

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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AFRICAN HERITAGE CULTURAL ARTS CENTER PRESENTS PULITZER PRIZE-NOMINATED PLAY "HUSTLE" BY KEITH C. WADE

Opens tomorrow for one weekend only

(Miami, September 10, 2015) - The African Heritage Cultural Arts Center (AHCAC) presents "Hustle," a theater production written and directed by award-winning playwright Keith C. Wade, this weekend September 11-September 13, 2015. Nominated for the Pulitzer Prize in 2006, "Hustle" speaks to the hearts of men of color and follows the story of four men who are drawn to their neighborhood basketball court where they share their fears, frustrations, anger and dreams while playing a game to give their lives balance. Starring Andre' L. Gainey, Lorenzo Johnson, Jesus C. Mitchell, Keith C. Wade, "Hustle" is a stirring and enlightening play that promises to invoke conversation and expose the shared struggles facing young men of color between the ages of 18 to 40.

Performances are Friday, September 11th at 7:30 pm \$20; Saturday, September 12th at 7:30 pm \$25; and Sunday, September 13th at 4:00 pm \$20 at AHCAC, 6161 NW 22nd Avenue, in the heart of Liberty City.

"Hustle" is a part of "Sankofa: Looking Back, Going Forward," a year-long series of events, performances, educational workshops, recognizing and celebrating the talented performers, instructors and community leaders who have grown up in and contributed so importantly to the development and creativity of young people in the inner city in celebration of the Center's fortieth anniversary with funding support from The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, as part of its Knight Arts Challenge.

For tickets call: (305) 638-6771 or send email inquiries to: hartheo@miamidade.gov. The box office opens an hour before show time and the house opens 15 minutes before show time. Discount rates for groups available.

The play contains language and subject matter not suitable for children under 14. Parental discretion is strongly advised.

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The African Heritage Cultural Arts Center, part of the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs, was founded in 1975 to serve as the nesting ground for emerging talent in the performing and visual arts in the heart of Liberty City. By providing quality instruction, inspiration and encouragement to young people within the community, the Center has fulfilled its mission for almost 40 years, and everyday creates a means for youth to discover their artistic talents. <u>www.ahcacmiami.org</u>

It is policy of Miami-Dade County to comply with all of the requirements of the Americans with Disability Act. The facility is accessible. To request materials in accessible format and or/accommodation to attend an event at the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center, please contact Gloria Wilkins at 305-638-6771 or <u>ahcac@miamidade.gov</u>, at least five days in advance to initiate your request. TTY users may also call 711 (Florida Relay Service)

The Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council develop cultural excellence, diversity and participation throughout Miami-Dade County by strategically creating and promoting opportunities for artists and cultural organizations, and our residents and visitors who are their audiences. The Department directs the Art in Public Places program and serves its board, the Art in Public Places Trust, commissioning, curating, maintaining and promoting the County's art collection. The Department also manages, programs and operates the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center, a campus of state-of-the-art cultural facilities in Cutler Bay, as well as Miami-Dade County Auditorium, Joseph Caleb Auditorium and the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center, all dedicated to presenting and supporting excellence in the arts for the entire community. Through staff, board and programmatic resources, the Department, the Council and the Trust promote, coordinate and support Miami-Dade County's more than 1,000 not-for-profit cultural organizations as well as thousands of resident artists through grants, technical assistance, public information and interactive community planning. The Department receives funding through the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners, The Children's Trust, the National Endowment for the Arts, the State of Florida through the Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture, and the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation. Other support and services are provided by TicketWeb for the Culture Shock Miami program, the Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau, the South Florida Cultural Consortium and the Tourist Development Council.