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CAVE CANEM FOUNDATION AWARDED GRANT FROM THE PITTSBURGH FOUNDATION
"Home for Black Poetry" to Conduct Writing Workshops at Hill House Association, Pittsburgh

BROOKLYN, NY / PITTSBURGH, PA (March 8, 2011) —**Cave Canem Foundation**, North America's premier home for Black poetry, has been awarded a grant in the amount of \$30,000 from the Gertrude E. Paff Memorial Fund, the John B. Sloan Endowment and the James F. and Ellen C. Pitcairn Fund of **The Pittsburgh Foundation** to conduct writing workshops for Pittsburgh-based, emerging African American adult poets. Two eight-session workshops will be held at **Hill House Association**, 1835 Centre Avenue, Pittsburgh, in spring and fall 2011. Workshop instructors are three Cave Canem fellows, accomplished Pittsburgh-based poets who have attended Cave Canem's rigorous, week-long writing retreat conducted annually at the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg. In February 2011, the three participated in a preparatory professional development convening, also funded by The Pittsburgh Foundation.

Cave Canem Foundation was founded in 1996 by poets **Toi Derricotte** and **Cornelius Eady** to remedy the under-representation of African American poets in writing workshops and MFA programs. The organization has grown from an initial gathering of 26 poets to become an influential movement with a renowned faculty and a high-achieving fellowship of over 300. Headquartered in Brooklyn, NY, Cave Canem's many programs include an annual week-long writing retreat at the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg; a related showcase reading in June sponsored by **City of Asylum/Pittsburgh**; regional workshops; national readings and panels; a first-book award co-sponsored with the **University of Pittsburgh Press**, Graywolf Press and The University of Georgia Press; and a second-book award co-sponsored with Northwestern University Press. To learn more, visit www.cavecanempoets.org.

The Pittsburgh Foundation works to improve the quality of life in the Pittsburgh region by evaluating and addressing community issues, promoting responsible philanthropy, and connecting donors to the critical needs of the community. Established in 1945, the Foundation is one of the nation's oldest, and is the 15th largest, of more than 700 community foundations across the United States. Since it was formed, it has awarded more than \$600 million in grants to charitable organizations in Pittsburgh, and throughout the U.S. To learn more, visit www.pittsburghfoundation.org.