

## **Kathy Connell**

SAG Awards® Executive Producer Executive Producer, Awards and National Programming, SAG-AFTRA

Kathy Connell, who has produced the Screen Actors Guild Awards® since its inception in 1995 and is a member of the Producers Guild of America, is Executive Producer, Awards and National Programming for SAG-AFTRA. In this role, she serves as liaison to the SAG-AFTRA Foundation and oversees SAG-AFTRA's Special Projects Department, in addition to working on many other SAG-AFTRA initiatives. Connell also is an ardent advocate for actors' rights, women, and the environment, a trinity of passions woven throughout her career. Her efforts have led to the SAG Awards being the only television special event to be honored with eight consecutive Environmental Media Association (EMA)'s Green Seals and with EMA's Green Production Award for continually redoubling those efforts.

A second-generation actor and union member who performed in film, television commercials and stage for more than 25 years, Connell has always been an active supporter of SAG and SAG-AFTRA. She has held various positions on the Screen Actors Guild Board of Directors, including national recording secretary, where she led a small group of SAG Board members who devised and fleshed out the complete plans for a televised awards show based on actors honoring their union peers, including the innovative and distinctive Ensemble categories. Other productions she's worked on include the Screen Actors Guild's yearlong celebration of its 75th Anniversary, featuring SAG's receipt of the Hollywood Historic Trust's Award of Excellence Star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, and a series of tributes and celebrations in Hollywood, New York and SAG's 20 other branches. Deeply involved with the entertainment industry, Connell is a member of the Television Academy and has been honored to serve on the jury panel for the Irish Film & Television Academy's Film & Television Awards and, most recently, the Motion Picture Academy/US China Film and Television Entertainment Industry Expo's Golden Screen Awards.

