TEENS ON THE TRAIL FILM RELEASED

The multiple award-winning *In Pursuit of a Dream* docudrama—featuring two-dozen teenagers and three teachers experiencing two weeks on the historic Oregon Trail in period attire, just as their peers experienced the westward journey 160 years ago—is now available to schools, libraries and other institutions from Landmark Media, Inc.

The film, produced by the Oregon-California Trails Association, is part of a two-disc educational package that includes:

- The feature-length film divided into halves (41 and 48 minutes) for easier classroom use;
- A dozen short clips focusing on various aspects of the journey, such as: dealing with oxen; choosing what provisions to take and what to leave behind; getting wagons across rivers; food preparation; and interactions with Native Americans encountered along the way;
- A study guide that includes online links to lesson plans, trail maps, and OCTA’s extensive library of historic trail resources that augment the lessons to be learned from the movie.

The package is available at $250 for school districts, and $69 to individual schools, from Landmark Media (www.landmarkmedia.com and 800-342-4336). The purchase price includes the standard right of public exhibit.

*In Pursuit of a Dream* is also closed-captioned for the hearing-impaired.

The teenagers learned not only about the importance of preserving the history of the westward movement that created the nation as it exists today, they learned about the consequences of the decisions they made and the value of the bonds they formed with their fellow travelers.

In order to put the cast in authentic setting so that they could truly connect with their nation's history in a meaningful, experiential fashion, *In Pursuit of a Dream* was filmed in the actual wagon ruts of the Oregon Trail in Wyoming and Oregon.

The Oregon-California Trails Association (OCTA) is the nation's leading non-profit organization dedicated to preserving and promoting the sites, graves, journals, diaries, and stories of the largest voluntary migration in our history. Headquartered in Independence, Missouri, OCTA strives to preserve and promote our nation's westering trails in their entirety, from their jumping off points in the Midwest to their termination points along the West Coast. More information can be found at www.octa-trails.org and www.inpursuitofadream.org.

Landmark Media, Inc., a leading distributor of educational films, is headquartered in Falls Church, VA.
Twenty-four modern-day teenagers set out on a trek along the Oregon-California Trail. They thought they'd be learning about history. They wound up learning about themselves.

IN PURSUIT of a Dream

Two dozen teenagers and three teachers go back in time, dress as the pioneers did, and travel by wagon train on the Oregon Trail from Wyoming to Oregon. Along the way they meet a variety of other people, from topographical engineers mapping the West to gold seekers headed to California, and Indians wanting to trade. The interactions of the students in the film mirror the kinds of interactions experienced by the thousands of people who crossed the country in the mid 1800s on these same trails and helped create the nation as we know it today.

The kinds of hardships and problems encountered by the kids are the same as those encountered by the pioneers. Similar feelings were experienced by both groups—appreciation for the beauty of the landscape they were passing through, happiness and laughter as they danced and sang around the campfire, the sense of accomplishment they felt when they worked together to overcome a difficulty or solve a problem, joy and relief when they finally arrived in Oregon.

The teenagers learned about the history of the movement westward across the continent, they learned about the consequences of the decisions they made and the value of the bonds they formed with their fellow travelers, and they learned about the importance of preserving the history of the trails for future generations to learn from.