

## Oakland Museum of California Presents “Blueprint Roundtable” Panel Discussion

*Media Photo Opportunity*  
*Saturday, February 11, 12:30 to 3 p.m.*

**WHEN:** Saturday, February 11, 12:30 to 3 p.m.

**WHAT:** *Question Bridge: Black Males, Blueprint Roundtable* panel discussion. The event is preceded by a 12:30 pm commissioned, site-specific dance by Motif Performance Project with choreographer **Rashad Pridgen**.

**WHERE:** **Oakland Museum of California** (OMCA), located at 1000 Oak Street in Oakland, California. The event is hosted in OMCA’s **James Moore Theater**, on Level 1.

**TICKETS:** The Blueprint Roundtable event is **included with Museum admission**. Museum admission is \$12 general; \$9 seniors and students with valid ID, \$6 youth ages 9 to 17, and free for Members and children 8 and under.

**MEDIA CHECK IN:** All media should check in at the Will Call table, located on Level 1, on the Oak Street entrance to the Museum. Please present media credentials or a business card to receive media comp admission. To RSVP in advance, call Kelly Koski at 843-670-5355 or email [communications@museumca.org](mailto:communications@museumca.org).

### **ABOUT THE BLUEPRINT ROUNDTABLE:**

The roundtable responds to a question posed by a member of the **Hip Hop** generation to members of the **Civil Rights** generation, “**Why didn’t you leave us the blueprint?**” This question is the catalyst for a multigenerational discussion about local barriers to communication between Black males; values; leadership; and strategies for overcoming social issues that have emerged in local communities over the past 40 years.

Artist **Chris Johnson** and actor **Jesse Williams (Grey’s Anatomy)** join moderator **Chris Chatmon**, executive director of the Oakland Unified School District’s Office of African-American Male Achievement, and a panel of local Black male youth, young adult community leaders, and established Black male community leaders. Panelists include: **Abel Habtegeorgis, Pendarvis Harshaw, Gregory Hodge, Sean Johnson, Abbas Khalid, Ise Lyfe, Joshua Merchant, Arnold Perkins, and you!** OMCA’s *Question*

*Bridge: Black Males* Blueprint Roundtable kicks off a series of Blueprint Roundtables in cities around the nation in venues including the Brooklyn Museum and the Atlanta Civic Center.

**ABOUT QUESTION BRIDGE:**

*Question Bridge: Black Males* is an innovative video installation created by Chris Johnson and artists Hank Willis Thomas in collaboration with Bayeté Ross Smith and Kamal Sinclair after traveling around the country interviewing 150 Black men in eleven cities. They created 1,500 videos of conversations with men representing a range of geographic, generational, economic, and educational levels. They then wove the conversations together to simulate a stream-of-consciousness dialogue, allowing important themes and issues to emerge, including family, love, interracial relationships, community, education, violence, and the past, present, and future of Black men in American society. The project will be on view simultaneously at OMCA, the Brooklyn Museum, the Castain Art Center in Atlanta, and Salt Lake City Arts Center. For more information, visit [www.questionbridge.com](http://www.questionbridge.com).

**ABOUT THE OAKLAND MUSEUM OF CALIFORNIA**

The Oakland Museum of California (OMCA) brings together collections of art, history and natural science under one roof to tell the stories of California and its people. With more than 1.8 million objects, OMCA is a leading cultural institution of the Bay Area and a resource for the research and understanding of California's dynamic cultural and environmental heritage.

**VISITOR INFORMATION**

OMCA is located at 1000 Oak Street in Oakland, California. Museum admission is \$12 general; \$9 seniors and students with valid ID, \$6 youth ages 9 to 17, and free for Members and children 8 and under. For more information, visit [www.museumca.org](http://www.museumca.org).

\* \* \*