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## Managing Costume Collections: An Essential Primer (Costume Society of America Series)

*Louise Coffey-Webb*

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### *Managing Costume Collections* AN ESSENTIAL PRIMER



LOUISE COFFEY-WEBB

FOREWORD BY ROBIN D. CAMPBELL

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**Louise Coffey-Webb : Managing Costume Collections: An Essential Primer (Costume Society of America Series)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised **Managing Costume Collections: An Essential Primer (Costume Society of America Series)**:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy rudieexcellent resource0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Like a Good Collection, Well-OrganizedBy Porphyria ChancewhenThis book is clearly written and well-organized, justifying the description as an essential primer. It covers a lot of ground--from initial organization and inventory through exhibitions and display--but manages to do so succinctly and with reasonable thoroughness. A number of illustrations--sketches and photos--are useful: I would single out the photos in the

preservation section as especially helpful. Excellent appendices include worksheets, sample forms, and a very good glossary. A current list of resources is also useful but might need updating for future editions. I received a complimentary copy of this book in return for a review.

*Managing Costume Collections* offers systematic approaches to organization, accessibility, record keeping, safety, and a host of other stewardship concerns related to managing costume collections of every type. Conceived to address needs long identified by the Costume Society of America, this guide is written for a broad spectrum of collection managers at museums, historical societies and houses, university theaters and study collections, and company archives, as well as for vintage dealers, private collectors, and living history performers. Drawing on the wisdom of many disciplines, Coffey-Webb takes a holistic approach to problem-solving, explaining appropriate procedures and the reasons behind them, to arm collection managers, specialists and nonspecialists alike, with sufficient tools to make informed decisions on their own. She also offers alternative solutions to the recommended guidelines. Although there are books on costume conservation, there is a paucity of available material on costume-collection management. *Managing Costume Collections* is the first work in collection management to address a wide audience, from general to academic and hobbyist to professional, interested specifically in costume.