

FAMILY NETWORKS



### HALLMARK CHANNEL PARTNERS WITH TOP-TIER TALENT FOR NEW SERIES AND MOVIES

## <u>"Boston Legal" Alums Kimberly Williams Paisley and</u> <u>Phoef Sutton Reunite for New Hallmark Channel Series in Development</u> <u>"Darrow & Darrow"</u>

## Andie MacDowell to Star in Original Movie "The Beach House" Based On Mary Alice Monroe's Beloved Novel

# Mariah Carey to Direct and Executive Produce Three Original Movies

## Kristin Davis to Star in Original Movie "Wild At Heart" Set in Kenya

#### Jennifer Love Hewitt to Direct and Executive Produce Three Original Movies

PASADENA, CA – January 8, 2015 – **Hallmark Channel** continues to bring big names and acclaimed talent to the small screen, with all-new original projects, including the development of **"Darrow & Darrow"** starring Kimberly Williams Paisley ("Boston Legal," "Nashville"), a three-picture executive producing deal with superstar Mariah Carey, an original movie set in Kenya starring Kristin Davis ("Sex and the City") and three original movies with Jennifer Love Hewitt ("Party of Five," "Ghost Whisperer") tapped to direct and executive produce.

"We feel so fortunate to be in business with creative talents who are as passionate about their projects as we are at Hallmark Channel," said Michelle Vicary, Executive Vice President of Programming, Crown Media Family Networks. "The stories they will bring to life will be infused with the heart and emotion our audience loves."

Kimberly Williams Paisley will star in the original series "Darrow & Darrow," reuniting with her "Boston Legal" producer Phoef Sutton, who will executive produce this new series for Hallmark Channel. After three patients in a private Nashville hospital die as a result of unexpected blood sugar emergencies, one of them being a high-profile millionaire, the nurse on duty that night is arrested and promptly dubbed The Angel of Death. Convinced she's innocent, attorney Claire Darrow (Williams Paisley) and her boutique law firm's team of unique attorneys take on the case, much to the chagrin of Claire's mother Naomi, who has recently joined her daughter's firm. She believes the case is unwinnable and will only damage their reputation, as the nurse has already been convicted in the court of public opinion. But Claire's commitment to continuing her father's legacy of fighting for the underdog prevails and she and her team use their special talents to get to the truth and ensure that justice is served.

Andie MacDowell will star and executive produce in the original movie based on Mary Alice Monroe's beloved novel, **"The Beach House,"** a compelling drama exploring the fragile

yet enduring bond between mothers and daughters. This is the poignant story of a woman, Cara, who returns to the South Carolina island on which she spent most of her summers in childhood. On the beach one night, she and her mother watch as a loggerhead turtle lays its eggs, and Cara learns the devastating news that her mother is dying and that this is her last summer. Cara stays on the island to reconnect with her family, and joins an organization of volunteers started by her mother dedicated to protecting and keeping tabs on the loggerhead nests that pop up on the island each summer. Sue Tenney, Dan Wigutow and Andie MacDowell executive produce.

Hallmark Channel continues its creative partnership with superstar Mariah Carey with a three-picture deal in which Carey will executive produce and direct, including an original movie debuting as part of the network's 2016 Countdown to Christmas programming event.

Coming in 2016, Emmy-nominated actress Kristin Davis will executive produce and star in the Hallmark Channel original movie, "Wild At Heart." Shot on location in Kenya, the story is based on Davis' own philanthropic efforts to stop poaching and rescue the orphans of slain elephants. Davis has been a patron of the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust in Kenya since 2009.

Hallmark Channel also partners with Jennifer Love Hewitt for three movie projects debuting in 2016 with her at the helm as director and executive producer, alongside Scott W. Anderson.

#### ABOUT HALLMARK CHANNEL

**Hallmark Channel** is Crown Media Family Networks' flagship 24-hour cable television network, distributed nationwide in high definition (HD) and standard definition (SD) to 90 million homes. The country's leading destination for quality family entertainment, Hallmark Channel delivers on the 100-year legacy of the Hallmark brand. In addition to its signature original movies, the network features an ambitious lineup of other original content, including scripted primetime series, such as *Good Witch* and *When Calls the Heart*; annual specials like *Kitten Bowl* and *Hero Dog Awards* and; a daily 2-hour lifestyle show, *Home & Family*. Additionally, in November 2014, Hallmark Channel became the exclusive home to world premiere presentations of the acclaimed Hallmark Hall of Fame franchise. Dedicated to helping viewers celebrate life's special moments, Hallmark Channel also offers such annual holiday programming events as *Countdown to Christmas* and *Countdown to Valentine's Day*. Rounding out the network's diverse slate are television's most beloved sitcoms and series, including *The Golden Girls, The Middle, Little House on the Prairie*, and *Frasier*.

Crown Media Holdings, Inc. (NASDAQ: CRWN), owns and operates Crown Media Family Networks.

For more information, please visit <u>www.crownmediapress.com</u> Hallmark Channel on Social Media: <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Pinterest</u>, <u>YouTube</u>

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