

For Immediate Release - December 6, 2010



Amistades, Inc. will host 1st exhibition of the original *Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo* in AZ

TUCSON, ARIZONA – Amistades, Inc. (Amistades) in collaboration with the U.S. National Archives, Arizona State Museum, Tucson Mayor Bob Walkup, Cónsul de México en Tucson Juan Manuel Calderón Jaimes, University of Arizona President Robert Shelton, The Roman Catholic Diocese of Tucson, University of Arizona Mexican American Studies, and Tucson Unified School District (TUSD) Raza Studies will host the original *Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo*. U.S. Congressman Raúl M. Grijalva has served as an Honorary Committee Member for the project since its inception in 2009.

The original Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo will travel from the U.S. National Archives in Washington, D.C., to Tucson, Arizona, for a 30-day public/educational exhibit at the Arizona State Museum. This original Treaty has never been seen in Arizona and its presence in Tucson will bring community members, students, and academics to Tucson from across Arizona, surrounding states, and Mexico to view this document and gain knowledge of the peace treaty that not only ended the U.S./Mexico War of 1846-1848, but also gave birth to the Mexican American community in this country. The Treaty exhibit opens on Wednesday, February 2, 2011. This will be a first for Arizona.

“It’s a rare and special day when we can see such an important piece of history for ourselves,” Grijalva said. “As we continue to debate the kind of state Arizona is going to be, this is a particularly important moment for all of us to consider our past. Understanding this Treaty and where Arizona came from is a good step toward a greater appreciation of our present and our future. Anyone who has a chance should take advantage of this rare opportunity.”

The impact of this historical document in Tucson will be enhanced through the coordination of numerous community events that will result in reflection on this historical event, increased knowledge of our history, and a sense of patriotism. The 5th Annual Segundo de Febrero Commemorative Dinner being held on Friday, January, 28, 2011, at the Diamond Center of the Desert Diamond Casino on 1100 W. Pima Mine Road, will kick off the exhibit of the *Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo*. This year’s keynote speaker will be Richard Griswold del Castillo, Chicano scholar and author of *The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo: A Legacy of Conflict*.

“I am pleased that this original piece of history that established the Mexican American community in our country will be showcased in Tucson. It will not only be a catalyst to recognize and inspire pride in the heritage, culture, and contributions of Mexican Americans but also to promote youth development and leadership and educate the community about substance abuse prevention,” said Pima County Attorney Barbara Wall. “It is very exciting for the people of Tucson and all of Southern Arizona to both showcase this critically important document and to learn more about our shared history from it,” said Bob and Beth Walkup.

The exhibit will be free and open to the general public. Commemorative Dinner tickets are now on sale for \$50 and corporate tables are available for \$400. Email segundodefebrero@amistadesinc.org for registration information. Proceeds benefit Amistades, Inc., a Latino-led, Latino-serving, 501 (c) 3 community development and substance abuse prevention organization. Visit www.amistadesinc.org for more information.

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Note to Editor: A full listing of the project donors is below. If you would like additional donor information, please email claudiajassostevens@amistadesinc.org.



Barbara LaWall
Pima County Attorney



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