2017: Frances McDormand (Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri)
2016: Emma Stone (La La Land)
2015: Brie Larson (Room)
2014: Julianne Moore (Still Alice)
2013: Cate Blanchett (Blue Jasmine)
2012: Jennifer Lawrence (Silver Linings Playbook)
2011: Meryl Streep (Iron Lady)
2010: Natalie Portman (Black Swan)
2009: Sandra Bullock (The Blind Side)
2008: Kate Winslet (The Reader)
2007: Marion Cotillard (La vie en rose)
2006: Helen Mirren (The Queen)
2005: Reese Witherspoon (Walk the Line)
2004: Hilary Swank (Million Dollar Baby)
2003: Charlize Theron (Monster)
2002: Nicole Kidman (The Hours)
2001: Halle Berry (Monster's Ball)
2000: Julia Roberts (Erin Brockovich)
1999: Hilary Swank (Boys Don't Cry)
1998: Gwyneth Paltrow (Shakespeare in Love)
1997: Helen Hunt (As Good as It Gets)
1996: Frances McDormand (Fargo)
1995: Susan Sarandon (Dead Man Walking)
1994: Jessica Lange (Blue Sky)
1993: Holly Hunter (The Piano)
1992: Emma Thompson (Howards End)
1991: Jodie Foster (The Silence of the Lambs)
1990: Kathy Bates (Misery)
1989: Jessica Tandy (Driving Miss Daisy)
1988: Jodie Foster (The Accused)
1987: Cher (Moonstruck)
1986: Marlee Matlin (Children of a Lesser God)
1985: Geraldine Page (The Trip to Bountiful)
1984: Sally Field (Places in the Heart)
1983: Shirley MacLaine (Terms of Endearment)
1982: Meryl Streep (Sophie’s Choice)
1981: Katharine Hepburn (On Golden Pond)
1980: Sissy Spacek (Coal Miner’s Daughter)
1979: Sally Field (Norma Rae)
1978: Jane Fonda (Coming Home)
1977: Diane Keaton (Annie Hall)
1976: Faye Dunaway (Network)
1975: Louise Fletcher (One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest)
1974: Ellen Burstyn (Alice Doesn’t Live Here Anymore)
1973: Glenda Jackson (A Touch of Class)
1972: Liza Minnelli (Cabaret)
1971: Jane Fonda (Klute)
1970: Glenda Jackson (Women in Love)
1969: Maggie Smith (The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie)
1968: Katharine Hepburn (The Lion in Winter) and Barbra Streisand (Funny Girl), TIE
1966: Elizabeth Taylor (Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf?)
1965: Julie Christie (Darling)
1964: Julie Andrews (Mary Poppins)
1963: Patricia Neal (Hud)
1962: Anne Bancroft (The Miracle Worker)
1961: Sophia Loren (Two Women)
1960: Elizabeth Taylor (Butterfield 8)
1959: Simone Signouret (Room at the Top)
1958: Susan Hayward (I Want to Live!)
1957: Joanne Woodward (The Three Faces of Eve)
1956: Ingrid Bergman (Anastasia)
1955: Anna Magnani (The Rose Tattoo)
1954: Grace Kelly (The Country Girl)
1953: Audrey Hepburn (Roman Holiday)
1952: Shirley Booth (Come Back, Little Sheba)
1951: Vivien Leigh (A Streetcar Named Desire)
1950: Judy Holliday (Born Yesterday)
1949: Olivia de Havilland (The Heiress)
1948: Jane Wyman (Johnny Belinda)
1947: Loretta Young (The Farmer’s Daughter)
1946: Olivia de Havilland (To Each His Own)
1945: Joan Crawford (Mildred Pierce)
1944: Ingrid Bergman (Gaslight)
1943: Jennifer Jones (The Song of Bernadette)
1942: Greer Garson (Mrs. Miniver)
1941: Joan Fontaine (Suspicion)
1940: Ginger Rogers (Kitty Foyle)
1939: Vivien Leigh (Gone with the Wind)
1938: Bette Davis (Jezebel)
1937: Luise Rainer (The Good Earth)
1936: Luise Rainer (The Great Ziegfeld)
1935: Bette Davis (Dangerous)
1934: Claudette Colbert (It Happened One Night)
1932/1933: Katharine Hepburn (Morning Glory)
1931/1932: Helen Hayes (The Sin of Madelon Claudet)
1930/1931: Marie Dressler (Min and Bill)
1929/1930: Norma Shearer (The Divorcee)
1928/1929: Mary Pickford (Coquette)
1927/1928: Janet Gaynor (Seventh Heaven/Street Angel/Sunrise)