

Please join the National Museum of American History and the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars for a conversation on:

## The Legacy of the Bracero Program

*with*

**Raúl Grijalva**, Member of Congress (D-AZ)

**Jorge Castañeda**, former Foreign Minister of Mexico and Professor, New York University

**Matthew Garcia**, Outreach Director for the Bracero Archive and Associate Professor, Brown University



Wednesday, September 30, 2009

6 – 8 PM

Carmichael Auditorium, 1st Floor, Center  
National Museum of American History



To overcome the labor shortage caused by World War II, the United States entered into a series of agreements in 1942 with Mexico to organize the Bracero Program, the nation's largest guest worker program in the 20th century. This program enabled Mexican citizens to come to the United States on temporary labor contracts predominantly to work in the agriculture industry. During the 22-year period of the guest worker program, millions of Mexicans came to the United States to work. While Bracero workers were supposed to return to Mexico at the end of their labor contracts, some remained; others, helped by the experience and knowledge they gained in the Bracero Program, later immigrated to the United States.

**Rep. Raúl Grijalva** (D-AZ), who began his public career as a community organizer advocating for health care in older and minority neighborhoods, and **Jorge Castañeda** (former foreign minister for Mexico) discuss the legacy of the Bracero program with moderator **Matthew Garcia** (outreach director for the Bracero Archive).

*Cost Free; first come, first served*

Related Events:

[Bittersweet Harvest: The Bracero Program](#)

September 9, 2009–January 3, 2010

