



## November 2019 Her Story ENewsletter Biographical Movie Subjects

Two feature films and one documentary released in 2019 have featured women who are among those profiled in our book. The film titles are *Judy*, *Harriet* and *Miss America By Day*, whose subjects are Judy Garland, Harriet Tubman and Marilyn Van Derbur Atler, respectively. Let's learn a little about each of these outstanding women.



**Harriet Tubman**

**Harriet Tubman** escaped slavery and lived in Philadelphia. Prior to the Civil War, she is estimated to have gone back to Maryland nineteen times and rescued 300 people from slavery. A very brave and courageous woman who stood five feet tall and suffered from neurological problems as a result of having been hit in the head with a heavy metal object during her years of enslavement, Tubman demonstrated cunning during her many trips south. Called the "Moses of her people", she carried a pistol for the times she needed to encourage her frightened charges to continue along the Underground Railroad. Tubman never lost a passenger as a conductor on that Railroad and served as a spy, scout and nurse for the Union during the Civil War. Inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame and featured on a U.S. postage stamp, Harriet Tubman is proposed as the new face on the US \$20 bill.



**Judy Garland**

Actress, dancer and singer **Judy Garland** is best remembered by many for her role as Dorothy in the 1939 classic movie *The Wizard of Oz*, for which she won a Juvenile Academy Award. Already on the vaudeville stage when she was two years old, Garland performed with her parents and two sisters. The "Gumm sisters" made their film debut in 1929. She was cast as Dorothy

when she was sixteen years old. Garland had a difficult adulthood and struggled with alcohol and substance abuse. She nevertheless continued to perform and was nominated for a Best Actress Oscar for *A Star is Born* and a Best Supporting Actress for *Judgment at Nuremberg*. She became the first woman to win a Grammy in the category of Album of the Year. After her untimely death, Garland was honored with the Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award.



**Marilyn Van Derbur Adler**

Incest survivor **Marilyn Van Derbur Adler** has given hope to many through her recovery from years of abuse. The 1958 Miss America, representing Colorado, Adler revealed in 1991 that she was a survivor; she established the Survivor United Network to help others with emotional help and support to start their recovery process. Her book *Miss America by Day* received Writer's Digest Most Inspirational Book Award. Adler has been inducted into the Colorado Women's Hall of Fame and the Colorado Authors' Hall of Fame. An earlier version of the 2019 documentary, *An Incest Survivor's Odyssey*, won the 2018 Los Angeles Film Festival for Most Inspiring Woman in Film.

Harriet Tubman, Judy Garland, and Marilyn Van Derbur Adler are among the more than 850 women profiled in our book *Her Story: A Timeline of the Women Who Changed America*. Women's accomplishments continue to inspire and encourage us all. Continue to help us tell women's stories!

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