Leab Award was created. For nearly 30 years he has labored in a single moving image archive doing a variety of meticulous tasks well. His role in cataloging and researching the holdings of the Newsfilm Archive has been invaluable to both the University of South Carolina and to the field at large.

Through the 1970s he maintained the school's 16mm film collection. In 1980, when USC acquired the Fox Movietone News Collection (11 million feet of nitrate negatives), he began his work with the Newsfilm Library, which continues unabated.

Initially, Andrew traveled as a projectionist, giving more than 100 presentations of the Movietone acquisition. For 20 years, he has created every verified record in the Newsfilm Library catalog, both for Fox newsreels and a large collection of local television newsfilm. He has also shepherded the catalog through three format migrations. As curator, he has researched the collections for thousands of film producers, scholars, students, and independent researchers."



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2003 Dan & Kathy Leab Award Winner:

Marlena Wyman, Audio-Visual Archivists, Provincial Archives of Alberta

From Dr. Sandra Thompson, Director & Provincial Archivist, Provincial Archives of Alberta: "Marlena Wyman has been the Audio Visual archivist at the Provincial Archives of Alberta for the last 19 years. As an archivist, Marlena acquires, appraises, preserves, arranges and describes audio visual archives at the Provincial Archives of Alberta, making the archival holdings available to the researching public. The audio visual program within the Private Records Section of the Provincial Archives includes responsibility for photographs, sound recordings, films and video archives, which document the history of Alberta's government and its people. Because Marlena's work is media-based, her area of responsibility also includes the audio visual records in the Government Records Section.

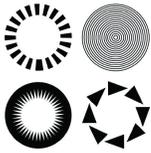
Marlena always approaches her work and challenges associated with audio visual archives with an upbeat professionalism based both in the experience and the knowledge that she has gained in her field of expertise. She is always willing and happy to share her experience and knowledge with staff and new comers to the archival field. She has participated and led several workshops both at the Provincial Archives and with the Archives Society of Alberta, sharing her expertise in appraisal and preservation of audio visual media. She has also mentored several students who have shown an interest in audio visual archival issues.

Although Marlena is responsible for a variety of audio visual media, she has displayed a particular dedication to the moving image collections at the archives. They are one of the most fragile and require special care and handling, and often seem to be the underdog in receiving the necessary attention they require. Marlena has been the champion of the moving image collections at the Provincial Archives, promoting the preservation issues and also promoting the collections as well. Her steadfast dedication to the moving image collection is featured annually at the Provincial Archives of Alberta during the Annual Film Night. These Film Nights have been very successful in showcasing the archival holdings and attract near full and sometimes full houses to their showings. During the preparation of these Film Nights, Marlena takes the time to review and select films that will showcase films in the institutions holdings based on a different theme each year.

One of Marlena's most significant contributions to the Provincial Archives and the moving image collections has been as a pioneer in developing a video dubbing room for the preservation and duplication of the video collection. This video dubbing room has been realized in the new state-of-the-art building the Provincial Archives of Alberta now calls its home. This video dubbing room can handle 2", 1" and 3/4" VHS and Beta formats of video. She achieved this triumph through a variety of her own initiatives, her persistence in bringing the moving image collection preservation needs to management's attention, through partnerships with CBC Television, and CFRN Television as well as outright purchase of equipment when budgets allowed. Through her own initiatives and intimate knowledge of the collection she has secured several grants for a variety of preservation projects, for example the Canadian Council of Archives preservation of holdings grant for video dubbing, and the AV Preservation Trust Fund preservation award for the preservation of the Fil Fraser film collections held at the Provincial Archives.

Another of Marlena's most significant contributions to moving image preservation is her work with the CBC archives project. She was part of the team that set up and managed the preservation and cataloguing of the extensive holdings of the CBC held at the Provincial Archives.

Although Marlena is the overall Audio Visual archivist at the Provincial Archives of Alberta with a very significant portfolio, it is obvious that moving image archival holdings are of particular interest to her. The care and attention Marlena has given this fragile media has helped develop a significant archival collection at the Provincial Archives of Alberta. Moreover, Marlena has championed moving image acquisition and preservation which have helped her achieve the recognition and credibility in the archival and film production communities she has today."



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**2002 Dan & Kathy Leab Award Winner:
Dick Fauss, West Virginia State Archives**

Dick is one of the long-time members of AMIA who works very hard, much of it behind the scenes carrying on the work that needs to be done and with very little fanfare. He is a reserved person, so he is not someone who would toot his own horn about his work. Certainly, he is under-recognized by the moving image archive community, as is much of West Virginia's history. He has been working to change that, but he is working in a large organization with a limited budget for his own division and fills another role as microfilm archivist.

Dick joined the West Virginia State Archives in 1982. WWSA holds news and documentary footage from five commercial television stations and West Virginia Public Broadcasting. The collection also contains films from both amateur and professional filmmakers that are illustrative of the history and culture of West Virginia.

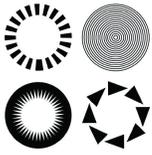
While a graduate student, he compiled A Bibliography of Labor History in News Film, Vols. 1-4 (published by the Division of Social and Economic Development, Center for Extension and Continuing Education, Institute for Labor Studies, West Virginia University, 1980). This publication is quoted by many as one of the leading resources on labor history on film. The awards committee feels that this is a special project which proved important to the nominee's institution or the field as a whole.

He joined FAAC/TAAC in 1987 and then AMIA when it was created. Dick has been on AMIA's Elections Committee since 1999 and was its chair in 2000. He has been a member of the Local Television Task Force Steering Committee since its inception, participated in the LC TV/Video Preservation Study, and has done a tremendous amount of work for this initiative.

This year Dick's work at WWSA will include selecting videotapes (some relatively unknown) from the Archives' collections to be cataloged on the West Virginia Union Catalog and made available for viewing in the Archives and History Library. Dick is extending the a/v archives service hours for improved public access to these collections.

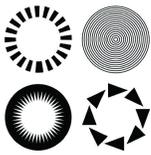
Dick presented a paper at the Society of American Archivists D.C. meeting in 2001, "Working Within a Larger Institution to Promote Access" on the panel "Marketing and Promotion: Raising Community Awareness of Moving Image Archives." He also obtained funding from NFPF to preserve five films documenting various West Virginia communities in the 1920s, 1930s, and 1940s, two of which are included in the Treasures of American Film Archives DVD.

Dick Fauss is always willing to volunteer his time and expertise. For his service to the archival community, Mr. Fauss receives the 2002 Dan & Kathy Leab Award.



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**2001 Dan & Kathy Leab Award Winner:
Michele Kribs**



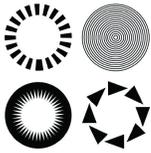
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2000 Dan & Kathy Leab Award Winner: Doug Kirby

The winner of the 2000 Dan and Kathy Leab Award, which acknowledges an "unsung hero" in the moving image archival field, was Doug Kirby. Kirby's under-graduate degree was in Fine Arts at the Nova Scotia College of Art & Design (B.F.A. 1969-73), and he also completed a post-graduate year of study in Public Administration, at Dalhousie University (CPA in 1974). He has worked at the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) since 1978, starting in Supply and Services and becoming Media Coordinator for CBC Halifax's Broadcast Material Library/Television Archive in 1997. Over the years at CBC he has served as Film Librarian, Telecommunications/Records Management Assistant and Broadcast Material Library supervisor. He has served as major researcher on many CBC productions and co-productions using archival material, such as Remember Africville, a NFB/CBC co-production on the sad history of the relocation of part of Halifax's Black community in the name of urban renewal during the 1960's. He is particularly proud of his research work for PIER 21, a new national historic site and interpretation center opened in 1999 celebrating Halifax as the main entry point for Canadian immigration in the 20th century <<http://pier21.ns.ca/>> ; and also for setting up the Media Library (using a LEITCH Video-Server) for Public Television's twenty-third annual screening conference "INPUT 2000" - where CBC Halifax hosted 1002 delegates from 48 countries from around the world. <www.input2000.ca/> . Kirby has also coordinated the use of material for web sites such as the Canadian Communications' Foundation History Of Broadcasting In Canada. He is currently coordinating the CBC TV's maritime region portion of a Canada-wide major access and preservation project—known simply as the "Archives Project" 1998-2001. CBC Maritimes is also a partner in a local Cold Storage Vault Consortium along with the Council of Nova Scotia Archives (CNSA is a professional association representing both the small and large archives within Nova Scotia) and Nova Scotia Archives & Records Management (NSARM - formerly the Public Archives of Nova Scotia). Besides preserving the consortia partner's moving, and still film collections, they will also be marketing the rental of one-third of the vault's space to independent producers in the area.

Besides his substantial responsibilities at CBC, over the last twenty-two years Kirby has been active in many voluntary and professional associations: the Canadian Broadcasting League, the Association for the Studio of Canadian Radio & Television (ASCRT/AERTC), the Canadian Communications Foundation (CCF), the International Federation of Television Archives (IFTA/FIAT), the Motion Picture Heritage Fund of Nova Scotia (MPHFNS), the Association of Records Managers and Administrators (ARMA), the Council of Nova Scotia Archives, and, of course, AMIA. Kirby currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Nova Scotia Cultural Network <www.culture.ns.ca/>, which is dedicated to trying to bring together five major cultural sectors—the arts, cultural industries, design, heritage, and performing arts—in an effort to effect political change, and to promote awareness of the importance of the cultural sector to Nova Scotians.

Doug Kirby is an active and effective advocate for moving image archives and for the wider cultural heritage, and his work speaks for the continued relevance and vitality of these sectors. In his own words he is "an enthusiastic promoter of the use of archival material in current programming,.....excited about the converging digital media streams at the CBC, and ... elated and exhilarated about [his] work at the Nova Scotia Cultural Network."



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1999 Dan & Kathy Leab Award Winner: Susan Wester

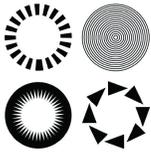
Tribute by Martha Yee

AMIA awards the Dan and Katy Leab Award each year to an "unsung hero" in moving image archiving, and there is no question that Susan Wester is an unsung hero at the UCLA Film and Television Archive. Susan has made a major contribution to the creation of our 136,000 title catalog. I estimate that she did the initial inputting of fully half of those titles. Among Susan's many assets is a generous spirit, so I am sure she won't mind sharing some of the credit for this catalog with the people who preceded her in her job, and who input the other half of the records; we're very proud that the first person to fill Susan's position, Linda Tadic, is now the current AMIA president! Linda input a third of the database in the time she worked for us.

Not only is Susan responsible for having input half the database, but the inputting has become increasingly difficult over time, a challenge that Susan never failed to rise to. Over time, the archivists who supply the information that Susan inputs have supplied us with more and more information about each title, and Susan has never balked at learning more of the complexities of the MARC format in order to be able to input this more and more complex information. Thus, the records she inputs are considerably longer and more time-consuming to input than they used to be. Her intellectual curiosity and desire to learn make her a great asset to our staff.

She eagerly volunteers to branch out and do much more than is included in her official job description. Over the course of time, she has served as an assistant to our curator, Eddie Richmond, on special projects, a collection development person for the reference book collection that supports the cataloging and curatorial work at the Hollywood location of the Archive, and a newsreel cataloger. In her latter capacity, she has input a substantial amount of information from the Hearst newsreel paper documentation that we received along with the newsreel films. She has also input a substantial amount of information to enhance our television records, using information provided by our television archivist, Dan Einstein.

In the last year, we have built up a backlog of about 24,000 titles while waiting for the completion of new software for our catalog; Susan, on her own initiative, planned and built a backlog database to help the archivists cope with this frustrating situation. This is typical of her initiative, cleverness, and willingness to help out without being asked. In addition to all of her other fine qualities, she is good company, well-read and well-spoken, easy to work with, and just a general all-round unsung hero.



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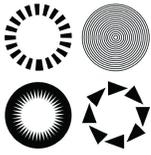
**1998 Dan & Kathy Leab Award Winner:
Edward Stratmann**

Tribute by Jan-Christopher Horak

The AMIA Awards Committee is pleased to announce that Edward Stratmann of the George Eastman House Film Department is the 1998 recipient of the Dan and Kathy Leab Award. The award, which will be presented to Stratmann at the association's 1998 annual conference in Miami, is meant to recognize the important work being done by archivists on a daily basis that may not otherwise receive recognition outside of their institutions.

Ed Stratmann has been working in the Film Department at George Eastman House for almost 30 years. In the days of the Film Department's founder, James Card, Ed started as the museum's electrician and part-time assistant projectionist. He moved full time into the Film Department in the 1970s and became film vault manager. In 1987 he was promoted to assistant curator and made responsible for coordinating all Film Department preservation activities. Given staffing problems, Ed also had to continue double duty as vault manager.

With new staffing in 1995 Ed was finally able to relinquish his film vault managerial activities and concentrate on preservation and restoration. In the last twelve years he has worked on countless film restorations, including *The Blue Bird*, *The Last of the Mohicans*, *The Moon and Six Pence*, and *The Shakedown*. His crowning achievement has been the reconstruction of *The Lost World*, which is now available in 35mm and color in a much longer version than previous Kodascope prints and has been acclaimed national and internationally. Given the fact that Ed is still a young man, we have much to look forward from him in the next twenty years.



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**1997 Dan & Kathy Leab Award Winner:
Michael Godwin**

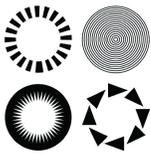
The AMIA Awards Committee is pleased to announce Michael Godwin of the Library of Congress Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division is the 1997 recipient of the Dan and Kathy Leab Award. The award is meant to recognize the important work being done by archivists on a daily basis that may not otherwise get recognition outside of their institutions. The award will be presented during the association's 1997 annual conference in Washington, DC. By receiving the award, Godwin's great contribution to the important work of cataloging processes and standards, both within the Library and without, is being acknowledged.

Michael Godwin has worked in the Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division for over 30 years. Throughout his career Godwin has made enormous contributions to the Division, especially to the work and organization of the processing areas.

As Assistant Section Head of the Processing Section (1980-1992) he bore major responsibility for the technical services related to the organization and control of moving image and recorded sound materials. He was also responsible for the automation of these and other divisional activities, for the development and use of cataloging standards, and for the promotion of networking activities, both nationally and international. He has been very active in the promotion of national cooperative cataloging efforts. He helped organize the first and second North American Film and Television Cataloging Conferences. He helped to develop the standards for the National Center for Film and Video Preservation's national database project, NAMID. He assisted with the development and publication of *Archival Moving Image Materials: A Cataloging Manual*. He has worked with numerous film archives, including the Museum of Modern Art, Museum of Television and Radio, UCLA Film and Television Archive, and George Eastman House.

Godwin supervised a staff of technicians and catalogers, establishing workflow patterns for the section, coordinating with other areas of the Library of Congress, such as the Copyright Office and the Exchange and Gift Division. He served as principal cataloger, bearing full responsibility for maintaining the quality of cataloging. He continues to train and counsel staff on the entire range of processing and cataloging activities.

Godwin has played a key role in much technological advancement in the Division, assisting in the design of the Nitrate Inventory System and authoring the system manual. He continues to consult on the development of new systems in the Division.



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1996 Dan & Kathy Leab Award Winner: Rosemary Bergeron

Tribute by Ernest J. Dick

Rosemary Bergeron from the National Archives of Canada was the first recipient of the Dan and Kathy Leab Award, presented during the 1996 annual AMIA conference in Atlanta in December. The purpose of the Leab award is to acknowledge the contribution of moving image archivists who seldom have an opportunity to be recognized outside their own institutions. The "unsung" moving image archivists who made notable contributions to a special project, to their institutions, or to the moving image archive world in general are to be recognized by this award.

Rosemary Bergeron joined the National Archives of Canada in 1984 after graduating with a degree in journalism from Carleton University. She took responsibility for CBC radio and television holdings at the National Archives and soon became an essential point of reference for anyone working with these collections. Rosemary was part of the team preparing the exhibition "Beyond the Printed Word... Newsreel and Broadcast Reporting in Canada 1897 - 1987," and her encyclopedic memory for news events proved indispensable for this project.

In 1990 Rosemary completed a Masters degree in Canadian studies at Carleton University and her thesis on "The Presentation of News on CBC Television, 1953-1988" is a valuable reference for anyone archiving a television news collection. At the National Archives she also worked with countless oral history and home movie collections, particularly enjoying working with former Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau's family movies from the 1930s. She worked on dozens of committees at the National Archives including developing rules for archival description for sound and moving image material and developing selection criteria. Her article in *Archivaria* #23 (Winter 1986-87), "The Selection of Television Productions for Archival Preservation," has been cited by many working in this area, and her workshop (with Greg Eamon) at the Boston AMIA conference on selection criteria has been requested many times to be repeated.

As staff and budgets have been cut at the National Archives in recent years Rosemary has been assigned ever more collections and responsibilities. She has accepted such assignments willingly and invariably brought new energy and commitment to these areas. All the while Rosemary has maintained her knowledge and interest in Canadian broadcasting history and is well known and appreciated by anyone working in this area. On the personal level Rosemary has developed an interest in gardening and genealogy and is becoming a formidable expert in these areas as well.

Rosemary was thrilled with the recognition of her peers signaled by becoming the first recipient of the Leab award. She has pledged that the \$1,000 she received with the Leab award will be banked to cover her AMIA membership for her lifetime and looks forward to a long involvement with AMIA.