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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**CAAM'S LATEST EXHIBITION 'QUESTION BRIDGE: BLACK MALES' IS
AN INNOVATIVE, THOUGHT-PROVOKING APPROACH TO
UNDERSTANDING AND EXAMINING BLACK MALES IN AMERICA
THROUGH TRANSMEDIA**

LOS ANGELES (January 3, 2014) – The California African American Museum (CAAM) presents its latest exhibition focused on the complexities of America's black males. On view from January 16 through June 15, 2014, "Question Bridge: Black Males" exposes the incredible diversity of thought, character and identity within the black American male demographic. In addition, it breaks the traditional views of their identity through the use of multiple video interviews.

"The project shines a bright light on the often unnoticed, misunderstood and unquestioned demographic of black males. It presents you with insight on these men and provisionally places you in their thoughts," said CAAM's Executive Director Charmaine Jefferson.

This national transmedia art project shows the challenging issues within the black male community through mediated question and response exchanges among black men in regards to the layers of American society. "Question Bridge: Black Males" creates an intimate and genuine experience for viewers and subjects, while providing new opportunities for understanding.

The project originated in 1996, when artist Chris Johnson was looking for a way to use media art to generate a meaningful conversation around class and generational division

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within San Diego’s black community. Mediated through the lens of a video camera, 10 members of the black community were given a format to openly express their deeply felt beliefs and values through candid Q&A exchanges.

Question Bridge: Black Males Los Angeles Campaign is in partnership with Question Bridge, Brotherhood Crusade, Community Coalition and the California Endowment. “Question Bridge: Black Males” was created by Chris Johnson, Hank Willis Thomas, Bayeté Ross Smith and Kamal Sinclair. Executive producers include Delroy Lindo, Deborah Willis and Jesse Williams.

CAAM EVENTS SURROUNDING “QUESTION BRIDGE: BLACK MALES”

Thursday, January 16, 2014, 6:30 p.m. – 9 p.m. – ‘Question Bridge –Black Males’ Opening Reception

CAAM members and special guests are invited to celebrate the opening of “Question Bridge: Black Males.” This event is by invitation only.

Monday, January 20, 2014, 1 p.m. - Annual Cake for King

Billionaire PA, a young black entrepreneur, will encourage youth to commit to living their dreams and engage in public speaking. This event is free and open to the public.

Saturday, February 8, 2014 – Blueprint Roundtable

“Why didn’t you leave us the blueprint?” is a question posed by a young participant of the Question Bridge project and the catalyst for the Blueprint Roundtable. Come experience and be a part of a non-scripted, honest, and uniquely intergeneration conversation between a panel of local community members seeking to uncover actionable pathways toward the holistic development of black men and boys related to life, work, education, community and family structure. This event is free and open to the public.

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Sunday, April 27, 2014, 2p.m. Having the Conversation: Black Men and Police Protocol

African American lawyers, law enforcement and formerly incarcerated men will lead a discussion around racial profiling. This event is free and open to the public.

Saturday, May 24, 2014, 1 p.m.- Eradicating the School to Prison Pipeline

CAAM's History Council will host a panel discussion examining the educational, physical and psychological impact the pipeline has on black youth, the community and nation. This event is free and open to the public.

Saturday, May 31, 2014 at 2 p.m. – Men's Health Panel

A panel of health professionals will discuss the health issues that most frequently affect African American men and the importance of screening and preventative measures. This event is free and open to the public.

Saturday, June 14, 2014 at 2 p.m. - Listen Up: Careers in Vocational Occupations

Successful tradesmen will discuss their lucrative careers and how to apply for various apprenticeships. This event is free and open to the public.

Admission to CAAM, its events and exhibitions are free and open to the public. CAAM is located at 600 State Drive in Exposition Park, Los Angeles, CA 90037. Parking is \$10 in the lot adjacent to CAAM at 39th & Figueroa. For more information on CAAM call (213) 744-7432 or visit www.caamuseum.org. Find CAAM on social media at www.twitter.com/CAAMinLA and www.facebook.com/CAAMinLA.

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

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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 3,000 objects of art, artifacts and historical documents, and a publicly accessible Research Library containing more than 20,000 volumes.

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