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THE ART GALLERY AT USJ RECEIVES LATINO AMERICANS: 500 YEARS OF HISTORY GRANT

WEST HARTFORD, Conn. (August 12, 2015) – The Art Gallery at University of Saint Joseph has been selected to receive a competitive *Latino Americans: 500 Years of History* grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the American Library Association (ALA).

As one of 203 grant recipients chosen from across the country, the Art Gallery will receive a cash grant of \$3,000 to hold public programming about Latino history and culture. This funding will enable the Art Gallery to be a participant in the screening of six episodes of the NEH-supported documentary film “Latino Americans,” created for PBS in 2013 by the WETA public television station. The award-winning series chronicles the history of Latinos in the United States from the 16th century to the present day. (Learn more about the series at www.pbs.org/latino-americans/en/.)

Three of the episodes will be shown in fall 2015 and three in spring 2016. Each will be introduced by a scholar and followed by audience discussion, with three featuring panel discussions led by community members. The two screenings hosted by the Art Gallery will be held in the Hoffman Auditorium in the Bruyette Athenaeum on the University’s West Hartford campus located at 1678 Asylum Avenue, West Hartford, Conn. The other four screenings will take place at other community locations, including the Hartford Public Library.

This programming will complement exhibitions at the Art Gallery, including *Pan American Modernism: Avant-Garde Art in Latin America and the United States* (September 25-December 20, 2015) and a spring 2016 installation of Latin American art from the Gallery’s permanent collection.

“Latino Americans are not only the country’s largest minority group, with more than 50 million people, but they have made significant contributions to Connecticut communities and constitute a growing population at the University of Saint Joseph,” said Ann Sievers, director of the Art Gallery. “I’m thrilled that the Art Gallery has this opportunity to explore Latino Americans’ rich and varied history and culture with our students and the public.”

For a schedule of events, visit: www.usj.artgallery/latino500 or call 860.231.5743. The Art Gallery, University of Saint Joseph is open Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday: 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.; Thursday: 11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.; and Sunday: 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.; closed Monday. Admission is free.

The *Latino Americans: 500 Years of History* grantees represent 42 states and the District of Columbia, and include 78 public libraries, 68 college/university libraries and organizations, 19 community college libraries, 10 state humanities councils, 12 museums, and a range of other nonprofit organizations. [View a full list of the recipients.](#)

Latino Americans: 500 Years of History is part of an NEH initiative, *The Common Good: The Humanities in the Public Square*.

About the National Endowment for the Humanities

Created in 1965 as an independent federal agency, the National Endowment for the Humanities supports research and learning in history, literature, philosophy and other areas of the humanities by funding selected, peer-reviewed proposals from around the nation. Additional information about the National Endowment for the Humanities and its grant programs is available at www.neh.gov.



About the American Library Association

The American Library Association is the oldest and largest library association in the world, with approximately 58,000 members in academic, public, school, government and special libraries. The mission of the American Library Association is to provide leadership for the development, promotion and improvement of library and information services and the profession of librarianship in order to enhance learning and ensure access to information for all.



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The University of Saint Joseph (USJ) offers a wide range of graduate, undergraduate, and certificate programs that combine a professional and liberal arts education with a focus on service. Coeducational graduate master's and doctoral degree programs are taught on the University's two campuses in West Hartford and Hartford, Connecticut; at off-campus locations throughout the state; and online. Undergraduate programs for women and for coeducational adult students take place on our beautiful suburban campus and include more than 25 majors and seven pre-professional programs, each of which provides personal attention in a caring environment. Founded in 1932 by the Sisters of Mercy, the University of Saint Joseph welcomes students from diverse backgrounds and religious traditions. To learn more, view our website at www.usj.edu.

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