



Smithsonian

*National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center*

## Patricia Bath Papers

Bath (Patricia)Papers

NMAH.AC.1585

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
<b>Title:</b>	Patricia Bath Papers
<b>Date:</b>	1960-2019
<b>Identifier:</b>	NMAH.AC.1585
<b>Source:</b>	Bath, Eraka (Donor)
<b>Extent:</b>	11.5 Cubic feet (12 boxes)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Summary:</b>	Papers document ophthalmologist, inventor, scientist, and educator, Dr. Patricia Bath (1942-2019), a pioneering laser scientist whose patented medical invention—the LaserPhaco.

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Collection donated by Eraka Bath, 2023

### Processing Information

Collection is unprocessed.

### Preferred Citation

Patricia Bath Papers, Archives Center, National Museum of American History

### Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

### Conditions Governing Use

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## Content Description

The papers document Dr. Bath's medical career and professional positions, invention work on the Laserphaco, advocacy and community work, presentations, and publications. The collection contains awards, clippings, correspondence, patents, research notes, business records, education materials, scrapbooks, photographs and slides, audio visual materials, physician's bag, and a prototype of her Laserphaco Probe.

## Arrangement

Collection is unarranged.

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## Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

### Subjects:

- Black people -- Race identity
- Blindness
- Inventors, Black
- Lasers
- Ophthalmology
- Patents -- United States
- Women inventors

### Types of Materials:

- Correspondence -- 20th century
- Correspondence -- 21st century
- Patents -- 1950-2000
- Reports

### Names:

- Bath, Eraka
- Bath, Patricia, Dr., 1942-2019

### Occupations:

- Surgeons