

NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT: Bill Richards / 517-432-0013 / BillR@wkar.org
January 15, 2014

WKAR Community Cinema Features 'The State of Arizona'

(East Lansing, MI) – WKAR Community Cinema returns in January with a screening and discussion of **The State of Arizona**. The new documentary from **Independent Lens** captures the explosive emotions and complex realities behind Arizona's headline-grabbing struggle with illegal immigration.

On the discussion panel are **Susan Reed**, Michigan Immigrant Rights Center; **Sheila Contreras**, MSU Chicano/Latino Studies program; and **Aida Cuadrado**, Action of Greater Lansing.

The WKAR Community Cinema event takes place **Thursday, January 23 at 7 p.m.** in Room 145, Communication Arts and Sciences building on the Michigan State campus.

The event is free, but online reservations are required at WKAR.org

About 'The State of Arizona'

The State of Arizona captures the explosive emotions and complex realities behind Arizona's headline-grabbing struggle with illegal immigration. Following Arizona's controversial Senate Bill 1070, dubbed the "show me your papers" law, the film tells the stories of Arizonans on all sides of this divisive issue from ground zero of the nation's immigration debate.

Like everything else in Arizona's conflict over immigration, no victory or defeat is simple because families, lives and civic values lie in the balance in either direction. However, one thing is certain — Senate Bill 1070 galvanized Latino voters across the country who turned out in record numbers to re-elect President Obama largely based on his campaign promise of immigration reform. Their show of strength changed the political landscape and pushed immigration reform to the forefront of the national agenda.

About the Panelists

Susan E. Reed is supervising attorney with the Michigan Immigrant Rights Center.

Dr. Sheila Contreras directs the Chicano/Latino studies program at Michigan State University.

Aida Cuadrado is a faith-based organizer with Action of Greater Lansing.

-- MORE --

-- CONTINUED --

On the Air

The State of Arizona airs Monday, Jan. 27, 10 p.m. on WKAR-TV/PBS.

This season of **WKAR Community Cinema** is sponsored by **MSU Residential College in the Arts and Humanities**. **WKAR Community Cinema: The State of Arizona** is sponsored by **MSU Chicano/Latino Studies Program**.

Community Cinema is a groundbreaking public education and civic engagement initiative featuring screenings of films from Independent Lens on location in 100 cities and online. Between September and June, Community Cinema brings together leading organizations, community members and public television stations to learn, discuss and get involved in today's critical social issues.

WKAR is part of Michigan State University's College of Communication Arts & Sciences and includes WKAR-TV, WKAR Radio, WKAR Radio Reading Service and WKAR Ready To Learn. WKAR is funded in large part by contributions from viewers and listeners with additional support from Michigan State University and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

###

