Finding Aid to the Frances Kavanaugh-Hecker Clippings and Scrapbook MSA.29

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2013
Title: Frances Kavanaugh-Hecker Clippings and Scrapbook
Identifier/Call Number: MSA.29
Contributing Institution: Autry National Center, Autry Library
Language of Material: English
Physical Description: 2.0 Linear feet(1 box, 1 oversized box)
Date (inclusive): 1941-1947
Abstract: Frances Kavanaugh-Hecker (1915-2009) was known as the “Cowgirl of the typewriter” and was one of the few women scriptwriters for western film and television. This collection consists of ephemera, newspaper clippings, publications, publicity packets, and a scrapbook. Material in this collection was created from 1941-1947.
creator: Kavanaugh-Hecker, Frances
Related archival materials
Collections 88.58, 93.167, 97.101, and 97.149, Autry National Center, Los Angeles, California.
Frances Kavanaugh photographs in the Autry National Center collections.
Scope and contents
This collection consists of ephemera, newspaper clippings, publications, and a scrapbook by and about Frances Kavanaugh-Hecker and the movie productions she worked on during her career. Publications include full and partial issues of industry periodicals, such as the Hollywood Reporter and Hollywood Review, dating from 1941-1947. Also included are publicity packets for 12 of her films, primarily focusing on the Trail Blazers.
Biographical note
Frances Kavanaugh-Hecker (1915 February - 2009 January 23) was known as the “Cowgirl of the typewriter” and was one of the few women scriptwriters for western film and television. During her career she wrote for Monogram, PRC, United Artists, and Eagle Lion Studio. She was main writer for the Trail Blazers from 1942-1944, starring Ken Maynard, Hoot Gibson, and Bob Steele. Between 1941 and 1950, she wrote over 30 scripts.
In 1997, the Autry celebrated Kavanaugh-Hecker’s contribution to Westerns with an exhibit in the Museum’s Imagination Gallery, featuring her L. S. Smith typewriter, two screenplays, and ephemera.
Access
Collection is open for research. Appointments to view materials are required. To make an appointment please visit http://theautry.org/research/research-rules-and-application or contact library staff at rroom@theautry.org. An item-level inventory is available from library staff.
Use
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Acquisition
Donated in Memory of Frances Kavanaugh-Hecker by Robert Hecker to the Autry.
Processing history
Processing of collection and publication of finding aid made possible by a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC).
Preferred citation
Frances Kavanaugh-Hecker Clippings and Scrapbook, 1941-1947, Autry National Center, Los Angeles; MSA.29; [folder number][folder title][date].
Subjects and Indexing Terms
Arts publicity
Clippings
Hollywood Reporter Hollywood Review
Mud Creek Glacier (Calif.) -- Photographs
Photographs
Press kits
Reviews
Scrapbooks

*Trail blazers (Motion picture : 1940)*

Western films

Western television programs

Women in motion pictures

Women in the motion picture industry

Women screenwriters