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## **Press Release**

For Immediate Release

The Albuquerque Film & Music Experience (AFME) Welcomes World-Renown Author and Poet Jimmy Santiago Baca to Headline A Night of Poetry & Spoken Words at the National Hispanic Cultural Center

Jimmy Santiago Baca, Hakim Bellamy, Hawah Kasat, Adam Jones and special guests take the stage at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Night of Poetry & Spoken Words during AFME 2015

**Albuquerque, NM – February, 17, 2015 –** The <u>Albuquerque Film & Music Experience</u> (AFME) is proud to announce the highly anticipated "Night of Poetry & Spoken Words", taking place on Thursday, June 4<sup>th</sup> at the National Hispanic Cultural Center in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

"Having Jimmy Santiago Baca headline this event is quite an honor as he is one of the greatest living poets in the world," said Ivan Wiener, Executive Director of AFME. Mr. Baca is lauded for his talent in weaving personal and political threads to create a pertinent and poignant narrative. He addresses universal issues with vigor and passion, paired with emotional grace and vivid sensory detail, establishing him as a vital voice in American poetry. He has won numerous awards and is the subject of a new film to be screened at AFME titled *A Place to*Stand, inspired by Jimmy's memoir of the same name.

"AFME if one those organizations and events that ignites excitement and creativity into the culture of NM through film, music, poetry and the arts," said Baca. "It celebrates our humanity

and our experience beyond the border and makes a universal statement where the events will rejuvenate your life and inspire you to believe again," he went on to say.

In addition to Jimmy Santiago Baca, AFME welcomes Albuquerque's former Poet Laureate

<u>Hakim Bellamy</u>, Washington, DC's <u>Hawah Kasat</u>, author <u>Adam Jones</u>, poet and musician <u>Jose</u>

<u>Antonio Ponce</u> and other surprise guests who will take part in the evening.

Along with A Night of Poetry & Spoken Words, Mr. Baca will be conducting a writer's workshop on Friday, June 5 and serve as a speaker on the Q&A panel after the screening of A Place to Stand.

As Albuquerque gears up for another amazing AFME, taking place June 1-June 7, 2015, it is appropriate to showcase Jimmy Santiago Baca's work with Latin America in the international spotlight during the festival.

The AFME Foundation is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit formed to make a difference in our collective community during AFME and through year-round programming. Our mission is to create oneness through the power of film, music and the arts. Our purpose is to bring filmmakers, musicians, artists and visionaries together to co-create into the future and honor the responsible use of community resources, while sharing the unique character of New Mexico and celebrating the art of storytelling. Created and Executive Produced by Ivan Wiener, AFME's unique week-long celebration has attracted the participation of many industry leaders and luminaries from New Mexico productions, world markets and Hollywood.

For more details on AFME 2015 and year round programs, please visit:

WWW.ABQFILMEXPERIENCE.COM

Press images available upon request.

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