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EVENT RELEASE

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September 17, 2009

SUNO to team up with the New Orleans African-American Museum for “African Cultural Connections”

NEW ORLEANS, LA. – Southern University at New Orleans’ (SUNO) Center for African and African-American Studies (CAAAS) and the New Orleans African-American Museum of Art, Culture and History (NOAAM) will present a curriculum-based exhibit entitled "African Cultural Connections" starting Friday, September 25, 2009 and concluding January 2, 2010. The opening event for the exhibit will be on September 25th from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at 1418 Gov. Nicholls St. All events are free and open to the public.

The exhibit will focus on African contributions to New Orleans, Louisiana and the nation. The exhibit contains SUNO and NOAAM artifacts from the collections of Drs. William and Jane Bertrand Collection and the Dr. Robert Bernard Gex collection. There are planned lectures focusing on the use of textiles, African art, and African retentions in America and African and African American cultural views on education. Scheduled programs and seminars provide a vehicle for telling a historical account of cultural progression throughout the African Diaspora.

SUNO’s collection was compromised by waters from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. As a result, the collection was remediated and relocated to a storage facility located in a strip mall at 3037 East Causeway Approach in the Mandeville Square Shopping Center. Because of the efforts of university personnel and assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Getty Foundation, the Smithsonian Institute, Nationwide AIC Conservation Services, over \$1 million of artifacts were rescued from standing water in the Leonard Washington Memorial Library and later preserved.

The discussion topics and dates are as follows:

Mr. Charlie Johnson, “African Retentions in the Crescent City”
Thursday, October 8, 2009, 11:00 a.m.
SUNO’s Park Campus Cafeteria, 6400 Press Dr.

Ms. Linda Hill, “Conservation”
Thursday, October 15, 2009, 11:00 a.m.
SUNO’s Park Campus Cafeteria

Mr. Charlie Johnson, “African Retentions in the Crescent City”
Saturday, November 14, 2009
NOAAM, 11:00 a.m.

END