

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 1, 2016

Contact: Ellie Hutchison, Programs Manager / [ehutchison@azhumanities.org](mailto:ehutchison@azhumanities.org) / 602-257-0335 x26

## **AUTHORS + TALK WITH ELSIE SZECZY EXPLORES HISTORY OF WWII CADET NURSE CORPS**

*Kick off your fall with stories from Arizona nurses September 15th in  
downtown Phoenix*

**Phoenix, AZ** – The public is invited to join Arizona Humanities for a conversation with local author Elsie Szeczy about the U.S. Cadet Nurses of World War II. July 1, 2018, marks the 75th anniversary of the establishment of the U.S. Cadet Nurse Corps, an innovation for its time that addressed a healthcare crisis during World War II and improved nurse education across the United States. Learn about Cadet Nurses participating at hospital schools of nursing in Arizona. Szeczy will talk about her new book, *The Cadet Nurse Corps in Arizona: A History of Service*, and display a few artifacts and uniforms from the era.

The Authors + Talk takes place at the historic Ellis-Shackelford House in downtown Phoenix (1242 N. Central Avenue Phoenix, AZ 85004) on Thursday, September 15<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-8:00pm. The program is free and light refreshments are included.

Seating is limited and guests are encouraged to RSVP through eventbrite at <https://authortalkselsieszeczy.eventbrite.com> or call 602-257-0335.

### **About *The Cadet Nurse Corps in Arizona: A History of Service* (from Arcadia Publishing)**

**By Elsie M. Szeczy, foreword by Richard Garmona**

Congress established the U.S. Cadet Nurse Corps during World War II to meet the high demand for medical care. The first federal women's education program, it included a nondiscrimination policy decades before the civil rights movement. The trailblazing cadets and innovative healthcare practices at the five participating teaching hospitals in Arizona left a lasting national legacy. Sage Memorial Hospital was the country's only accredited nursing school for Native Americans. Santa Monica's Hospital and nursing school was the first to integrate west of the Mississippi. The daughter of a Navajo medicine man, U.S. Army Nurse Corps second lieutenant Adele Slivers helped bridge a gap between traditional healing practices and modern medicine. Arizona author Elsie Szeczy details momentous local challenges and achievements from this pivotal era in American medicine.

**About Elsie Szeczy:** Elsie Szeczy is an academic professional emerita at Arizona State University and was previously a middle school teacher, distance education program administrator and teacher educator in New York state. She curates the [uscadetnurse.org](http://uscadetnurse.org) website, a collection of stories and other resources about the corps. She has also spoken about the U.S. Cadet Nurse Corps through Arizona Speaks, a program of Arizona Humanities, and at a number of academic gatherings. Dr. Szeczy lives in Tempe, Arizona.

###

### **Arizona Humanities**

<http://www.azhumanities.org>

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

Arizona Humanities is a statewide 501(c)3 non-profit organization and the Arizona affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Since 1973, Arizona Humanities has supported public programs that promote understanding of the human experience with cultural, education, and non-profit organizations across Arizona.