Written by James W. Wade III
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Second in Four-part Quarterly Dialogue Series to feature Organizational Leadership Panel on May 17th

Cleveland, Ohio ---- The Women of Color Foundation and American Greetings Corporation is proud to announce the launch of a new, women's quarterly Speaker's Series. The series is co-sponsored by Cleveland Clinic, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland State University and WEWS-TV NewsChannel 5, and is one of several events taking place as part of the Women of Color Foundation's 10th Anniversary celebration.

The Speaker's Series is an extension of the Women of Color Foundation's Personal and Professional Development Retreats, which originally began in Cleveland, in 2002. Like the Retreats, the Speaker's Series offers a unique opportunity for professional women to network, mentor, share, and train other women to empower themselves in a multitude of areas in their lives, including entrepreneurship, business, career, finance, health, family and more.

The first Speaker's workshop, "Women in the "C" Suite……A New Phenomenon???" involved a special "Women's History Month" panel discussion presented exclusively for American Greetings Corporation employees. The event featured top executive women who discussed

their rise to the upper levels of their organizations and professions, and their rewards, challenges and women who helped them along the way. Moderator, Alexandria Johnson Boone, Chairwoman/Founder, Women of Color Foundation and President & Chief Executive Officer, GAP Communications Group was joined by panelists: Cathy Kilbane, Corporate Secretary and General Counsel, American Greetings Corporation; Maria Jose Pujana, M.D., Member, Board of Directors, The Cleveland Foundation, Cuyahoga Community College Foundation and MetroHealth Foundation; Daisy L. Alford-Smith, Ph.D., Chief Executive Officer, Girl Scouts of North East Ohio; and the Honorable Yvette McGee Brown, Justice, Supreme Court of Ohio.

The public is invited to the second workshop in the series, **"Managing Dynamic Organizations…Strategies for Success!**
" The event will take place on Thursday, May 17th, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m., at American Greetings Corporation, Corporate Headquarters) in Brooklyn, Ohio. The event will feature Josie B. Lindsay (Moderator), President & Chief Executive Officer, Bell & Lindsay, Inc, along with panelists: Susan Jensen, Executive Director, Walmart Team, American Greetings Corporation; Anne E. Bomar, Senior Vice President & General Manager, Dominion East Ohio; Diana Billamoria, Ph.D., Professor of Organizational Behavior, Weatherhead School of Management, Case Western Reserve University; and Barbara Danforth, Senior Vice President, Business Development, Ratliff & Taylor.

**The third workshop in the series will take place Thursday, September 13, 2012, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. at American Greetings Corporation, Corporate Headquarters. "Embracing Diversity and Inclusion as a Strategy for Enhancing the Bottom Line!" will be moderated by Renita Jefferson, Director, Diversity & Inclusion, and will feature panelists: Marilyn Sanders Mobley, Ph.D., Vice President, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion and Professor of English, Case Western Reserve University; Charmaine Brown, Director, Diversity & Inclusion, Forest City Enterprises; Jill Manuel, News Director, WEWS-TV, NewsChannel 5, (Cleveland's ABC Network Affiliate); Gena C. Lovett, Chief Diversity Officer, ALCOA; and Deborah Bridwell, Senior Director, Inclusion Initiatives, Commission on Economic Inclusion, Greater Cleveland Partnership. The final workshop will take place during the Women of Color Foundation's 7th Annual Leadership Development and Training Institute & Awards Luncheon on Thursday, November 8, 2012, 9:00 – 11:30 a. m., at Cleveland State University's Student Center located at 2121 Euclid Avenue The Estelle Shorter Holmes Lecture will address "Women in the Workplace: The Importance of Being Earnest, and Authentic!", and will feature Dr. Ella L. J. Edmondson Bell, Associate Professor for Business Administration, Amos Tuck School of Business, Dartmouth College.**

Registration for all remaining workshops is available online for $25 at www.womenofcolorfoundation.com or by calling

216-391-4300, ext. 307. Scholarships are also available for other Women of Color Foundation events. Scholarship applications can be downloaded from the website.