FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

**Denise Harris-Fiems**

**Reference Librarian**

**White Lake Township Library**

**248-698-4942**

**dharris@whitelakelibrary.org**

**White Lake Township Library receives ‘Latino Americans: 500 Years of History’ grant**

White Lake Township Library 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 selected from across the country, and one of seven recipients in Michigan, the White Lake Township Library received a cash grant of $3000to hold public programming — such as public film screenings, discussion groups, oral history initiatives, local history exhibitions, multi-media projects or performances — about Latino history and culture.

Thelibrarywill also receive the six-part, 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 present day. (Learn more about the series at [www.pbs.org/latino-americans/en/](http://www.pbs.org/latino-americans/en/).)

The *Latino Americans* funding will enable the library to have many programs this fall: a family fiesta to kick off the series, three film and discussion programs, a program about Latino liquors, conversational Spanish classes for all ages, a Day of the Dead sugar skull workshop, book discussions, a Detroit Institute of Arts presentation about the Rivera Courtyard, a salsa dance lesson, “What’s Cookin’ @ the library?” cookbook program, and finishing with a family “Merry-achi” Holiday Concert in December.

“Latino Americans are the country’s largest minority group, with more than 50 million people, and still many people are unaware of their rich and varied history and culture,” said Denise Harris-Fiems. “I’m thrilled that White Lake has this opportunity to explore this topic in our community.”

For a schedule of events, visit whitelakelibrary.org or contact the library at 248-698-4942, ext. 2 or dharris@whitelakelibrary.org. White Lake Township Library is located at 7527 E. Highland Road, White Lake, 48383

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.](https://apply.ala.org/latinoamericans/grant-recipients)

*Latino Americans: 500 Years of History* is part of an NEH initiative, [*The Common Good: The Humanities in the Public Square*](http://www.neh.gov/commongood)*.*

**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](http://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.