

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Ellie Hutchison, Programs Manager

602-257-0335 x26 / ehutchison@azhumanities.org

AUTHORS NIGHT WITH DR. FELIPE HINOJOSA IN DOWNTOWN PHOENIX
Religious Migrants: The Latino Mennonite Quest for Community and Civil Rights, 1968-1980 on October 28th from 6:00-8:00pm at Arizona Humanities

Phoenix, AZ – Join Dr. Felipe Hinojosa, Associate Professor of History at Texas A&M University, for an evening exploring the intersection of religion and politics in Chican@ and Latin@ history. The program takes place Wednesday, October 28th from 6:00-8:00p.m. at Arizona Humanities (1242 N. Central Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85004). Hear how Mexican Americans and Latin@s who joined the Mennonite Church during the middle part of the twentieth century challenged the church's policies in the 1960s and 1970s.

Free event and light refreshments included. Seating is limited. To reserve your seat, visit www.azhumanities.org or call 602-257-0335.

About Dr. Felipe Hinojosa: Born and raised in the Rio Grande Valley town of Brownsville, Texas, Felipe Hinojosa is Associate Professor of History at Texas A&M University. His teaching and research interests include Latina/o and Chicana/o Studies, American Religion, Social Movements, Gender, and Comparative Race and Ethnicity. He has published articles on Latin@ Religion, the Chicano movement, and the War on Poverty in Texas in the *Western Historical Quarterly* and *Mennonite Quarterly Review*. Hinojosa's first book, *Latino Mennonites: Civil Rights, Faith, and Evangelical Culture*, was published in 2014 by Johns Hopkins University Press.

More information about the Latin@ Mennonite Community from Dr. Felipe Hinojosa: "Without question this was an odd religious choice, especially given the mostly closed and quiet nature of the Mennonite Church. But for most Latin@s who joined the church the decision made sense. Some joined as a result of the Mennonite missionary efforts in Mexican American and Puerto Rican communities such as Chicago, South Texas, and later Puerto Rico and New York City. Others joined the church because of the positive experiences they had as migrant workers in the rural Midwest. In the 1960s and 1970s, Latin@ Mennonites—many of whom merged Mennonite theology with Chican@ and Latin@ social activism—used their faith as a platform for challenging the church's racist and sexist policies. Drawing inspiration from the Chicano and Puerto Rican movements, Latin@ Mennonites formed part of a larger movement of Latin@ Catholics and Evangelicals who were demanding that churches and religious leaders take on a more prophetic role with regards to civil rights and social justice."

About Arizona Humanities
<http://www.azhumanities.org>

Arizona Humanities is an independent non-profit organization and the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Arizona Humanities supports public programming in the humanities that promotes understanding of human thoughts, actions, creations, and values. Since its foundation in 1973, nearly \$11 million has been provided to cultural and educational institutions throughout Arizona.

Mission: Arizona Humanities builds a just and civil society by creating opportunities to explore our shared human experiences through discussion, learning and reflection.