

LA VISTA
Newsletter
Los Ojos de la Familia

September 13, 2016

2016 FALL SCHOLARSHIPS

Congratulations!!! to each of these fine young people!

They are continuing their education, so they can become successful members of society, who give back to their community in many ways.

H.O.P.E. Scholarship Winners

First, we'd like to recognize our H.O.P.E. Scholarship recipients and runners-up. This scholarship is awarded to students who have earned a high level of academic achievement, exhibit high levels of determination and drive, possess strong leadership skills, and are actively involved in the community.

We had so many great applicants this semester, we decided to give TWO of the \$3,000 awards, and another four students received \$750.

HOPE Winner - Ellen Hager ***- Dartmouth College***

Ellen is a young woman who grew up in a military household, and she moved quite a bit growing up. Yet throughout this time, she maintained excellent grades and served over 200 hours of community service. During her youth, she met many veterans who had lost limbs, and many of whom could not afford prostheses. Her dream is to become a biomedical engineer, so that she can design and create better and more affordable prosthetics, and then make them more easily accessible to veterans. She believes helping others is the best way to help oneself, and she looks forward to the satisfactions that comes from touching the lives of others.

HOPE Winner - Aurelia Dixon - University of New Mexico

Aurelia is an outstanding young woman just entering her first year at UNM, where she plans to study anthropology. She wants to become a forensic anthropologist or pathologist. Her stellar grades, creative activities, and history of volunteerism made her one of our clear choices for HOPE scholar. She is the first in her generation of the family to attend college, and she plans to use her education and experience to mentor her siblings and relatives. She has come to understand that life rarely goes as planned, but perseverance, hard work and faith are the keys to success. Keep up the great work, Aurelia!

All of our applicants are phenomenal individuals, who will each help to make our world a better place with their diligent and compassionate efforts.

HOPE Runner-Up - Lydia Baldonado - Eastern New Mexico University - Lydia graduated with honors from Bernalillo, who plans to take her work ethic and integrity with her to ENMU. She has "found her voice" in the world, and has learned the gratification that comes with standing up for what you believe. Keep making a difference, Lydia!

HOPE Runner-Up - Amber Montoya - Arizona State University - Amber is headed to ASU to pursue a career as a Pediatric Oncologist, a field desired from her youth and inspired by her internship at Sandia Biotech Laboratories. She believes one of the best ways to make a difference in people's lives is by fighting for the lives of their children. Thank you for your compassion and willingness to make a difference, Amber!

HOPE Runner-Up - Darian Reid - University of New Mexico - Darian is an honor student and an accomplished dancer, who uses her talents to inspire others and help raise money for charity. She plans to become a doctor in the Nuclear Medicine field, and she hopes to inspire others by overcoming struggles with grace to do extraordinary things in her life. Keep shining, Darian!

HOPE Runner-Up - Melanie Maestas - University of New Mexico - Melanie is the epitome of a young volunteer making a difference in the community. She has accrued over 800 hours of service, all while maintaining her grades, and helping to take care of her family. She is almost done with her Master's degree, which she plans to use to become a leader of the community. She wants to show others that anything is possible to accomplish with hard work and determination.

General Scholarship Winners



Each of these outstanding young people received our \$500 general scholarship, to help them reach toward their dreams. The success of our young people is our own success; their dreams are our future. Keep up the good work!

Jerry & Julia Montoya are a brother and sister who are currently attending college together at UNM. **Jerry** is a junior, currently working on his Mechanical Engineering degree, and he has recently become involved with Big Brothers Big Sisters. He takes his role as mentor to Julia seriously, making sure to teach her about the importance of working hard, at school and at home. **Julia** is a freshman, studying bio-chemistry. She wants to pursue a career in the medical field. She is passionate about her career path and is determined to manage her time wisely to achieve her goals.

Paulina Gomez-Legarreta is a first-generation immigrant, studying Strategic Communications and Spanish at UNM. She recently received the opportunity to study abroad in the United Kingdom. She believes this experience will expand her horizons and gain a better perspective of the world around her.

Hien Ngoc Pham is a senior at UNM studying Biology, with minors in Chemistry and Psychology, and plans to become a doctor. Her parents immigrated 20 years ago, and she learned the importance of hard work and determination through her their example. She credits her parents and her education for her ability to become an independent woman and make good decisions.

Kaitlyn Clark is just beginning her college career at UNM, and while she is undecided at this time, she is determined to find her true calling and pursue it with all her might, to give herself and her son the best life possible. She hopes to teach him the importance of education, hard work and self-discipline.

Dreanna Valencia is a senior at UNM working on her Doctor of Pharmacy degree, knowing she can and will do anything she sets her mind to. She still makes time to participate in community service through dancing, and wants to use her education and volunteering to help improve the lives of others in the community.

Francesca Mariscal is studying to become a pharmacy technician at CNM, and after that, she plans to become a pharmacist. On top of that, she also wants to earn degrees in business and photography. She wants to be a help to young people with mental illnesses. She is proud of her education, which is helping her improve herself as well as the people around her.

Leroy Sandoval is now a sophomore, studying business administration at UNM. He learned more than core curriculum his first year, including the importance of social interaction, personal growth and self-reliance. He is focused on helping his community and bettering himself in order to become a valued member of society.

Sabrina Howe is a freshman at UNM, studying Film Production. She believes that her greatest accomplishments in life so far, have been in the service of others. She wants to make movies that inspire others and encourage open-mindedness. She knows the importance of hard work to achieve goals and open doors.

Mariah Sanchez is a freshman at UNM, who is working on her Computer Science degree, with the eventual goal of becoming a programmer. She recently lost her father to cancer, but thanks to the priorities he instilled and the support he gave, she was strong enough to get right back into school just a few days later. She wants to set an example that a woman can be successful in any field she chooses.

Matthew Joseph and Robyn Lee Lucero are another brother-sister duo attending UNM, encouraging each other to success. They are struggling with family challenges now, as their parents are divorcing and their mother has breast cancer. **Matthew** is a sophomore studying Physical Education at UNM, and the head coach of the Belen Middle School wrestling team. He is determined to obtain his degree, so that he can be a good role model and a leader for those he coaches and trains. **Robyn** is a junior at UNM, working on her Business Admin degree. She plans to pursue a Civil Rights career, for the USDA Forest Service, where she currently interns. She works hard to be a good role model to her brother, encouraging financial independence, professionalism, and encouraging others in the community.

Somang Lee attends A.T. Still University in Arizona, where she is studying Dentistry and Orthodontics. She began volunteering at a young age, where she realized an interest in the healthcare field. Her dreams came into focus when she observed dentists treating children of low-income and special needs families. She believes that this profession will help her to have a great impact on those in need.

Los Ojos de la Familia | 505-362-6073 | 505-792-2399
assistance@losojosdelafamilia.org | www.losojosdelafamilia.org

