Guatemalan 1992 Nobel Peace Prize laureate Rigoberta Menchú is pictured during her visit to the Dominican parliament where she received a recognition for her tireless work for human rights, in Santo Domingo on November 3, 2016. (Erika Santelices/Getty Images)

In 1492, Christopher Columbus reached the Americas, setting off centuries of oppression of native peoples. Five hundred years later, in 1992, Rigoberta Menchú was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in recognition of her work protecting the rights of the indigenous population of Guatemala.

A documentary about the extraordinary Mayan activist will be shown Wednesday, Dec. 14, at 7 p.m. at Bethel Cinema, 269 Greenwood Ave.

"Rigoberta Menchú: Daughter Of The Maya" tells the story of Menchú's childhood in a violence-torn region and her gravitation toward reconciliation activism. Menchú founded the first indigenous political party in Guatemala is the first indigenous person to win the prestigious prize.
Susan Dunne is a staff writer with a focus on local arts and entertainment news. Her beat ranges from art and historical exhibits, film festivals, books releases with a local connection, Connecticut residents appearing on TV or any other topic of local interest. Dunne has a degree in journalism from California State University at Fullerton. Dunne came to The Courant in 1989, starting as copy editor. Later, she became an arts writer.