

**HALLMARK CHANNEL HONORS KRISTIN CHENOWETH WITH
2019 ADOPTION EVER AFTER AWARD,
RECOGNIZING EXTRAORDINARY EFFORTS IN PET RESCUE AND ADOPTION**

**Award Presented by Sarah Michelle Gellar at
9th Annual “American Humane Hero Dog Awards” Saturday, October 5**

New York, NY, October 10, 2019 – Passionate animal advocate and pet rescue hero **Kristin Chenoweth** was honored with Hallmark Channel’s 2019 Adoption Ever After Award, the network announced today. The award, which recognizes individuals who make exceptional contributions in the area of animal rescue and pet adoption, was presented by long-time Chenoweth friend and fellow animal lover, **Sarah Michelle Gellar**, at the 2019 “American Humane Hero Dog Awards” Saturday night in Beverly Hills, California. [“American Humane Hero Dog Awards”](#), celebrating seven remarkable dogs who have changed, saved, and enriched lives, premieres as part of Hallmark Channel’s Adoption Ever After initiative on **Monday, October 21 at 8pm/7c.**

In a heartfelt acceptance speech at Saturday’s gala from the stage of The Beverly Hilton, Chenoweth talked about being adopted herself and the many rewards she has experienced over the years in adopting dogs. She also opened up about a personal illness she rarely addresses in public and how her current rescue, Thunder Pup, warns her of imminent attacks.

“My mom and dad adopted me as a baby and they’ve always told me that they made the choice to adopt and have taught me about the importance of adoption. I thought maybe when I grow up, I’ll adopt a child. Well, I didn’t adopt a child, but I have adopted many dogs and [my current dog], Thunder Pup, has brought me much joy,” she said. “A little-known fact that I don’t talk about much – [is] that I have Meniere’s disease. It causes vertigo and inner ear problems. And when I rescued [Thunder Pup], she rescued me, because in the morning, on days when I’m going to have vertigo, she wakes me up [pawing] and says, ‘it’s going to be one of those days.’ She sticks by me on planes, she sticks by me in bed, she sticks by me in life. So, really my award goes to my dog Thunder Pup. As I said to my mom and dad, ‘you didn’t know what you were going to get.’ And my dad said, ‘we won the lottery.’ Well, I said, ‘I won the lottery with my dog.’”

Beth Stern, author, television personality, and North Shore Animal League America Spokesperson, was the 2018 recipient of the Adoption Ever After Award.

ABOUT HALLMARK CHANNEL’S ADOPTION EVER AFTER

Working in collaboration with the country’s leading animal rescue and welfare organizations, activists, distribution and advertising partners, and celebrity influencers, Hallmark Channel’s Adoption Ever After aims to dismantle common misconceptions about shelter animals, provide resources, inspire the public to adopt, and ultimately create a future where every pet has a loving home. The initiative shines a spotlight on the countless lovable pets in our nations shelters through annual on-air programming specials like Kitten Bowl, Hero Dog Awards, and The American Rescue Dog Show, as well as strategic partnerships, consumer marketing campaigns, public service