March 27, 2012

**Royal Chicano Air Force exhibits ‘The Poster!’**

Works from one of Sacramento’s premier art collectives, the Royal Chicano Air Force (RCAF), will be displayed in “The Poster! La Palabra! The Word!” The free exhibit runs April 2-27 in Sacramento State’s Library Gallery Annex.

The exhibit comprises selected posters from Sacramento State’s own collection of RCAF works. The group, founded in 1969, included visual artists, poets, performers, musicians, politicians, union organizers and community activists. Members produced a great number of silkscreen posters and murals in the Sacramento region during the 1970s.

Regular Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Recorded background music in the gallery is by Esteban Villa, a founding member of RCAF.

“The exhibit of Royal Chicano Air Force posters celebrates a historical arts collective that gave voice to an important community that makes Sacramento, and all of California, what and who it is,” says Ella Diaz, a professor of English and Latino/a studies at Cornell University, and a co-curator of the exhibit. The other curators are Julie Thomas, Special Collections and Manuscripts librarian; and Phil Hitchcock, gallery director.

Diaz also will be featured during a special reception at the exhibit from 1 to 5 p.m. Saturday, April 13, that will include two Festival of the Arts events from art history. Diaz will present a look at the RCAF in a lecture from 1 to 2 p.m. titled “Flying Under the Radar with the Royal Chicano Air Force.”

That will be followed by an art history panel discussion, “Challenges of Campus Art Collection Management,” from 2:30 to 4 p.m. The panel comprises Rachel Teagle (Nelson Gallery, UC Davis), Robin Bernhard (Nelson Gallery, UC Davis), Irene Lugo (Sacramento City College) and Catherine Sullivan (Janet Turner Print Museum, Chico State).

The reception runs 4 to 5 p.m.
Sacramento State is making a difference in California’s Capital Region and beyond. We offer a life-changing opportunity for our 28,000 students, preparing them to be leaders in their professions and communities. Our professors are known for their dedication to great teaching. And our location in the capital of the nation’s most populous state allows students to pursue unique internships and research.

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