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WITH "FRIENDS" CO-CREATOR MARTA KAUFFMAN WORKING BEHIND THE SCENES, HANNAH SENESH DOCUMENTARY SET TO COMPLETE FILMING

**THE EMMY AWARD-WINNING PRODUCER JOINS THE NONPROFIT KATAHDIN FOUNDATION IN
BRINGING THE HOLOCAUST HEROINE'S STORY TO THE SCREEN**

Hollywood, CA – Thanks to a huge fundraising effort led by "Friends" Co-Creator Marta Kauffman, the nonprofit Katahdin Foundation will now be able to complete filming for the documentary **Blessed Is the Match: The Life and Death of Hannah Senesh** by the end of the year. Kauffman, an Emmy winner and well-known philanthropist, serves as Executive Producer on the film.

Hannah Senesh is a heroine in Israel for her participation in the only outside rescue mission for Jews during the Holocaust. The documentary will retrace the final harrowing months of Hannah's life, when she was imprisoned by the Nazis alongside the very person she went to Hungary to save: her mother.

"Everybody is surprised a story of this magnitude hasn't been told before in a full-length, scholarly documentary and there is a huge sense of urgency since the few survivors who knew Hannah are now in their 80's," said director Roberta Grossman.

Holocaust scholars and historians agree that a documentary on the World War II-era heroine/poet is long overdue and an esteemed group of professionals have been consulting for the film, including Michael Berenbaum, who oversaw the creation of the US Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington DC, and Sir Martin Gilbert, who has written dozens of books on the Holocaust and the formation of Israel.

The crew will soon be traveling to Hungary and the Czech Republic to shoot reenactments for many of the prison scenes where Hannah and her mother were incarcerated for three months. They will complete filming in Israel, where they will interview Hannah's nephews Eitan and David Senesh, her only living relatives and the guardians of her legacy. Grossman has been given a wealth of materials from the Senesh family archive – including hundreds of unpublished letters and nearly 1,300 never-before-seen photos.

Kauffman, one of the most accomplished women in television history, will be advising on the

script, as well as structure content for **Blessed Is The Match**, which is being told as a multilayered mother-daughter story. They are planning for a theatrical release and a national broadcast on public television in early 2008.

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Founded by Lisa Thomas, the co-founder and former CEO of Clif Bar, Inc., the Katahdin Foundation is a not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) corporation based in Berkeley, California. Katahdin's mission is to tell compelling stories often ignored by the mainstream media – stories that inform, enlighten, entertain and inspire. Katahdin is dedicated to creating high quality documentary films, ancillary educational materials and media projects that open minds, provoke dialogue and encourage positive social change – outstanding works that touch the soul as they sound a call to action.

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