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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE CALIFORNIA AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUM PRESENTS THE FIFTH ANNUAL SHORTS AT CAAM SHOWCASE AND INDUSTRY WRITERS PANEL FEATURING ISSA RAE, GARY LENNON AND DIARRA KILPATRICK

LOS ANGELES (August 24, 2015) The California African American Museum (CAAM) invites the community to attend CAAM's fifth annual *Shorts at CAAM Showcase and Industry Writers Panel* on Sunday, August 30, 2015, from 11 a.m. until 6:30 p.m.

Shorts at CAAM Showcase will feature 15 short films created by independent filmmakers. During the *Industry Writers Panel* we will hear from series creator, producer and director Issa Rae of the upcoming HBO comedy *Insecure*; actor, writer and executive producer Gary Lennon of the Starz series *Power*; and series creator, producer and director Diarra Kilpatrick of the NBC comedy-drama *The Mysteries of Laura*. Dayna Lynne North, the writer and executive producer of VH1's *Single Ladies*, will moderate the discussion. Each panelist will share their stories of how they were able to enter the Hollywood writer's room. Additionally, they will discuss their experiences writing for projects that include film, television, online and stage.

Past *Shorts at CAAM Showcase* has featured short films by award-winning filmmakers including *Selma* Director Ava DuVernay and *Fruitvale Station* Director Ryan Coogler. This year's showcase line-up will include 2013 Sundance award winning filmmaker Kahlil Joseph.

Shorts at CAAM Showcase is designed to promote the work of emergent screenwriters, directors, actors and producers in Los Angeles. One of CAAM's enduring goals is to provide a platform from which new voices and new ideas can be expressed.

This event is free and open to the public. CAAM is located at 600 State Drive, Exposition Park. Parking is \$10 and located at 39th and Figueroa Streets. Take Los Angeles Metro's Expo Line and exist the Expo Park/USC stop. RSVP is encouraged at 213.744.2024. For more information on CAAM visit www.caamuseum.org.

ABOUT THE CALIFORNIA AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUM

CAAM is a state agency charged with researching, collecting, preserving and interpreting for public enrichment the history, art and culture of African Americans. Collaboratively operating in partnership with its 501(c)(3) non-profit organization Friends, the Foundation of the California African American Museum, CAAM houses a permanent collection of over 4,000 objects of art, artifacts and historical documents, and a publicly accessible Research Library containing more than 20,000 volumes.