



Media Contact: Terri Dixon
LAGRANT COMMUNICATIONS
323.469.8680, ext. 232
Terridixon@lagrant.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**THE CALIFORNIA AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUM
INAUGURATES AUGUST 2013 WITH THE FIRST INSTALLMENT OF
A NEW QUARTERLY SERIES “WRITERS ON WRITING”**

Journalists Erin Aubrey Kaplan and Hector Tobar will discuss
the current state of journalism in the 21st Century

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA – July 25, 2013 - The California African American Museum (CAAM) inaugurates the month of August with the launch of a new CAAM quarterly series called *Writers on Writing*, Saturday, August 3rd, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. This first installment features author, essayist, and frequent contributor to *The Los Angeles Times*, Erin Aubrey Kaplan and *Los Angeles Times* Book Critic, Hector Tobar.

Kaplan and Tobar will explore the current state of journalism, the free flow of information as guaranteed by the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, and how the new media paradigm has shifted in the face of the 24-hour news cycle. In addition, they will focus on future media trends and how information consumers might respond. According to The Pew Research Center’s Project of Excellence in Journalism, the clearest pattern of news audience growth in 2012 came via digital platforms, and the saturation of digital devices in our daily lives appears to have been a major influence.

Having written on African American political, economical and cultural issues for three decades, Kaplan was the first black weekly Op-Ed columnist for the *Los Angeles Times*. Her work has also appeared in *LA Weekly* as well as *SLATE*. Her latest nonfiction book is entitled “*Black Talk, Blue Thoughts, and Walking the Color Line: Dispatches from a Black Journalista*”.

A Los Angeles native with Guatemalan roots, Tobar writes on the interdependent relationship between Latin Americans and the United States. In addition, Tobar won a Pulitzer Prize in 1992 for his contributions to the *Los Angeles Times*’ coverage of the ’92 LA Riots.

CAAM events and exhibitions are free and open to the public. RSVP is encouraged at (213) 744-2024. Parking is \$10.00, in the lot adjacent to CAAM at 39th and Figueroa Streets. For more information visit www.caamuseum.org or call (213) 744-2024. Follow CAAM on Twitter @CAAMinLA and “Like” the CAAM Facebook page at

<http://www.facebook.com/caaminla>

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 Docent* 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.

###