



NEWS RELEASE
North Olympic Library System
2210 South Peabody Street
Port Angeles, WA 98362

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: May 5, 2021
Contact: Jennifer Smathers, Customer Services Specialist
360-963-2414; JSmathers@nols.org
Re: Humanities Washington to Present *From Mexican to Mexican-American*
Attached: *HW-Logo.jpg, Gil_header.jpg*

Humanities Washington speaker Carlos Gil will present *From Mexican to Mexican-American: A Family Immigration Story* on Zoom at 6pm on Friday, May 21. The program will be offered in Spanish on Saturday, May 22, at 2pm. Registration is required to receive the Zoom login. Register at www.nols.org, or by contacting your North Olympic Library System branch.

As immigration becomes more hotly debated in the United States, the arguments have become cartoonish, with one side often painted as naïve and another as xenophobic. What has become lost is the human story of immigration to America, with all its complexity, heartache, and hope.

Professor Carlos Gil sought to understand immigration by tracing his family's history from the 1920s to the 1970s. In the process, he discovered the excitement, culture shock, inter-family conflict, and questions of identity that many immigrants face when seeking a better life in another country. Based on his book, *We Became Mexican-American: How Our Immigrant Family Survived to Pursue the American Dream*, his talk will explore Mexican immigration by spotlighting his family's experience in southern California, including parallels with Washington State.

Carlos Gil is a member of Humanities Washington Speaker's Bureau, and an emeritus professor of history at the University of Washington, where he has taught the history of Latin America for over thirty years.

About Humanities Washington

Humanities Washington sparks conversation and critical thinking using story as a catalyst, nurturing thoughtful and engaged communities across the state. Speakers Bureau is one of Humanities Washington's oldest and most popular programs. A roster of 34 cultural experts and scholars provides low-cost, high-quality public presentations across the state, encouraging audiences to think, learn and engage in conversation. For more about Speakers Bureau, visit www.humanities.org/programs/speakers.

More Information

This program is generously funded by Humanities Washington. For additional information about this program and to register, visit www.nols.org and select "Events," call 360.417.8500, or send an email to Discover@nols.org.



"From Mexican to Mexican-American: A Family Immigration Story" will be presented by Humanities Washington on Zoom.

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