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***Bridging the Border: Shared Themes in Mexican and U.S. Art 1900 – 1950*
at the Davis Museum, Wellesley College March 18 – June 8**

Wellesley, MA—The exhibition *Bridging the Border: Shared Themes in Mexican and U.S. Art 1900 – 1950* opens March 18 in the Bronfman Gallery of the Davis Museum and Cultural Center, Wellesley College, 106 Central Street, Wellesley, Mass. The exhibition is on view through June 8, 2003. The curators will lead a talk in the gallery from 5 to 7pm on Thursday, April 3. The event is free and open to the public.

The exhibition examines points of comparison between American and Mexican art through works on paper drawn from the permanent collection of the Davis Museum. The United States and Mexico share a long and complex history yet an artificial border separates the art histories of these two countries, according to curators and faculty members Rebecca Bedell and James Oles.

Four themes: *The City, Rural Traditions, Responses to European Modernism,* and *Protest and Persuasion* break the show into sections that highlight areas of exchange during the first fifty years of the 20th century. Each category compares works by artists from each country, throwing into focus significant differences as well as similarities in form and meaning.

This display of prints, drawings, and photographs range from compelling but forgotten images to classic masterworks. Some of these pieces have been rarely exhibited and several are new museum acquisitions. Manuel Alvarez Bravo, Thomas Hart Benton, Dorothea Lange, Leopoldo Méndez, Edward Weston, and Hale Woodruff are among the artists whose work are featured. A few of the Americans such as Weston and Woodruff, worked in both countries, supplying evidence of a cross-cultural exchange.

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Bridging the Border: Shared Themes in Mexican and U.S. Art at the Davis Museum-2-2-2

The exhibition relates to an experimental course offered this spring at Wellesley College: Art History 205/Breaking Boundaries: The Arts of Mexico and the United States, taught by Assistant Professors Rebecca Bedell and James Oles.

This project is made possible by funding from the Wellesley College Friends of Art, the June Feinberg Stayman '48 Fund, Wellesley College Museum Program Fund, and the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center Hours

The museum is open Tuesday, Friday and Saturday from 11am to 5pm, Wednesday and Thursday from 11am to 8pm and Sunday 1-5. Admission and parking are free. Recorded information about museum exhibitions, events, and driving directions is available at 781-283-2051 or on our web site at: www.davismuseum.wellesley.edu. For tour information, please call 781-283-3382. The Museum's Collins Café, recognized for its innovative cuisine, offers a fresh menu daily and is open weekdays until 3:30pm.

The Museum, Collins Café and Collins Cinema are wheelchair accessible and wheelchairs are available for use in the Museum without charge. Special needs may be accommodated by contacting the Director of Disability Services, Jim Wice at 781-283-2434 or at jwice@wellesley.edu.

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