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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CAVE CANEM FELLOW RECEIVES VERMONT STUDIO CENTER RESIDENCY

BROOKLYN, NY (September 15, 2010)— Cave Canem graduate fellow **Kamilah Aisha Moon** has been selected to receive a month-long residency at the Vermont Studio Center (VSC), a retreat community for artists and writers in Johnson, Vermont.

Hers is the second of five residencies for Cave Canem fellows, awarded 2009-2013, in a program fully funded by VSC. Ms. Moon will be provided with a private writing studio, comfortable housing, excellent meals, uninterrupted working time and space, and the fellowship of 50+ professional writer and visual artist peers. While in residence, she will have an opportunity to give a reading, as well as the option of a private manuscript conference with a distinguished VSC Visiting Writer.

Kamilah Aisha Moon earned her MFA in Creative Writing from Sarah Lawrence College. She has received a fellowship from the Prague Summer Writing Institute and has been a Paumanok Award semi-finalist. Her work has been featured or is forthcoming in several journals and anthologies, including *Lumina*, *Callaloo*, *Bittersweet*, *Open City*, *Essence*, *Bloom*, *Gathering Ground: A Reader Celebrating Cave Canem's First Decade*, *The Ringing Ear: Black Poets Lean South* and *Black Nature: Four Centuries of African American Nature Poetry*. She currently is working on the manuscript *She Has A Name*, a collection of poetry exploring her sister's journey living with autism.

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Founded by artists in 1984, the **Vermont Studio Center** is the largest artists' and writers' Residency Program in the United States, one that supports an international community of painters, printmakers, sculptors and writers in their individual creative pursuits. VSC's thirty-building campus offers 50 artists and writers per month distraction-free working time and space, as well as the companionship of creative peers and the inspiration of distinguished mentors. Visit www.vermontstudiocenter.org for more information.

Founded in 1996 by poets Toi Derricotte and Cornelius Eady to remedy the under-representation and isolation of African American poets in MFA programs and writing workshops, **Cave Canem is a home for the many voices of African American poetry and is committed to cultivating the artistic and professional growth of African American poets.** Called "*the major watering hole and air pocket for black poetry*" by poet Nikky Finney, Cave Canem has grown from an initial gathering of 26 poets to become an influential movement with a renowned faculty and a high-achieving national fellowship of over 300. Its programs include an annual week-long retreat, first and second book prizes with prestigious presses, Legacy Conversations with pre-eminent black poets and scholars, Poets on Craft talks, writing workshops, publications and national readings. Such world-class poets as Elizabeth Alexander and Yusef Komunyakaa number among the organization's faculty and judges. To date, the organization has published *Gathering Ground: A Reader Celebrating Cave Canem's First Decade* (University of Michigan Press, 2006) and *The Ringing Ear: Black Poets Lean South* (The University of Georgia Press, 2007). For more information, visit cavecanempoets.org.

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