



## NEWS RELEASE

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### SHOWEAST TO HONOR EDWARD ZWICK WITH “THE KODAK AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN FILMMAKING”

NEW YORK – Academy Award® winner Edward Zwick has been selected to receive “The Kodak Award for Excellence in Filmmaking” at the 2008 ShowEast convention in Orlando, it was announced by Mitch Neuhauser, Co-Managing Director of the convention. Zwick will be on hand to receive this honor at the ShowEast Final Night Banquet and Award Ceremony on Thursday, October 16<sup>th</sup> at the Orlando World Center Marriott in Orlando, Florida.

“Edward Zwick is one of the most talented and respected multi-hyphenates working in the film industry today,” noted Neuhauser. “Not only is he an accomplished filmmaker in American cinema, but he is also a veteran of television, responsible for some of the most groundbreaking shows of our generation, and he frequently juggles movies with television as he works. From a film standpoint, Edward Zwick’s body of work is diverse, accomplished and acclaimed and to be able to honor him at ShowEast this year is truly a great privilege.”

Zwick most recently wrote, directed and produced *Defiance* for Paramount Vantage, which will be released this December. *Defiance* is based on a true story of family, honor, vengeance and salvation in World War II. Managing to escape certain death, three brothers take refuge in the dense woods they have known since childhood. There they begin their desperate battle against the Nazis. At first it is all they can do to stay alive. But gradually, as whispers of their daring spread, they begin to attract others – men and women, young and old – willing to risk everything for the sake of even a moment’s freedom. The film stars **Daniel Craig, Liev Schreiber** and **Jamie Bell**.

After graduating from the AFI Conservatory in Los Angeles, California, Zwick found work on television in 1976 as a producer, writer and director. His work on the television movie “Special Bulletin” (as director, producer and co-writer) marked the beginning of his collaboration with Marshall Herskovitz, with whom he then created the Emmy Award® winning television series, “*thirtysomething*.” Together Herskovitz and Zwick created The Bedford Falls Company as their home for film and television projects, including the critically acclaimed television series “My So-Called Life,” “Relativity” and the Emmy Award® and Golden Globe Award® winning series “Once and Again.”

Zwick began his feature film career directing *About Last Night*. He went on to direct the Academy Award® winning films *Glory* and *Legends of the Fall*. Zwick also directed the films *Courage Under Fire*, *The Siege*, *The Last Samurai* and *Blood Diamond*. Zwick co-produced the films *I am Sam*, as well as *Traffic* with Herskovitz which won two Golden Globes® and four Academy Awards®.

Zwick has been honored with three Emmy Awards, the Humanitas Prize, the Writer’s Guild of America Award, two Peabody Awards, a Director’s Guild of America Award, and the Franklin J. Schaffner Alumni Award from the American Film Institute. He received an Academy Award® as a producer of 1999’s Best Picture *Shakespeare in Love*.

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ShowEast 2008 will take place from October 13-16, 2008 at the Orlando World Center Marriott. It will feature numerous screenings of upcoming major films, sponsored events, timely and informative seminars and the ShowEast Trade Show. An estimated 1,500 members of the motion picture industry are expected to attend. ShowEast, now in its 24<sup>th</sup> year, is produced by the Nielsen Film Group, a division of Nielsen Business Media.

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