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**STELLENE VOLANDES, STYLE EDITOR OF *DEPARTURES*,
NAMED EDITOR OF *BLACK INK*,
THE EXCLUSIVE PUBLICATION FOR AMERICAN EXPRESS CENTURION MEMBERS**

NEW YORK, NY (Dec. 15, 2008) – *Departures* Editor in Chief and *Black Ink* Editorial Director Richard David Story named Stellene Volandes Editor of *BLACK INK*, the exclusive benefit for American Express Centurion® members, effective immediately. Volandes continues to serve as Style Editor of *Departures*, published exclusively for Platinum Card® and Centurion® members from American Express, and reports to Story.

"As an authority on the Centurion lifestyle, there's no one better than Stellene to edit *BLACK INK*," commented Story. "Her understanding of the luxury market, whether it be rare jewels or real estate, villa rentals or interior design, is non pareil."

Volandes has served as *Departures*' Style Editor since 2007. Among her most visible responsibilities are The Style Guide, A to Z published every September and the Trend Report featured in every November/December issue. She oversees the coverage of interiors, fashion and jewelry for the magazine. Volandes has held other titles, including senior editor and women's fashion and jewelry editor, since joining *Departures* as associate editor in 2003.

About *Black Ink*:

Black Ink is an exclusive benefit for American Express Centurion® members. The quarterly magazine is a one-of-a-kind editorial resource published for a select group of influential and affluent readers that offers personalized services, special insights and unparalleled access to unique experiences and products. Formerly known as the 'no-name' magazine, *Black Ink* launched in fall 2004 in an oversized 10" x 12 ¾" format.

About American Express Publishing:

The American Express Publishing Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of the American Express Company, is the leading luxury lifestyle publisher. In addition to *Black Ink*, the company publishes *Departures*, *Travel + Leisure*, *Food & Wine*, *Travel + Leisure Golf*, *Travel + Leisure Family* and *Executive Travel SkyGuide*.

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