

For Immediate Release

# VALERIE HARPER, LAUREN HOLLY, CAMERON BANCROFT AND LUCIE GUEST STAR IN THE UP ORIGINAL MOVIE

## THE TOWN THAT CAME A-COURTIN'

## PREMIERING SUNDAY, JANUARY 19 AT 7 P.M. EST

## Based on Novel by Best-Selling Author and Syndicated Columnist Ronda Rich

ATLANTA – December 23, 2013 – UP, America's favorite channel for uplifting entertainment, presents the UP Original Movie *The Town That Came A-Courtin'*, starring Valerie Harper ("Mary Tyler Moore Show," "Rhoda"), Lauren Holly ("NCIS," "Motive"), Cameron Bancroft ("24," "Beverly Hills: 90210") and Lucie Guest ("Heath Nutz," "Blackstone"). The film is produced by Odyssey Media Inc. and directed by David Winning ("XIII: The Series," "Andromeda"). *The Town That Came A-Courtin'* is based on best-selling author and syndicated columnist Ronda Rich's novel and loosely based on an experience that she had during a book tour. Sheryl J. Anderson ("Charmed") wrote the adapted script. *The Town That Came A-Courtin'* premieres exclusively on UP on Sunday, January 19 at 7 p.m. EST, with encores at 9 and 11 p.m. EST.

Abby Houston (Lauren Holly) is a smart, beautiful, successful author and fiercely independent Southern woman. When we meet her, she is curiously being kept captive in a remote cabin in the woods by an obsessed fan, Walter (Toby Hargrave). Days earlier, Abby and her publicist Jamie (Lucie Guest) were visiting the lovely town of Bliss, Mississippi on her most recent book tour. In Bliss, local Magnolia Blossom B&B owner Charlotte (Valerie Harper) and their well-meaning prayer chain have big plans for Abby – as the perfect match for their widowed Mayor Spencer Alexander (Cameron Bancroft), a single dad of two. A series of collisions, several bouquets and numerous good words later, Abby relents to having dinner with

Spencer and finds a handsome, earnest man. Eagerly encouraged by the entire town, they embark on a whirlwind, public romance. But just as they are about to share a first kiss, Spencer is reminded of his late wife and abruptly pulls back. Hurt and sad, Abby is determined to leave Bliss behind, only to find her obsessed fan waiting. With phones buzzing and the town mobilized, what happens next will determine her future.

"UP is thrilled to have the always inspirational Valerie Harper as part of our talented *The Town That Came A-Courtin'* cast," said Leslie Glenn Chesloff, executive vice president of programming, UP. "Joined by Lauren Holly, Cameron Bancroft, and Lucie Guest, this uplifting, sometimes bumpy romance showcases how a community's spirit and good will can help people connect and find each other."

UP presents an Odyssey Media Inc. production. *The Town That Came A-Courtin'* stars Valerie Harper, Lauren Holly, Cameron Bancroft and Lucie Guest. Directed by David Winning. Kirk Shaw, Stan Spry, Rich Middlemas, Mary Beth Sprows and Eric Andrews are executive producers. Casting by Bim Narine. Director of Photography is Curtis Petersen. Editor is Sabrina Pitre. Composer is Michael Thomas. Adapted screenplay by Sheryl J. Anderson.

#### Follow our cast at:

- Valerie Harper on Twitter @ValerieHarper and on her website, valerieharper.com
- Lauren Holly on Twitter @LaurenHolly and on her website, laurenholly.com
- Lucie Guest on Twitter <u>@Lucieguest</u>.

#### **About UP**

UP, America's favorite network for uplifting entertainment is a 24-hour television network that provides high-quality, diverse, family-friendly programming, including original and premiere movies, theatricals, drama and comedy series, music and holiday specials. UP can be seen in 65 million homes in high definition (HD) and standard definition (SD) on cable systems including Comcast, Time Warner Cable, Bright House Networks, Charter and Cox Communications as well as DIRECTV (Channel 338), DISH Network (Channel 188) and Verizon FIOS (Channel 224). As part of its mission to entertain and uplift, the network's pro-social initiative "Uplift Someone" reminds and inspires people to do simple acts of kindness. UP is also a service provider to its sister network ASPiRE. Based in Atlanta, UP is a division of UP Entertainment, LLC, which also offers gMovies, the first faith-friendly streaming movie service. Follow UP on the Web at <a href="https://www.facebook.com/UPtv">www.UPtv.com</a>, on Facebook at <a href="https://www.facebook.com/UPtv">https://www.facebook.com/UPtv</a>, Twitter on <a href="https://www.facebook.com/UPtv">@UPtv</a> and Instagram at UP\_TV.

#### About Odyssey Media Inc.

With its head office in Vancouver BC and branch offices in Brisbane, Australia and Los Angeles, California, Odyssey Media Inc. is a leading international entertainment company specializing in film and television production, financing and packaging. Odyssey's 2013 production resume includes the features "Drive

Hard" (John Cusack & Thomas Jane), "Bad Karma" (Ray Liotta & Dominic Purcell), "Absolute Deception" (Cuba Gooding Jr. & Emmanuelle Vaugier) and "Way of the Wicked" (Christian Slater).

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