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Contact:

Sam Goodwin – Warner Hanson Television
703.237.4341 chefs@warnerhanson.com

Pat Mallinson – KCTS Television
206.728.6463 pmallinson@kcts.org

**CHEFS A' FIELD'S DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY WINS RUNNER-UP FOR
BEST DOCUMENTARY IN THE 2004
WHITE HOUSE NEWS PHOTOGRAPHER ASSOCIATION AWARDS**

WASHINGTON, DC – February 16, 2005:

The Public Television series ***Chefs A' Field: Culinary Adventures That Begin on the Farm*** and Director of Photography **Mark Thalman** have been awarded the silver prize in this years' White House News Photographers Association (WHNPA) Awards in the Best Documentary category. The WHNPA Awards recognize excellence in photography by honoring individuals in 16 print and 21 television categories.

"Mark's camera work is exceptional and we are very pleased that he has been honored for his work on Chefs A' Field. Additionally, the fact that the show was honored in this very elite competition is a testament to the high production value and documentary style approach we have brought to the world of cooking as well as the series' strong message regarding sustainable agriculture and the food chain," says executive producer Chris Warner.

The WHNPA has held the awards contest since 1941 and recognizes excellence in photojournalism. In the 2005 Competition, judges reviewed and evaluated hundreds of entries from around the world.

Chefs A' Field is the first American cooking series produced in HDTV (High Definition TV) and appears on Public Television stations nationwide. The series is produced by Warner Hanson Television of Washington, DC.

Chefs A' Field is a series of 13 half-hour programs exploring the vital relationship between great chefs and their food sources. Shot in locations across the United States and overseas, the series showcases regional cuisine and is filled with picturesque scenes shot at the peak of seasonal harvest. Each episode features a top American chef, who travels to the field, to explore the offerings of their farmers and fishermen and then returns to the kitchen, where the fresh, locally grown ingredients are magically transformed into some of the most delectable dishes on the menus of America's finest restaurants. As the chefs interact with local farmers, ranchers, and fishermen, viewers see how environmental practices make a difference in how foods taste and hold their nutritional value. The ideas of sustainable agriculture are at the forefront of the subject matter.

HISTORY OF THE WHNPA

In the 1920s, when motion and still photographers started covering Washington newsmakers, the coverage was restricted and access to the business of government was limited. A secretary of war ordered photographers away from a reviewing stand during a parade. The speaker of the House of Representatives, Frederick Gillett, issued orders "denying photographers entry without written permission of the building superintendent." On June 13, 1921, 17 camera and motion-picture photographers who covered the daily activities of the President and the White House organized the White House News Photographers' Association. The WHNPA's main goal was for the protection and promotion of photographers' interests in pursuing their mission. Recognition to the organization came immediately, as President Warren Harding set aside the first press room for photographers. The rest of official Washington soon followed and permitted access to events.



WHNPA MEMBER AND CONTEST JUDGE: *Harry S. Truman*

Chefs A' Field will release a second season of the series starting July 1, 2005 on PBS stations nationwide. Check your local listings.

Chefs A' Field is a production of Warner Hanson Television and KCTS/PBS-Seattle. Producer: Heidi Hanson. Executive Producer: Chris Warner. Writer/Correspondent: Jed Duvall. Directors of Photography: Mark Thalman & Tim Murray. Editors: Don Lampasony & Rachael Vasey. The series is distributed by American Public Television.

The ***Chefs A' Field* Companion Book** is available at www.channel9store.com and amazon.com.

For more information, visit www.chefsafield.com.

WARNER HANSON TELEVISION – Washington, DC

Warner Hanson Television produces film and television programs on subjects such as wildlife, natural history, and the environment for major television networks nationally and abroad. Respected producers of quality documentary programs and specialists in High Definition Television (HDTV), WHTV has filmed in some of world's most remote regions, including North and South America, Africa, and Asia.
WWW.WARNERHANSON.COM PHONE: 703.237.4341

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