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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CAAM CELEBRATES BLACK MUSIC MONTH WITH FREE DOCUMENTARY SCREENINGS

LOS ANGELES (May 25, 2015) The California African American Museum (CAAM) presents *Films at CAAM: Celebrating Black Music Month* – A weekly documentary screening that demonstrates the social, political and humanitarian sensibilities of musicians fueled through their art. Each documentary screening starts at 7 p.m. on Thursdays, June 11, 18 and 25. RSVP is encouraged at (213) 744-2024.

In celebration of transformative, informative and inspirational music, CAAM will screen the following documentaries:

Thursday, June 11, 2015, 7 p.m. – *Finding Fela* (2014, 79 min.)

This academy award winning film tells the story of Nigerian musician Fela Kuti's life, music and his stand against a corrupt government. Kuti created a new musical movement, "Afrobeat" to express his revolutionary political opinions against the dictatorial Nigerian government of the 1970s and 1980s. His influence helped bring a change towards democracy in Nigeria.

Thursday, June 18, 2015, 7 p.m. – *Keep On Keepin' On* (2014, 84 min.)

This film follows the journey of jazz legend, Clark Terry, as he mentors Justin Kauflin. A 23-year-old blind piano prodigy, Kauflin was being mentored in preparation for an elite jazz competition. Problems arise when Terry's health begins to decline and Kauflin attempts to overcome his debilitating stage fright. With time against them, the duo confronts the toughest challenge of their lives.

Thursday, June 25, 2015, 7 p.m. – *Brothers Hypnotic* (2013, 90 min.)

The film tells a story of eight brothers who are the sons of jazz legend, Phil Cohran. The brothers played together in the Hypnotic Brass Ensemble and made music that brought joy, excitement and unity. Their values, bred by their father, were constantly being tested as they made a name for themselves playing on the streets of New York City. They were forced to decide whether or not their father's values were really their own.

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This event is free and open to the public. For more information visit www.caamuseum.org. RSVPs are strongly encouraged at (213) 744-2024. CAAM is located at 600 State Drive, Exposition Park, Los Angeles, 90037. Follow CAAM on twitter @CAAMinLA and “like” CAAM at www.facebook.com/CAAMinLA.

CURRENT EXHIBITIONS IN THE CAAM GALLERIES:

Light Catchers through June 7, 2015

Lookin' Back in Front of Me: Selected Works of Mark Steven Greenfield, 1974 – 2014
through July 5, 2015

Flash Tag through August 7, 2015

The African American Journey West: Permanent Collection - Ongoing

ABOUT THE CALIFORNIA AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUM

The California African American Museum (CAAM) researches, collects, preserves and interprets for public enrichment the history, art and culture of African Americans. Chartered by the California State Legislature in 1977, CAAM is a state supported institution and a partner with the 501(c)(3) non-profit organization Friends, the Foundation of the California African American Museum. In addition to its permanent collection of over 3,000 objects of art, artifacts and historical documents, CAAM also houses a research library containing more than 20,000 volumes, employs and trains high school students through its *Young Docents* program, and hosts in-house curated exhibitions and traveling exhibitions on a regular basis. The museum also tours CAAM exhibitions throughout California and the nation.

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