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## CHINESE AMERICAN MUSEUM TO HOST DONOR APPRECIATION RECEPTION

(LOS ANGELES, May 1, 2006)- The Chinese American Museum (CAM) will be hosting a special **Donor Appreciation Reception on Saturday, June 3, 2006 at 6:30pm** to recognize the significant contributions and commitment of all donors and elected officials whose continued support have made the CAM dream possible. Dinner will be provided for guests in the historic Pico House, located across CAM at the El Pueblo Historical Monument Park.

The evening will highlight the grand unveiling of the Inaugural Education Fund Donors plaque, the Museum's Gallery Name plaques, and the Bamboo Donor Wall name additions. Other features will include an award ceremony, a display of historic artifacts from CAM's collection, special tours of the museum expansion space, and exciting door prizes that will be raffled off to the guests throughout the evening.

CAM is a regional education center that serves the general public as well as targeted and underserved communities by presenting programs that shed light on the early experiences of Chinese Americans in Southern California and their contributions to the country's economy, culture and history. The *Education Fund* was established in Fall 2005 to enhance museum outreach, supplement existing history courses at Greater Los Angeles schools, and provide pre and post-visit activities for local and regional students and educators. Contributions of \$5,000 and higher to the Education Fund will support a range of innovative and exciting educational programs and exhibits that will enrich current educational curricula covering the history and culture of California. Recipients of the Inaugural Education Fund will include long time CAM supporters **Kim Benjamin, Larry Bond, Dan and Esther Louie Jr., and Robert and Edith Jung.**

The Donor Appreciation Reception will generate interest and excitement of CAM's upcoming 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Historymakers Awards Banquet, to be held at the Hilton Hotel Los Angeles in Universal City on Sunday, September 10, 2006 at 6:30pm. Celebrating its milestone tenth anniversary, this year's theme is "Showcasing Our Heritage: Stories, Images, Artifacts." Funds generated at the Banquet will be used to help propel CAM into the next expansion phase, where 16,000+ square feet of space is waiting to be

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developed into future exhibitions, multi-purpose and community-based areas. This year's honorees include Assemblymember Judy Chu, Excellence in Government; Tim Dang, Excellence in Entertainment; C.Y. Lee, Excellence in Literary Arts; Reverend Dr. Hoover Wong, Excellence in Community Service; and Robert and Edith Jung, for the Dr. Dan Louie, Jr. Lifetime Achievement Award.

CAM's mission is to foster a deeper understanding and appreciation of America's diverse heritage by researching, preserving, and sharing the history, rich cultural legacy, and continuing contributions of Chinese Americans. Following twenty years of preparations, CAM opened on December 18, 2003 and now serves as a tangible link to the past and a promising point of entry for the City's multicultural future. CAM is located within El Pueblo Historical Monument Park at 425 North Los Angeles Street in downtown Los Angeles.

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