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**DIRECTOR KASI LEMMONS IS HONORED
DURING BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION**

March 17, 2019 – Los Angeles

Award-winning director **Kasi Lemmons** was honored by GreenLight Women in Los Angeles during Black History Month for her upcoming feature film, *Harriet*, the story of abolitionist and political activist Harriet Tubman. Focus Features is releasing the film later this year. It was a perfect tie-in with the 2019 Black History Month theme of “Black Migrations and Social Changes”.

The celebration was an elegant champagne brunch held on Sunday, February 17, 2019 at the London Hotel West Hollywood in Beverly Hills. About 50 guests, including attorney **Nina Shaw**, etc enjoyed eggs benedict and mimosas before settling in for the discussion about Lemmons’ experience making *Harriet* and the American experience of those with African-American descendants who migrated from the Deep South to an industrialized North.

Born into slavery, Harriet Tubman escaped and, during the American Civil War, led others to freedom in the northern states through a network of safe houses known as the Underground Railroad.

The panel was moderated by **Kimberly Ogletree**, Chair of the Greenlight Women’s Diversity Action Group. “We are very proud to honor Kasi Lemmons,” said Ogletree. “She is a leader who shines a light on our mission to uncover unconscious bias against women and women of color in today’s society. Kasi Lemmons is an inspiration and a beacon light for all.”

An actor and a director, Lemmons has appeared in such acclaimed films as Jonathan Demme’s *The Silence of the Lambs* and Spike Lee’s *School Daze*. Her first feature film as a writer-director, *Eve’s Bayou*, became the highest grossing independent film of 1997. It won the Independent Spirit Award for Best First Feature and First-Time Director Award from the National Board of Review.

In December 2018, Lemmons received one of the film industry’s highest honors when *Eve’s Bayou* was selected as one of 25 American films chosen annually for induction into the National Film Registry of the Library of Congress because of their cultural, historic and aesthetic importance to the nation’s film heritage.

Other titles chosen for the 30th anniversary of the Film Registry include *Brokeback Mountain*, *Jurassic Park* and *My Fair Lady*. Lemmons is only the third African-American woman to be inducted into the Registry.