



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Westside Community Center Hosts Diego Rivera Exhibit

New Braunfels, TX - The Westside Community Center Library will be displaying an exhibit featuring life-sized reproductions of the spectacular murals of Mexican artist Diego Rivera. These murals are considered national treasures of Mexico. The community may view this exhibit during the week of May 4th through the 8th. The Westside Community Center is located at 2932 S. IH 35.

Featuring the beautiful *Dream of a Sunday Afternoon in Alameda Park*, *El Vendedor de Alcatrazes* (*The Flower Vendor*), and *The Agitator*, the exhibit celebrates Mexican art, culture, and history through the work of its best known muralist. A self-guided tour will be included as part of the exhibit and visitors may also view a slide presentation on the life and art of Diego Rivera.

The exhibit features a 4' x 8' detail from *The Agitator*, a 1926 mural that Rivera painted in the administration building of the University of Chapingo, Mexico. In addition, a 4' x 4' reproduction of Rivera's popular *Flower Vendor*, from a series the artist painted that featured calla lilies and the daily lives of ordinary Mexicans, will be on display.

Rivera created five murals in the United States during the Great Depression in addition to the many murals he painted depicting political issues and social change in Mexico. His *History of Mexico* mural appears in the Palacio Nacional in Mexico City. Other murals by Rivera may be found in various important institutional settings and depict the struggles of the working classes of Mexico.

On Wednesday, May 6th and Thursday, May 7th, a documentary film "Arte Mexicano del Mexico antiguo a Diega Rivera: 3000 anos de splendor," will also be shown at the Westside at 8 p.m. This one-hour film, in Spanish with English subtitles, will provide an overview of the history of Mexican art, including Rivera's significant role.

"Diego Rivera is such an important artist, and his murals define the form and remain influential to artists to this day," said Library Director Gretchen Pruett. "We hope this exhibit will inspire our community's artists, and we're pleased to offer representations of some of the major works of Rivera. In the future we plan to include more art, historical, and cultural exhibits, both at the Westside and the main library on Common Street."

Community members will have the opportunity to view this exhibit on Monday May 4th by special arrangement, Tuesday May 5th from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Wednesday May 6th from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m., and on

Thursday, May 7th and Friday, May 8th from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Special tours may be arranged for school groups and other interested organizations by contacting Alix Samuels at 830-221-4316 or Michele Valadez at 830-221-4630.

This program is made possible with the support of *The Friends of the New Braunfels Public Library*. For more information about the exhibit contact Alix Samuels, at 830-221-4316.

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