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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WILLOW BOOKS & CAVE CANEM FOUNDATION ANNOUNCE PUBLISHING PARTNERSHIP

Detroit Press & "Home for Black Poetry" to Publish Biennial Poetry Anthology

DETROIT, MI / BROOKLYN, NY (April 27, 2011) — **Willow Books**, the literary imprint of Aquarius Press, and **Cave Canem Foundation**, North America's premier "home for black poetry," are pleased to announce the biennial publication of the *Cave Canem Anthology*, an ongoing series of poetry collections by fellows and faculty participating in Cave Canem's annual retreat for African American poets. The series will be inaugurated in fall 2011 or spring 2012 with the release of *Cave Canem Anthology XII: Poems 2008-2009*. Following the publication of *Gathering Ground: A Reader Celebrating Cave Canem's First Decade* (University of Michigan Press, 2006) and the private printing of Cave Canem anthologies, 1996-2007, the new series will revitalize a tradition of showcasing exciting new directions in American poetry. The anthologies will include contributions from both established and emerging African American poets. Aquarius Press publisher Heather Buchanan comments, "We're looking forward to adding the many voices of Cave Canem poets to our growing list of excellent literature by African American writers. This new venture is at the heart of our mission to expand opportunities for African Americans in the literary marketplace." Cave Canem's executive director Alison Meyers adds, "This partnership with Willow Books adds a significant, public dimension to the body of work produced every year at our retreat. Over time, we believe the Cave Canem Anthology will become essential reading for educators, students and poetry lovers, and a standard title on the shelves of well-stocked bookstores and libraries across the country."

Willow Books, the literary imprint of Aquarius Press, specializes in exceptional literature by writers dedicated to the craft. Its mission is to develop, publish and promote writers typically under-represented in the literary marketplace. Included in the Press's list are such award-winning and

— more —

nationally known poets as Tara Betts, Antoinette Brim, Rachel Eliza Griffiths, Lita Hooper and Tony Medina. To learn more about Willow Books and Aquarius Press, visit www.WillowLit.com and www.aquariuspressbookseller.net .

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, **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. Cave Canem has grown from an initial gathering of 26 poets to become an influential movement with a renowned faculty and a high-achieving fellowship of 302. Its many programs include an annual writing retreat, first- and second-book prizes with prestigious presses, Legacy Conversations, Poets on Craft talks, workshops, publications and national readings. 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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