

W H E R E   I S   D A V I D ?

Dear Mom & Dad,

Everything

is

fine.

# KIDNAPPED FOR + CHRIST

A REDTHORN PRESENTATION IN ASSOCIATION WITH LOOK CLOSER MEDIA KIDNAPPED FOR CHRIST

MUSIC BY JOSEPH S. DEBEASI EDITED BY H. DWIGHT RAYMOND IV SEAN YATES EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS LANCE BASS MIKE C. MANNING TOM DESANTO  
PRODUCED BY YADA ZAMORA KATE S. LOGAN PAUL A. LEVIN WRITTEN BY YADA ZAMORA DIRECTED BY KATE S. LOGAN



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**A young evangelical filmmaker is granted unprecedented access inside a controversial Christian behavior modification program for teens, where she discovers shocking secrets and young students that change her life.**

**Runtime 85 Minutes**

**Download Stills and Trailer: <http://bit.ly/1xA6beS>**

**PRESS CONTACTS:**

Whitney Kuhn  
kuhn@sunshinesachs.com  
(o) 212.691.2800 / (m) 210.865.2353

Charlie Guadano  
guadano@sunshinesachs.com  
(m) 212.390.8598



### General Inquires:

kidnappedforchrist@gmail.com  
info@redthornproductions.com

### Sales Inquires:

Kevin Iwashina, Preferred Content  
323.782.9193  
kevin@preferredcontent.net

Deborah McIntosh, WME  
310.246.3390  
dmcintosh@wmeentertainment.com

### Short Synopsis

When young missionary KATE LOGAN learns of ESCUELA CARIBE, a small Christian boarding school that bills itself as a rehabilitation center for troubled teens sent from the U.S., she sees the perfect opportunity to make a difference. Hoping to document the positive effects a place like this could have on struggling youth, she is allowed to live on campus in the Dominican Republic for a summer. Once there, Kate discovers the shocking truth beneath the sunny facade of this remote reform school and encounters students who change her life.





### Medium Synopsis

When young missionary KATE LOGAN hears about ESCUELA CARIBE, a small Christian boarding school that bills itself as a rehabilitation center for troubled teens sent from the U.S., she sees the perfect opportunity to make a difference. Hoping to document the positive effects a place like this could have on struggling youth, she is allowed to stay and film on campus in the Dominican Republic for a summer. Once there, Kate discovers the shocking truth beneath the sunny facade of this remote reform school and encounters students who change her life.



She meets BETH a 15-year-old from Michigan suffering debilitating panic attacks; TAI, a 16-year-old Haitian-American girl from Boston, experimenting with drugs to cope with childhood trauma; and DAVID, sent to the program shortly after coming out to his parents. They tell her stories of being taken by force in the middle of the night, rumors of physical abuse, and she witnesses staff imposing arbitrary and degrading punishments on the young students.



With mounting evidence that this so-called “therapeutic boarding school” is no more than a crude brainwashing camp, Kate is determined to help at least one student escape. The struggles she faces to secure the child's freedom reveal just how far Escuela Caribe will go to prevent their students from leaving, becoming a journey that tests Kate's faith in ways she could never imagine.

### Long Synopsis:

When young missionary KATE LOGAN hears about ESCUELA CARIBE, a small Christian boarding school that bills itself as a rehabilitation center for troubled teens, she sees the perfect opportunity to make a difference. Hoping to document the positive effects a place like this could have on struggling youth, she is allowed to stay and film on campus in the Dominican Republic for a summer. Once there, Kate discovers the shocking truth of what is really going on at this remote reform school. She hears stories of kids being taken by force in the middle of the night, rumors of physical abuse, and witnesses staff imposing arbitrary and degrading punishments on the young students.

During her time there she follows the stories of several students who were sent to Escuela Caribe to be "treated" for various issues. She meets BETH, a 15-year-old from Michigan who suffers panic attacks so debilitating that she had trouble staying in school all day. Instead of professional treatment, Beth is subjected to inappropriate and often painful punishments, including spankings and being confined to an isolation room.



TAI, a 16-year-old Haitian-American girl from Boston, was sent to Escuela Caribe after acting out and experimenting with drugs to cope with childhood traumas, including rape. Tai opens up to Kate, telling her that what the school is doing is wrong and encourages her to expose the truth to the world.





Kate begins to realize that she has stumbled upon a much scarier story than she originally thought. This is solidified when she meets DAVID, who was sent to the program shortly after coming out to his parents. David has been unable to communicate with anyone in the outside world since he was forcibly taken in the middle of the night by people his parents hired to transport him to the school. With Kate, he feels safe enough to reveal not only why he was sent there, but also how he has been plotting to escape. David begs Kate to find a way to tell his friends back home in Colorado what happened to him. Unbeknownst to the staff, he slips her a letter intended for his best friend ANGIE. The letter reveals the harsh realities this once promising honor student has been unwillingly subjected to as a direct result of his sexual orientation.

With mounting evidence that this so-called “therapeutic boarding school” is no more than a crude brainwashing camp, Kate is determined to help at least one student escape. The struggles she faced to secure David’s freedom reveals just how far Escuela Caribe will go to prevent their students from leaving. The journey will test Kate’s faith in ways she could never imagine.

The growth of the troubled teen industry in the United States has given rise to many other allegations of the inhumane treatment of youth and the exploitation of families. The goal of *Kidnapped for Christ* is to tell the stories of the students who were sent to Escuela Caribe and to give them a voice so that they may make people aware of the broader industry of schools like this and the potential danger they constitute for our youth.

## PRESS HIGHLIGHTS

[ABC News](#)

[Access Hollywood](#)

[The Advocate](#)

[Associated Press](#)

[Billboard](#)

[Celebrity Cafe](#)

[Deadline](#)

[E!News](#)

[Entertainment Weekly](#)

[Examiner](#)

[Filmmaker Magazine](#)

[Film School Rejects](#)

[Hollywood Reporter](#)

[Huffington Post](#)

[MTV / MTV Act](#)

[Park Record](#)

[The Raw Story](#)

[Reuters](#)

[Village Voice](#)

[The Wrap](#)

## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT - Kate S. Logan

This was a tough film to make, and it's a tough film to watch. I went into the project thinking I was making a short senior thesis piece for my bachelor's degree - several years later, I'm amazed at all the things that fell into place to make this film what it is today. What was originally supposed to be a heart-warming story about troubled teenagers turned



into a look behind the gates of a sadistic behavior modification program that aimed to strip it's students of their human dignity. This film and the eye-opening lessons I personally learned, and hope to spread to others, would not have been possible without the bravery of those who dared to speak out. This film is, truly, for them.

## PRODUCER'S STATEMENT - Yada Zamora

This film was a primer in structure. A beautiful jigsaw puzzle with over 100 hours of footage, endless characters, a director who had become a character in the film, and a story we were still following. I wanted to tell the truth about the school but also highlight the humanity of these kids. They are you, me, your neighbor or maybe one day your own son or daughter. Ultimately, we kept most of the focus in the moment, building a strong narrative structured like a screenplay. Using Kate's journey as the lens to not only give the viewer the total experience of what it would be like to be placed in one of these institutions, but to show that we can choose between love and hate.

## SPECS

Shot on location in the Dominican Republic and Greeley, CO; Boston, MA; Coldwater, MI; Los Angeles, CA; and Portland, OR, on Panasonic HVX and Canon HD cameras.

## CREDITS

REDTHORN presents, in Association with LOOK CLOSER MEDIA

Directed by  
KATE S. LOGAN

Written by  
YADA ZAMORA

Co-Written by  
KATE S. LOGAN

Produced by  
YADA ZAMORA  
KATE S. LOGAN  
PAUL A. LEVIN

Executive Producers  
LANCE BASS  
MIKE C. MANNING  
TOM DESANTO

Cinematographers  
PETER BORRUD  
STASH SLIONSKI  
SAM ALLEN  
JOSHUA CSEHAK  
BRADLEY SCOTT  
KATE S. LOGAN

Edited by  
H. DWIGHT RAYMOND IV  
SEAN YATES

Music By  
JOSEPH S. DEBEASI





## FILMMAKER BIOS

### Kate S. Logan, Director/Producer/Co-Writer

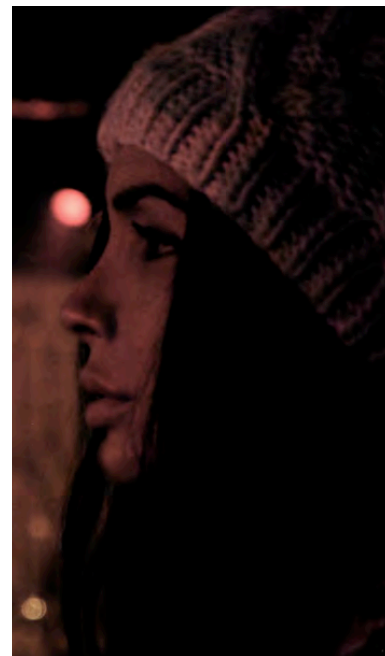


A courageous and shrewd filmmaker, Kate S. Logan is a director to watch. She recently wrapped her debut documentary, *Kidnapped For Christ*, which won the Audience Award for Best Feature Documentary at the 2014 Slamdance Film Festival and will air on Showtime in July 2014. Logan, who has a propensity for filming in gritty locations, is now gearing up to shoot her next feature documentary following Haitian distance runners as they train for Haiti's first full-length marathon. She is also producing the upcoming documentary *An Act of Love*, on the Methodist minister Frank Schaefer, who was defrocked after officiating the wedding of his gay son.

Previously Kate worked on Showtime's controversial documentary on the infamous gangster rap mogul Suge Knight, directed by Antoine Fuqua, as well as the upcoming Independent Lens/PBS documentary *Meet the Patels*. She also worked with the independent distribution team that brought Simpson's actor Harry Shearer's film *The Big Uneasy* to theaters. Kate currently lives in Los Angeles with her husband Ben and loud neighbors who she tweets about.

### Yada Zamora Writer/Producer

First generation Cuban-American, Yada Zamora has worked in film, theatre and television since the age of 7. She had her start in community theater and local plays before venturing into commercials, and then quickly going on to write, produce and star in her own projects. She has studied with some of the most legendary teachers in the arts and has been mentored by award-winning producers like David Permut. After being accepted into the famed Julliard School, she went on to star in numerous off-Broadway plays. She then began making "proof-of-concept" short films, winning 17 awards and having them screened in theaters worldwide before feature films. Three of those shorts have been bought and developed into features and original series. As a writer/producer she started the production company RedThorn with her partner Paul A. Levin, with the mandate to create and tell original and groundbreaking stories.



A self-proclaimed science fiction and pop-culture addict, Yada grew up reading comic books and dreams of making the super-hero movie of all super-hero movies one day. As well as a film about the Cuban revolution, as a tribute to her loving and supportive parents, who sacrificed their lives so that she may have a better life in the land of the free. She loves a good green tea latte and drives with the music blasted as high as it can go while she swerves down the streets of LA.

### **Paul A. Levin, Producer**



Born in Chicago and raised in Los Angeles, Paul has led a storied career in over 20 years of filmmaking. Beginning at CBS Entertainment, Paul was fortunate enough to work on a number of Emmy and Peabody Award-winning projects. Paul left CBS and began a journey that would have him working with filmmaking legends.

He has worked on such movie classics as *The Birdcage*, *Sleepless in Seattle*, *The Sixth Sense*, *The Departed* and many others. His producing credits include *Wit*, *Angels in America*, *Closer*, *Charlie Wilson's War*, *Salt*, *Men in Black 3* and *Kidnapped for Christ*. He is a member of the Producers Guild of America and the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.

Paul has made several award winning shorts and will be making his feature film Directorial debut in 2014.

### **Lance Bass, Executive Producer**

Best known from his time with the phenomenally successful group, \*NSYNC, Lance has become a household name over the last 20 years with titles to his name that include actor, producer, writer, entrepreneur and philanthropist, in addition to singer.

Recently Lance hosted the red carpet pre-show for Dick Clark Productions at the Billboard Music Awards. He has also recently taken to the world of documentary film with the debut of his documentary KIDNAPPED FOR CHRIST earning him an Audience Award for Documentary Feature as Executive Producer at its Slamdance premiere in past January. The film will be released later this year, along with another documentary he executive produced MISSISSIPPI I AM, which will debut in June.

Lance both starred in and executive produced the Miramax film ON THE LINE, which received the Movieguide award for excellence in family-oriented programming. He took

home the Golden Apple Award for Male Film Discovery in 2001, and executive produced Randal Kleiser's romantic comedy LOVEWRECKED, starring Amanda Bynes, Chris Carmack and Jamie-Lynn Sigler in 2005. Lance also recently sold a show (scripted) to the E! channel with Lionsgate.

With a host of Grammy nominations and several other prestigious awards, he has starred as Corny Collins in "Hairspray," made it to the finals on ABC's DANCING WITH THE STARS in 2003 and launched a pop culture radio show, "Dirty Pop with Lance Bass," on Sirius XM. Lance has done voiceover work for several animation projects, published his memoir "Out of Sync" and co-hosted the American Music Award's Coca-Cola Red Carpet for four straight years from 2010 through 2013. He has also made numerous other appearances in film and television shows, and was inducted into the Mississippi Musicians Hall of Fame in 2003 – the youngest person to ever receive the honor.



Philanthropically, Lance remains active in various charitable organizations, including serving on the Young Hollywood Board of the Environmental Media Association and acting as the National Youth Spokesperson for World Space Week.

### **Tom DeSanto, Executive Producer**

Tom DeSanto is a founding writer/producer behind some of the biggest franchises in movie history (X-Men, Transformers). DeSanto's films have grossed more than \$3.3 billion dollars worldwide with a per film average of more than \$550 million at the box office, in addition to billions more in merchandising. The proud owner of more than 30,000 comic books and a self-described pop culture junkie, DeSanto dreamed of bringing the characters he loved as a kid to life in Hollywood. X-Men was first on his list and besides producing, DeSanto co-wrote the story. DeSanto brought the property to director Bryan Singer and spawned a billion dollar franchise for Fox and started Marvel's rise out of bankruptcy.

After the success of X-Men, DeSanto pulled another undervalued property, Battlestar Galactica out of mothballs and developed Galactica for Universal Television. Battlestar Galactica found a home on Sci-Fi Channel and was the number one rated mini-series of 2003 for all of cable. Many of DeSanto's ideas and designs made it into the show including human Cylons, female president, and the new Vipers.

In 2003 Mr. DeSanto returned as part of the guiding creative team for "X2: X-Men United", including the continuation of the Phoenix storyline which DeSanto set up in



the first film. That same year Mr. DeSanto went after Transformers another dormant property that he was a fan of since childhood. Mr. DeSanto brought the idea to his friend, and fellow Producer, Don Murphy. Based on DeSanto's pitch and understanding of the universe, Hasbro gave them the rights for free.



Transformers was a tough sell for those running the studios who did not grow up with the property. After being rejected by every studio in town Mr. DeSanto made a second pass at DreamWorks and after Steven Spielberg read his treatment, he decided his studio would do the film. Adam Goodman then at Dreamworks and now the president of Paramount was an early champion of the idea. Mr. DeSanto set the project up with DreamWorks and Paramount.

The first film grossed over \$700 million dollars worldwide and Mr. DeSanto gave birth to another franchise. Transformers is the first live action franchise in DreamWorks history and Paramount's largest moneymaker since Titanic. Mr. DeSanto returned as Producer of Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen in 2009 and the film became the biggest moneymaker in 2009 with over \$800 million in box office

alone. DeSanto also produced Transformers: Dark of the Moon, which is the highest in the series so far grossing over \$1.1 billion dollars worldwide. DeSanto returns as Producer on Transformers: Age of Extinction, which will be released on June 27, 2014.

Known for being ahead of the curve, DeSanto was one of the first Hollywood producers in China. His next global film franchise will be based on his adaption of the Chinese classic "Creation of the Gods" into a trilogy of 3D global audience movies called, "Gods." DeSanto describes Gods as "Lord of the Rings meets Avengers." DeSanto is partnered with Yi Sang Media and production of Gods will begin in 2015.

## Mike C. Manning, Executive Producer

Mike C. Manning is someone with diverse range and talent. Most recently he stars in the Disney Channel Original Movie *Cloud 9* as Nick Swift. His role plays well to Manning's strengths and interests in extreme sports including skydiving, bungee jumping and snowboarding. Manning also stars as the lead role in Johnny Martin's *Case Number 13*, to be released later this year.

Prior to that, he acted in *I Do* alongside Jamie-Lynn Sigler and Alicia Witt, The Hallmark Channel's *Operation Cupcake* directed by Bradford May, as well as *Black Hearts*, which he also produced. Additional credits include: *Campsite Killer* (writer/producer), *Kidnapped for Christ* (executive producer), *An Act of Love* (executive producer) and he's currently working on an unnamed cable pilot about the hidden world of politics (writer/executive producer) under his newly-formed production company "Chhibber Mann Productions."

