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\*\*\* MEDIA ADVISORY \*\*\*

## California's connection to 1961 Freedom Ride movement documented for 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary

***“Get On Board: Stories of the Los Angeles to Houston Freedom Ride” opens at The California Museum on February 4, 2011***

**WHAT:** *Get On Board: Stories of the Los Angeles to Houston Freedom Ride* recounts the seldom-heard story of CORE's (Congress of Racial Equality) freedom ride from Los Angeles, California, to Houston, Texas, in August of 1961. Commemorating the 50th anniversary of the freedom rides, this exhibit underscores the ambitious optimism that inspired 11 Californians -- both Black and White, men and women -- to leave their schools, families and homes to get on board a train for a ride to secure freedom and liberty for all Americans during the Civil Rights Movement.

Inspired by Houston's Union Station, the exhibit features a U-shaped lunch counter with six counter stools that serves as a display area for artifacts that relate the courageous stories of the California Freedom Riders such as:

- Newspaper clips detailing contrasting historical perspectives from *Los Angeles Times* & *Houston Chronicle*
- Photographs & political buttons from original rider Ellen Broms' personal collection
- 1961 UCLA oral history & manuscripts written by original rider Steven McNichols

The exhibition, presented in partnership with the California Legislative Black Caucus and the Mayme Clayton Library and Museum, opens on February 4, 2011, and continues through May 29, 2011.

**WHEN:** February 4 – May 29, 2011

**WHERE:** The California Museum, 1020 O Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

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*California's Connection to 1961 Freedom Ride movement documented for 50th anniversary*



## **ABOUT THE CALIFORNIA MUSEUM:**

The California Museum — home of the California Hall of Fame— engages and enlightens people about California's rich history and unique contributions to the world through ideas, innovation, the arts and culture. Through interactive and innovative experiences, the museum inspires men, women and children to dream the California dream and dare to make their own mark on history. Open Monday through: 10:00a.m. to 5:00p.m.; Sunday from noon to 5:00p.m. Admission: Adults \$8.50; Students/Seniors \$7.00 with valid ID; Children 6-13 \$6.00; Children 5 and under free. For more information, visit: [CaliforniaMuseum.org](https://CaliforniaMuseum.org)

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*Press images and interviews available by request.*

