



Friends, the Foundation of the

California African American Museum

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Actor Sidney Poitier and Visual Artist John Outterbridge Will Be Honored at ‘An Artful Evening at CAAM’

LOS ANGELES (July 16, 2012) Friends, the Foundation of the California African American Museum (Friends) has selected Saturday, October 6, 2012 as the date for its annual gala *An Artful Evening at CAAM* in which fundraising efforts support the California African American Museum (CAAM). This elegant, black-tie affair is one of Los Angeles’ premier philanthropic events of the fall. Guests can support through purchasing tickets, table sponsorships, silent auction items and direct donations, all in an environment packed with great food and first rate honorees, entertainment, music, dancing and complimentary parking.

The festivities will transform CAAM’s soaring courtyard into a celebration and an illumination of the art, courage and history of two extraordinary men. For this seventh annual event CAAM & Friends will present well-deserved Lifetime Achievement Awards to Academy Award winner, Sidney Poitier, and United States Gracie Fellow for Visual Arts winner, John Outterbridge.

Proceeds received through Friends are used to provide financial support to CAAM’s educational outreach programs for students and teachers, as well as the development and FREE delivery of inspiring exhibitions, creative workshops and enriched educational content.

“*An Artful Evening at CAAM* breathes life into all that we do. We burst with pride when we see how the proceeds flow through our Mentoring Generations Program to sustain paid

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employment training through our high school Young Docents program; and, how transportation is made available through Buses & Docents for schools and community groups that otherwise could not afford a field trip to CAAM,” noted Charmaine Jefferson, Executive Director of CAAM. “Everyone will feel a special connection as we join to lift forward the next generation while earnestly saluting two incredible contributors to American culture and justice,” Jefferson continued.

“*An Artful Evening at CAAM* allows us the privilege of being able to honor Mr. Poitier and Mr. Outterbridge as individuals who have truly made a difference in the African American community. The night will be extraordinary, and we welcome this opportunity to encourage all committed corporate sponsors and passionately caring individuals to purchase tickets now and share the evening with a diverse range of celebrants,” remarked Susan Cole Hill, President of Friends Foundation.

For general and sponsorship opportunity information for *An Artful Evening at CAAM*

Call the Gala Hotline: (213) 744-2060

Email: gala2012@caamuseum.org

Visit: www.caamuseum.org/gala.htm

For more general information about the California African American Museum

Call: (213) 744-7432

Visit: www.caamuseum.org

CURRENT EXHIBITIONS IN THE CAAM GALLERIES:

“Promises of Freedom: Selections from the Arthur Primas Collection” through September 2, 2012

“Löis Mailou Jones – A Life in Vibrant Color” July 12, 2012 through September 16, 2012

“Shared Thread/CAAM’s Courtyard” June 28, 2012 through December 30, 2012

“Legacy of the Golden State Mutual Life Insurance Company: More Than a Business” through March 3, 2013

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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 more than 6,000 objects of art, artifacts and historical documents, and a research library containing thousands of volumes, CAAM hosts 9 – 12 in-house curated and/or traveling exhibitions and more than 80 public programs each year. CAAM is located at 600 State Drive in Exposition Park adjacent to Figueroa Street. The museum is open to the public Tuesday-Saturday 10am-5pm, and Sundays 11am-5pm. Admission and workshop participation is always free. Parking in the adjacent lot is \$10.00 all day at Figueroa & 39th Streets. For more information on the California African American Museum visit www.caamuseum.org.

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