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FAMILY MATTERS AT MOVIEGUIDE®:

***Family Guide to Movies Announces Top Ten Family Movies of 2009;
Movies Will Vie for Best Family Movie at Faith & Values Awards Gala***

LOS ANGELES, CA – Movieguide®: The Family Guide to Movies and Entertainment announced its picks for the *Best 2009 Movies for Families*, to be presented at its 18th Annual Faith & Values Awards Gala and Report to the Entertainment Industry Feb. 23 in Beverly Hills.

The 10 family movies will vie for the “Crystal Teddy Bear Award” for *Best Family Movie of 2009*.

“Families from around the world are the primary motivating audience that the movie industry should have its sights set on each year,” said Dr. Ted Baehr, founder and publisher of Movieguide®.

“A number of tremendous filmmakers from 2009 clearly understood the importance of reaching the family audience by creating inspiring movies with extraordinary themes of redemption, self-sacrifice, compassion, and love wrapped in fun-filled family entertainment. We are thrilled to honor our choices for the Ten Best Movies for Families.”

MOVIEGUIDE®’s nominees for the *Ten Best 2009 Movies for Families* are (in alphabetical order):

Focus Features’ “9” starring Elijah Wood and Jennifer Connelly, Imagi Animation Studios and Summit Entertainment’s “Astro Boy” starring Nicolas Cage and Freddie Highmore, Columbia Pictures and Sony’s “Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs” starring Bill Hader, Anna Faris, James Caan, and Mr. T, “Disney’s A Christmas Carol” starring Jim Carrey, Disney’s nature movie “Earth,” Jerry Bruckheimer Films and Walt Disney Studios’ “G-Force” starring Nicolas Cage, Penélope Cruz and Zach Galifianakis, Disney’s “Hannah Montana The Movie” starring Miley Cyrus and Billy Ray Cyrus, Blue Sky Studios and 20th Century-Fox’s “Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs” starring Ray Romano and Queen Latifah, DreamWorks Animation and Paramount’s “Monsters vs. Aliens” starring Reese Witherspoon, Seth Rogen, Hugh Laurie, and Kiefer Sutherland, and Pixar and Disney’s “Up” starring Ed Asner and Christopher Plummer.

There will be a countdown of these 10 movies to the number one *Best Family Movie of 2009* at the Gala. All of the actors in these movies have been invited to the Gala on Feb. 23.

In addition to honoring these 10 family films at the Gala, Movieguide® will also present its “Crystal Papa Bear Awards” for the *Ten Best 2009 Movies for Mature Audiences*. The 10 nominees for the *Best 2009 Movie for Mature Audiences* will be announced soon.

Other awards include the *Grace Awards for Inspiring Acting in Movies & Television* and the *Faith & Freedom Awards for Promoting Positive American Values*. Completing the evening will be the presentation of the *Kairos Prizes for Spiritually Uplifting Screenplays* totaling \$50,000, which were founded in 2005 to encourage first-time and beginning screenwriters, as well as the prestigious *Epiphany Prizes for Inspiring Movies & TV* with cash prizes totaling \$200,000. Both of these prizes have been funded with grants from the John Templeton Foundation.

For more information, visit www.movieguideawards.com.

The John Templeton Foundation (www.templeton.org) serves as a philanthropic catalyst for research relating to what scientists and philosophers call the Big Questions. It supports work at the world's top universities in such fields as theoretical physics, cosmology, evolutionary biology, cognitive science, and social science relating to love, forgiveness, creativity, purpose, and the nature and origin of religious belief. It also seeks to stimulate new thinking about wealth creation in the developing world, character education in schools and universities, and programs for cultivating the talents of gifted children.

MOVIEGUIDE® (www.movieguide.org) is a publication of Good News Communications, Inc. and the Christian Film & Television Commission® ministry. It is an international non-profit organization dedicated to “redeeming the values of the entertainment industry by influencing industry executives and by informing and equipping the public about the influence of the entertainment media.”

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