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**MUSEUM OF TEACHING AND LEARNING
WINS NATIONAL AWARD**

FULLERTON, CA – July 10, 2013 – Fullerton’s nonprofit Museum of Teaching and Learning, known as MOTAL, has been selected as a national winner of the 2013 Award of Merit by the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) for its exhibit, *A Class Action: The Grassroots Struggle for School Desegregation in California*.

The Leadership in History Award is the nation’s most prestigious competition award for recognition of achievement in state and local history. Dr. Greta Nagel, founding director of MOTAL, will accept the award on behalf of the many individuals who came together to plan, create, and support the initial 2,000-square-foot exhibit.

The AASLH letter of congratulations compliments the exhibit’s excellent work. The exhibit, known as *A Class Action* for short, explores the landmark class action lawsuit, *Mendez et al. v. Westminster et al.* It was brought against four Orange County school districts by five Mexican American families in 1945 to protest their maintaining segregated “Mexican schools.”

Representatives of five institutions came together at the Old Orange County Courthouse as the “Exhibit Committee” to brainstorm and plan over several years under Nagel’s leadership. Members of the MOTAL Board of Directors and Advisory Committee raised funds through multiple fundraisers, letters of appeal, and grant proposals. MOTAL continues to seek contributors in order to reopen this exhibit at its partner institution, the Heritage Museum of Orange County. Planning for a second, smaller traveling version of *A Class Action* will soon be complete. It is designed to be easy to pack, unpack, and install.

The select group of national Leadership in History awardees will be honored at a special banquet at the annual meeting of the AASLH, held this year in Birmingham, AL, with generous underwriting provided by the History Channel. Two certificates will be handed out in honor of *A Class Action*—one to honor Nagel’s dedicated leadership and one to honor the scholarship of Dr. Ray Rast, a historian who was an assistant professor of history at California State University, Fullerton, during development of the exhibit.

Nagel, long an advocate for creative collaboration, received her Ph.D. in education in 1992, from Claremont Graduate University with San Diego State University. Her dissertation work, entitled *Good Groups*, reflected her passion for understanding group dynamics and organizing effective groups and “groupwork.”

More information about MOTAL may be found at www.motal.org.

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