



SPRING 2026

CONVOCATION

MAY 14TH, 2026 • 2 - 4 P.M. • JOHNSON GYM

PROGRAM COVER ARTWORK

Title: *Harlequin Box*

Artist: Fen Root, current MFA student

Medium: galvanized steel air duct, multicolored foil, chain

Date: 2025

Harlequin Box was featured in Fen's March 2026 thesis exhibition, *The Weather* at ABQ INT'L.

Fen Root is a multimedia artist whose work stages playful and critical encounters with technologies of representation. They merge elements of performance, sculpture, photography, and video to create environmental installations and standalone works that interrogate the social and psychic dynamics of territory, and the mutuality of identity, self, and place. Fen has presented works and performances in solo and group exhibitions, including Currents New Media, Harwood's 6th Street Studio, STOA Center for Body Arts and Studies, The University of New Mexico Art Museum, Chispas Farm, and ABQ INT'L, among others. She is currently pursuing an MFA at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque.

For more information, please visit www.altrbody.rip



LETTER FROM THE DEAN

Welcome to the UNM College of Fine Arts 2026 Convocation! It is my privilege to be one of the first to congratulate you on the milestone of graduation. On this day of celebration and joy, we recognize those friends, family members, and mentors who saw your potential and encouraged you to trust the process and to keep going, even when you felt discouraged. If you are one of these amazing supporters of a graduate, please know you are integral to this celebration and deserve a round of applause. Our graduating students could not have made it this far without your support, and for that, we thank you.

As a steward of the students of UNM Fine Arts, it is also my duty to thank the countless others who have come before us, who have laid the foundation and cut the pathway for where we now flourish as creative professionals, and to honor those people with a deep sense of gratitude.

As we mark this stage of your journey, we must also remind ourselves that success is not a comfortable process nor one that is achieved in isolation. Success is a life-long process that will continue to challenge each of us, and we must remember to share the joy in all our achievements along the way, no matter how small they may seem. Much like the creative process that we in the fine arts community know well, when we share our vision for what we can create together, we can achieve greater outcomes. When we collaborate with intention, draw on one another's unique strengths, and support each other along the way, we create a more meaningful and fulfilling kind of success together.

Graduates, we share in your joy and proudly celebrate the dedication and hard work that brought you to this moment. Over the past few years, you have navigated challenges across academics, work, and life, and through it all, your resilience has stood out and carried you forward. Our challenge for you today is to enjoy this celebration of your accomplishments. We invite you to own this moment and cherish the memories from today with your fellow graduates, friends, and family.



Harris D. Smith

Dean, College of Fine Arts

ORDER OF CEREMONY

Processional of Faculty & Candidates for Degree

UNM Saxophone Ensemble: Anne Webb, soprano and alto saxophones; Samuel Moreno, alto saxophone; Madison Charleston, alto saxophone; Omar Alejandro Alva Gonzalez, tenor saxophone; Lucas Dwyer, tenor saxophone; Gabe Ngo, baritone saxophone; Christian Herrera, baritone and bass saxophones

Introduction

Scott Ney, Associate Dean of Student Success

Distinguished Alumnus Guest Speaker

Dana Tai Soon Burgess, Bachelor of University Studies, specializations in Dance and Asian History, 1991

Theatre performance

"The I Love You Song" from *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*: Leah Mascarenas, Alexander Kiefert, Kara Hall

Student Speaker

Maddie Hopp, BFA in Design & Technology for Performance, Theatre & Dance Dept.

Presentation of the McRae Award & Outstanding Seniors

Beth Elkin, Manager of CFA Advisement

Presentation of Departmental & Baccalaureate Honors

Associate Dean Scott Ney

Presentation of Candidates in Course to the Dean

Art: Lee Montgomery, Chair

Film & Digital Arts: Dr. James Stone, Chair

Music: Dr. Ana Alonso-Minutti, Associate Chair

Theatre & Dance: Kate Clarke, Associate Professor

Interdisciplinary Arts: Katie Dukes Walker, Director

Introduction of Candidates for Degree

Associate Deans Meggan Gould, Amanda Hamp, Scott Ney

Recessional

UNM Saxophone Ensemble



COOPERATION REQUESTED

Family members and guests are encouraged to take photos of the ceremony and graduates. While taking photos, please be courteous and respectful of the students leaving stage. The audience may not enter the stage area at any time during the program.

DIPLOMAS

The Office of the University Registrar will mail diplomas (unless the graduate has specified that it be held for pickup) after grades have been received and recorded, which is usually mid-July for Spring graduates. Please direct any diploma-related questions to the UNM Office of the Registrar at **(505) 277-8900** or by emailing degrees@unm.edu.



DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS

Congratulations to our class of 2026!

As a College of Fine Arts alumni, you may someday be nominated or want to nominate a colleague for a CFA Distinguished Alumni Award. In 2024, the College of Fine Arts Distinguished Alumni Awards began recognizing graduates who have achieved outstanding success and made significant contributions to their field in the fine arts.

This award is typically given to individuals who have demonstrated excellence, creativity, and innovation in areas such as visual arts, performing arts, music, design, film, or other artistic disciplines.

The 2026 Distinguished Alumni Award recipients are:

Lynne Allen

Tamarind Institute

Kim Arthun

Department of Art

Fritz J. Bitsoie

Department of Film
& Digital Arts

Kathleen Ives Clawson

Department of Music

Rujeko Dumbutshena

Department of Theatre
& Dance



*Scan the QR code to learn more
about The UNM College of Fine Arts
Distinguished Alumni Awards today.*

ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS

About our Distinguished Alumni Guest Speaker:

Dana Tai Soon Burgess

Dana Tai Soon Burgess is a leading American choreographer and cultural figure known worldwide as the “Diplomat of Dance.” In 1992, he founded the Dana Tai Soon Burgess Dance Company (DTSBDC), Washington, DC’s preeminent modern dance company. The Washington Post Pulitzer Prize Awardee, dance writer Sarah Kaufman, describes Burgess as “Not just a Washington prize, but a national dance treasure.”

Burgess creates contemporary modern dance works that explore the joy, sorrow and beauty of the human experience. He has served as a Cultural Ambassador for the U.S. State Department for over two decades, an appointment he uses to promote international cultural dialogue through “the global language of dance.” Burgess has been awarded three Fulbright Senior scholarships for dance, as well as the Fulbright Selma Jeanne Cohen Dance Lecture Award (2021).

In 2016, Burgess was named the Smithsonian Institution’s first-ever Choreographer-in-Residence. From 2016-2023 he created new works inspired by museum exhibitions, participated in public discussions about dance and art and designed educational programming. The exploration of dance and art is deeply rooted for Burgess. The son of two visual artists he has always approached the stage as a canvas, and the dancers as brush strokes. In 2003, Burgess was one of only three artists featured in the Smithsonian Institution’s “A Korean American Century” – an exhibition highlighting the history and achievements of Korean Americans in the US. He was also highlighted in “Dancing the Dream,” the Smithsonian’s first exhibition on American dance. Three portraits of Burgess are part of the permanent collection of the Smithsonian and his family archive resides in the American History Museum. He has created works for The National Gallery of Art, The Noguchi Museum, The National Museum of Asian Art, The National Building Museum, The Kreeger Museum, The Baltimore Museum of Art, and The UNM Art Museum, to name a few.

Burgess and DTSBDC have received numerous awards and acclamations including the Outstanding Emerging Artist at the 12th Annual Mayor Arts Award (1994), the Mayor’s Arts Award for Excellence (2005), seven Metro D.C. Dance Awards, the Paul Ré Peace Prize, the Aaron Stein Award, and the Pola Nirenska Award which celebrates trailblazers and leaders of the dance community. He is the recipient of the 2026 Washington, DC Mayor’s Award for APA Community Service. He has served as a Mayoral appointed commissioner for the DC Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Americans and the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities. Burgess is the author of *Chino and the Dance of the Butterfly: A Memoir* published by University of New Mexico Press and is the editor of and a contributor to *Milestones in Dance History* published by Routledge/Francis&Taylor. He is the host of Slantpodcast.com which focuses on the Asian American arts experience.

ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS

About our Student Speaker:

Maddie Hopp

receiving her BFA in Design & Technology for Performance, Theatre & Dance Department

Maddie Hopp is a graduating senior in the Design and Technology area of the Theatre & Dance Department. A native of the Chicago area, Maddie’s journey at the University of New Mexico began as a legacy student, following in the footsteps of her mother, a UNM alumna. While her academic path initially led her through two other majors, she eventually found a true “home” within the Department of Theatre & Dance—a place that provided the foundation for a future career she could have never imagined for herself at the start of her undergraduate education.

Maddie’s time in the department has been defined by a deep commitment to the craft of scenic artistry. Building upon her fine arts background, she embraced the technical and physical demands of the theater, often remarking that any day she came home covered in paint was considered a “good day”. Among her many achievements, she is particularly proud of her work as the scenic designer for Little Shop of Horrors, a project realized through the close mentorship of the faculty. Beyond the classroom, Maddie served as a Scenic Charge Artist at the Winnepesaukee Playhouse last summer. Following graduation, she will move on to a prestigious one-year scenic painting internship at the Yale School of Drama.

AWARDS & HONORS

DEPARTMENT OF ART

Covington-Rhode Senior Prize

The Covington-Rhode Senior Prize in Art at The University of New Mexico recognizes the outstanding achievements of our undergraduate art students during their senior year, to promote professionalism and excellence in the visual arts, and motivate and encourage all art students to achieve their fullest potential throughout their years in the program. It's a competitive award for graduating seniors earning a degree in Art, exhibiting their artwork and participating in a professional evaluation. The Covington-Rhode Prize was established in 2018 by Patricia Covington and Shari Rhode. Dr. Covington earned two degrees, a BA in Art and a BA in Anthropology from the University of New Mexico in 1968.

Kaitlin Bone

Kat B. is a multi-disciplinary artist based in New Mexico. Their practice gravitates towards the small and inconspicuous, centering on hand-held sculptural pieces that incorporate metals, textiles, found objects, and other materials. Their work deals with themes of memory and human connection to place through exploring the interaction between interior worlds and exterior spaces.

Kat initially pursued studies in the social sciences, and holds a bachelor's degree in linguistics from the University of New Mexico. They returned to study art and received a BFA in art studio from UNM in 2026. Their honors thesis exhibition was presented at Masley Gallery as part of this degree and focused on their long-standing obsession with birds and bird watching.

Shaun Pinello

Shaun Pinello is an artist and scholar completing a double major in Fine Art and Philosophy, where his academic work and studio practice develop in close dialogue. Working primarily in ink, Pinello often forages materials from places of personal significance, transforming them into pigments that embed his work with a sense of site, memory, and process. This material sensitivity reflects a broader philosophical concern with how meaning is constituted—through experience, environment, and interpretation.

Pinello's practice is especially focused in the medium of comics, which he approaches not only as a narrative form for self-expression but also as a space for pedagogy. His work explores the interrelation of text and image as a mode of thinking, engaging readers in a process of reflection rather than delivering fixed conclusions. Drawing on philosophical influences, his comics engage questions of knowledge, perception, and the conditions by which understanding becomes possible.

In addition to his studio work, Pinello has led community-based art initiatives, including a printmaking workshop at Healthcare for the Homeless' Art Street Facility and hosting a monthly community drawing event at Scum Pit Comics, which extends his commitment to art as a shared and accessible form of inquiry.

Through a practice that bridges philosophy, material experimentation, and visual storytelling, Pinello's work positions art as a site of encounter, where making and thinking unfold together.

AWARDS & HONORS

DEPARTMENT OF FILM & DIGITAL ARTS

Gus Blaisdell Memorial Award in Critical and Creative Writing

Beloved faculty member Gus Blaisdell encouraged and appreciated original and incisive prose, and the prize that bears his name is awarded to a student whose writing meets his high standards, their artwork, and participating in a professional evaluation. The Covington-Rhode Prize was established in 2018 by Patricia Covington and Shari Rhode.

Dominic Charlton

Dominic Charlton is a Presidential Scholar graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in Film and Digital Arts. During his time at UNM, he interned as a studio assistant and editor at WESST, wrote numerous short films and plays across a range of genres, and was one of the founding members of the Lobo Screenwriting Society. He plans to become a writer for television.

Michael Costello Memorial Award for Service

In tribute to alumnus and employee Michael Costello, this award is presented to a student who exemplifies the spirit of service to other students, faculty, and staff.

Rien Behlke

Rein T. Behlke is a senior Film & Digital Arts major at UNM, and is graduating with a BFA in Film and Digital Arts, contributing to the 2026 Capstone Class with his directorial debut, "Love You, Brother". He previously produced UNM's "The Show" in 2023, has focused his film career on producing, and has been a member of the Equipment Cage Staff since 2024. Outside of film, Rein Behlke is a member of the Kappa Sigma Chapter at UNM, has served three years on its executive board including one year as its president. After graduation, Rein Behlke is moving to Charlottesville, Virginia to serve his Fraternity's International Headquarters as its communications director, where he will manage the internal communications, social media management, and film production of the International Fraternity.

AWARDS & HONORS

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

Theodore Presser Scholarship

The Presser Undergraduate Scholar Award is awarded annually to an outstanding music major at or near the end of his or her junior year.

The award is based on merit and achievement and is intended to recognize excellence.

Adriana Vigil

Adriana has demonstrated exceptional academic achievement throughout her time at the University of New Mexico, consistently maintaining a GPA above 4.0.

Ms. Vigil's ensemble participation has been both broad and sustained. She has performed in the Spirit Marching Band, Jazz Band, and Symphonic Band among others. Across these ensembles, she has performed on multiple instruments—including saxophone, double bass, clarinet, percussion, and voice—gaining valuable experience in a wide range of musical styles and settings.

Adriana also demonstrates outstanding leadership and service as a music educator. Her primary service work is through Kappa Kappa Psi, where she has served as Parliamentarian, Secretary, and now President. In these roles, she has supported UNM Bands through initiatives such as managing the Music Student Food Pantry and assisting with ensemble operations. She has additionally served as tenor saxophone section leader in the Spirit Marching Band, principal saxophonist in the UNM Symphonic Band, and as a rehearsal leader and conductor for the UNM Saxophone Ensemble.

Outstanding Senior in Music Education

Isaac Ploof

Isaac Ploof is a graduating senior in the UNM Music Education program and will soon be licensed to teach K-12 music in New Mexico. A clarinetist, he performed as a soloist and in a wide variety of ensembles throughout his time at UNM and taught private instrumental lessons in the Albuquerque Public Schools. He completed his student teaching at Jackson Middle School and Bandelier Elementary School, where he worked with students across grade levels and instructional settings.

AWARDS & HONORS

The Donald McRae Award for Outstanding Senior

Donald McRae was Dean of the College of Fine Arts from 1978 to 1986. The award recognizes one outstanding senior student from each department, and selects one winner from these candidates for the McRae award. Students are selected based on academics, service to the college and university, contributions to the arts, and an interview process. The award has continued to recognize outstanding students with support from the McRae family.

Outstanding Senior

DEPARTMENT OF ART

Miriam Reichsfeld

Miriam Reichsfeld is an interdisciplinary artist born in Mexico and based in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Miriam is graduating with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Art Studio with a second major in English Studies and a minor in Honors Interdisciplinary Liberal Arts. Her practice spans materials such as metal, wood, clay, and charcoal, with an interest in bringing stationary objects to life through expressive gestures and careful detail. Her work reflects curiosity and enjoyment in exploring multiple art forms and material processes. After graduating, Miriam plans to continue developing her art practice as a space for advocacy and connection across multimedia platforms.

Outstanding Senior

DEPARTMENT OF FILM & DIGITAL ARTS

Firstname Lastname

Born and raised in Albuquerque, Camden Schumann has always had a profound affinity for adventure, storytelling, video games, and comics. These passions drive a strong desire to pursue game development, allowing Camden to express a unique artistic perspective and dynamic storytelling abilities as a 3D artist. Overcoming early academic challenges, Camden dedicated their university years to relentless learning and applied focus, vastly surpassing previous expectations to achieve true academic excellence. This innovative approach to problem-solving and art is powerfully showcased in their character and prop modeling for the senior capstone gaming project. Camden remains dedicated to chasing big dreams and having fun.

AWARDS & HONORS

Outstanding Senior

INTERDISCIPLINARY ARTS

Eli Manuel Behrens

Eli Manuel Behrens is graduating with a double major in Interdisciplinary Arts and Philosophy with a Certificate in Honors. He is a multi-instrumentalist, researcher, archivist, essayist, and sound designer, recording the integrity and relation of space, community, and historicism. During his time at UNM, Eli worked as the managing editor for various UNM publications, composed for film capstones, studied the works of Sun Ra, and engaged in ethnomusicological research among various musical performances. Eli has had the honor to work with award-winning professionals in ethnomusicology and composition. He will be attending UNM in Fall 2026, pursuing a master's degree in philosophy.

Outstanding Senior

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

Lilly Porter

Lilly Porter aims to celebrate the beauty of life and breadth of experience and perspectives in our world through performance and teaching. She values imagination, striving to use storytelling and education to promote acceptance, understand other perspectives, and further appreciation of the arts. She pursues this as a string musician, creative writer, and visual artist. She will graduate this semester with a BA in Music with a concentration in viola performance, a second major in English Studies, and a minor in Honors Interdisciplinary Liberal Arts. Lilly performs throughout the community in addition to teaching in Albuquerque Public Schools.

Outstanding Senior

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE & DANCE

Nicholas Laemmer

Nicholas Laemmer started his journey in Eugene Oregon where he found the love of performing in high school. After working in community productions for many years, he moved to New Mexico where he found his new home and ultimately his alma mater. Since then, he has been in a number of shows and productions both in and out of school hoping to one day change this world for the better with his art. It is up to all of us and theatre has taught him that every production is a family of support. Nicholas is graduating with a BA in Theatre.



UNDERGRADUATE CANDIDATES

— DEPARTMENT OF ART STUDIO, HISTORY, & EDUCATION —

Amberlyn Aguilar 🌿

BA Art Studio
 Minor: Psychology
 Summa Cum Laude*

Ashley Aguilar 🌿

BA Art Studio
 Minor: Psychology
 Summa Cum Laude*

Samantha Alexander 🌿

BFA Art Studio
 Minor: Museum Studies
 Summa Cum Laude*

Emma Buck Anderson 🌿

BFA Art Studio
 Minor: Arts Leadership &
 Business

Marisol Aragon 🌿

BA Art Studio
 Second Major: Psychology

Sharmayne Arviso

BA Art History

Eliana Barela 🌿

BA Art Studio
 Summa Cum Laude*

Zoe Becker

BA Art Studio

Kayliegh Begay 🌿

BFA Art Studio
 Magna Cum Laude*

Kaitlin Bone

BFA Art Studio
 Summa Cum Laude*
 Summa Cum Laude**

Elena Bunker Ruiz

BFA Art Studio
 Magna Cum Laude*

Truchell Calabaza ☀️

BFA Art Studio
 Second Major: Honors
 Interdisciplinary Liberal Arts
 Cum Laude**

Lorelei Candelaria

BA Art Education
 Summa Cum Laude*

Andres Candelaria 🌿

BA Art Studio

Alyssa Carrillo

BA Art Education

Vicente Chavez ☀️

BA Art Studio

Jax Czerniak

BFA Art Studio
 Cum Laude*

Valerie Davis

BA Art Studio

Cruz Davis-Martinez

BA Art Studio
 Summa Cum Laude*

Juna Devereux

BFA Art Studio
 Cum Laude*

Nikolas Dominguez

BA Art Education
 Summa Cum Laude*

Andrew Duffy

BFA Art Studio
 Minor: Animation
 Summa Cum Laude*

Lana Duran 🌿

BA Art Studio

Evelynna Duran

BFA Art Studio
 Summa Cum Laude*

Jovi Esquivel 🌿

BFA Art Studio

Mia Estrada

BFA Art Studio
 Minor: Arts Leadership
 & Business
 Cum Laude*

Kathryn Ferguson

BFA Art Studio
 Cum Laude*

Phaera Fields 🌿

BFA Art Studio

* Anticipated Baccalaureate Honors ** Departmental Honors ☀️ Graduating Summer 2026 🌿 Graduated Fall 2025

DEPARTMENT OF ART STUDIO, HISTORY, & EDUCATION

Amanda Fox
BA Art Studio

Luke Friedfertig
BA Art History
Summa Cum Laude*

Laura Garza
BFA Art Studio

Rhiannon Gullino
BA Art History
Minor: Arabic
Summa Cum Laude*

Alison Haag
BFA Art Studio
Magna Cum Laude*
Magna Cum Laude**

Alyssa Hale 🌿
BA Art Studio

Regan Hand 🌿
BA Art Studio
*Minor: Arts Leadership
& Business*
Summa Cum Laude*

Sofia Horn
BA Art Studio
Magna Cum Laude*

Alyssa Johnson
BA Art Education
Cum Laude*

Joey Johnston 🌿
BFA Art Studio
Summa Cum Laude*

Katherine Leong
BA Art History
Summa Cum Laude*

Jonathan Levsen 🌿
BA Art Studio
Minor: Anthropology
Magna Cum Laude*

Clay Looney
BFA Art Studio
Minor: English
Cum Laude*

Evany Lopez
BA Art History
Magna Cum Laude*

Gemma Lovelady
BA Art Studio
Cum Laude*

Jacquelin Lujan 🌿
BA Art Studio
Second Major: Psychology
Magna Cum Laude*

Ava Marr
BA Art History
Minor: Film Production
Magna Cum Laude*
Magna Cum Laude**

Fin Martens 🌿
BFA Art Studio
Summa Cum Laude*

Amber McQuarrie
BA Art Studio

Lillie McQuerry 🌿
BFA Art Studio

Paulina Medrano
BA Art Studio
Magna Cum Laude*

Perla Munoz
BFA Art Studio
Summa Cum Laude*

Emi Oaks 🌿
BFA Art Studio
Magna Cum Laude*

Adriana Orona
BA Art Studio
Cum Laude*

Blaise Padilla
BFA Art Studio
Minor: Museum Studies
Summa Cum Laude*

Aaron Tobias Parmeter
BA Art Studio
Minor: Psychology

Brinnel Patterson
BA Art History

Zee Paul
BFA Art Studio
Cum Laude*

Shon Phanomsack
BA Art Studio

Shaun Pinello
BFA Art Studio
Second Major: Philosophy
Summa Cum Laude*
Magna Cum Laude**

Shawn Puckett 🌿
BA Art Education
Cum Laude*

Miriam Reichsfeld
BA Art Studio
Second Major: English Studies
*Minor: Honors Interdisciplinary
Liberal Arts*
Summa Cum Laude*

DEPARTMENT OF ART STUDIO, HISTORY, & EDUCATION

Adriano Ricca Lucci 🌿
BFA Art Studio
Summa Cum Laude*

Wren Roberts
BA Art Studio

Kristen Rodgers 🌿
BA Art Education
Summa Cum Laude*

Shawn Schumann
BA Art Education
Summa Cum Laude*

Raymond Sedillo
BFA Art Studio

Avery Silfer
BA Art Studio
*Minor: Journalism
& Mass Communication*
Magna Cum Laude*

Rylie Sizemore
BA Art Education
Summa Cum Laude*

Maria Smith
BA Art History
Magna Cum Laude*

Caroline Solecki
BA Art Studio
Minor: Chemistry
Cum Laude*

Emily Sotelo
BA Art Education
Minor: Statistics
Summa Cum Laude*

Natalia Teschner 🌿
BA Art Studio
Minor: Sustainability Studies
Summa Cum Laude*

Kelly Toryn ☀️
BA Art Studio
Cum Laude**

Dillan Valerio
BA Art Studio
Cum Laude*

Vincent F Vicenti
BFA Art Studio

Ella Wagner
BA Art Studio

Arela Werner 🌿
BA Art History
Cum Laude*

Allen West
BFA Art Studio

Nina Winkler
BA Art Education
Cum Laude*

Kyra Zartner
BA Art Education
Cum Laude*

DEPARTMENT OF FILM & DIGITAL ARTS

Julianna Aguirre 🌿
BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Animation
Summa Cum Laude*

Ace Altair
BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Gaming
Minor: Japanese
Summa Cum Laude*

Sean Alvarez
BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Animation
Magna Cum Laude*

Michael Anicito
BA Film & Digital Arts

Kaitlin Bone
BFA Art Studio
Summa Cum Laude*

Benny Apodaca
BFA Film & Digital Arts

Alex Arguello
BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Animation
Minor: Japanese
Summa Cum Laude*

Levi Armijo
BFA Film & Digital Arts

Isabella Baca
BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Animation
Magna Cum Laude*

Alexa Baca
BFA Film & Digital Arts

Jaylen Banks-Romero
BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Animation

DEPARTMENT OF FILM & DIGITAL ARTS

Bryce Barasch

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Film Production

Emma Barnhill

BFA Film & Digital Arts
 Summa Cum Laude*

Emily Battleson

BFA Film & Digital Arts
 Magna Cum Laude*

Rein Behlke

BFA Film & Digital Arts
 Cum Laude*

Aaron Beltran Larios

BFA Film & Digital Arts

Steven Beltz

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Animation
Minor: Computer Science
 Summa Cum Laude*

Meztlitonali Bennett

Perez 🌿
 BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Film Production

Langham Bitsoi

BFA Film & Digital Arts
 Summa Cum Laude*

Jacob Bowden

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Gaming
 Summa Cum Laude*

Matthew Brown 🌿

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration:
 Film Production

Jackson Budoff 🌿

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Film History
 & Criticism

Sonya Burke 🌿

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Film Production
 Summa Cum Laude*

Ella Campbell

BFA Film & Digital Arts
 Magna Cum Laude*

Daniel Campos

BFA Film & Digital Arts
 Magna Cum Laude*

Adriano Carmona

BFA Film & Digital Arts

Tyler Carpenter

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Film Production

Ivan Castaneda 🌿

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration:
 Film Production
 Cum Laude*

Lillian Challifour

BA Film & Digital Arts

Dominic Charlton

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Film Production
 Summa Cum Laude*

Jonathan Chavarria

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Animation

Alex Arguello

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Animation
Minor: Japanese
 Summa Cum Laude*

Matthew Chavez

BFA Film & Digital Arts
 Cum Laude*

Mary Francis Cheeseman

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Animation
 Summa Cum Laude*

Courtney Chomycia

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Film Production

Ariana Cruz

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Gaming
 Summa Cum Laude*

Christian Daly

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Gaming
 Cum Laude*

Lennon Deleon

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Animation
 Magna Cum Laude*

Vanessa Delgado

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Animation
Minor: Art Studio
 Cum Laude*

Jason Dent

BFA Film & Digital Arts

DEPARTMENT OF FILM & DIGITAL ARTS

Darren DeYapp

BFA Film & Digital Arts
Minor: Arts Leadership & Business

Trinity Diehlee

BFA Film & Digital Arts
 Cum Laude*

Logan Ebertz

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Film Production

Nicholas Edwards

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Gaming

Noah Eichstaedt

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Film Production

Jacob Encinias

BA Film & Digital Arts

Ansen French

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Film Production
Minor: Japanese
 Summa Cum Laude*

Ellior Fuerst

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Film History & Criticism

Lawrence Gallegos

BFA Film & Digital Arts
 Cum Laude*

Michelle Garcia

BA Film & Digital Arts

Alicia Gettler

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Film Production
 Magna Cum Laude*

Noah Gollin

BA Film & Digital Arts

Adam Griego-Mestas

BA Film & Digital Arts

Eva Guerrero

BFA Film & Digital Arts
Minor: Arts Leadership & Business
 Magna Cum Laude*

Cullan Hoyt

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Gaming
 Cum Laude*

Taylor Ivey

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Film Production
 Cum Laude*

Andrew Katz

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Film Production

Makaila Kaufman

BFA Film & Digital Arts

Niamh Khan

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Film Production

Grant Kidder

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Film Production

Alysse Kinsel

BFA Film & Digital Arts
 Summa Cum Laude*

Michael Kurtz

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Film Production
 Cum Laude*

Rory LaMarr

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Film History & Criticism

David Lee

BA Film & Digital Arts

Mason Lepper

BFA Film & Digital Arts
 Cum Laude*

Nathanael Lewis

BFA Film & Digital Arts

Jiamiao Li

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Gaming

Taaveti Liufau

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Film Production

Abraham Lopez

BA Film & Digital Arts

Alina Loya

BA Film & Digital Arts
Minor: Arts Leadership & Business
 Cum Laude*

Kyle Lucero

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Film Production

Damian Lucero

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Animation
Minor: Arts Leadership & Business
 Cum Laude*

* Anticipated Baccalaureate Honors ** Departmental Honors ☀ Graduating Summer 2026 🍁 Graduated Fall 2025

DEPARTMENT OF FILM & DIGITAL ARTS

Cian Luther-Salazar

BA Film & Digital Arts

Concentration: Film Production
Summa Cum Laude*

Darren Maes

BA Film & Digital Arts

Concentration: Film Production
Summa Cum Laude*

Jack Mahoney

BFA Film & Digital Arts

Summa Cum Laude*

Dylan Malan 🌿

BA Film & Digital Arts

Concentration: Animation

Angelique Maldonado

BA Film & Digital Arts

Concentration: Animation

Jax Maloney

BFA Film & Digital Arts

Cum Laude*

Luca Mark

BA Film & Digital Arts

Concentration: Film History
& Criticism

Monet Martinez

BA Film & Digital Arts

Concentration: Film Production

Joseph McCaffrey

BA Film & Digital Arts

Concentration: Animation

Jonah McDonald 🌿

BA Film & Digital Arts

Concentration: Film Production
Summa Cum Laude*

Kenneth McIntyre

BA Film & Digital Arts

Thomas McParland

BA Film & Digital Arts

Concentration: Film Production
Cum Laude*

Allen Michalski

BA Film & Digital Arts

Concentration: Animation

Ian Miscenich

BA Film & Digital Arts

Concentration: Gaming
Summa Cum Laude*

Liana Montoya-Loranger

BFA Film & Digital Arts

Eanna Moore

BA Film & Digital Arts

Minor: Honors Interdisciplinary
Liberal Arts
Magna Cum Laude*

Miguel Morones ☀️

BFA Film & Digital Arts

Joshua Nino 🌿

BA Film & Digital Arts

Concentration: Film Production

Jin Nivanh

BFA Film & Digital Arts

Cum Laude*

Thant Htet Oo

BFA Film & Digital Arts

Rowan Ortega

BA Film & Digital Arts

Concentration: Gaming
Cum Laude*

Richard Pacheco

BA Film & Digital Arts

Josephine Padilla 🌿

BA Film & Digital Arts

Eve Padilla-Salazar

BA Film & Digital Arts

Concentration: Animation
Minor: Psychology
Summa Cum Laude*

Perla Paulino

BA Film & Digital Arts

Concentration: Animation
Cum Laude*

Wesley Payne

BA Film & Digital Arts

Concentration: Gaming
Cum Laude*

Maury Perez 🌿

BA Film & Digital Arts

Concentration: Film Production

Anthony Prieto 🌿

BA Film & Digital Arts

Concentration: Film Production

Livia Proudlock 🌿

BA Film & Digital Arts

Concentration: Film Production

Safiya Redmond

BA Film & Digital Arts

Concentration: Animation
Magna Cum Laude*

Jana Reichsfeld

BA Film & Digital Arts

Concentration: Film Production

Josh Riley 🌿

BA Film & Digital Arts

Cum Laude*

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DEPARTMENT OF FILM & DIGITAL ARTS

Ryan Rindels 🌿

BFA Film & Digital Arts

Samuel Robison

BA Film & Digital Arts

Concentration: Film Production
Cum Laude*

Isabelle Rodriguez-Armijo

BFA Film & Digital Arts

Summa Cum Laude*

Deandra Rosetta

BFA Film & Digital Arts

Summa Cum Laude*

Zamari Ross

BA Film & Digital Arts

Concentration: Animation
Summa Cum Laude*

Stefan Rossell

BFA Film & Digital Arts

Magna Cum Laude*

Nathaniel Saenz

BA Film & Digital Arts

Concentration: Film Production
Minor: Arts Leadership
& Business
Cum Laude*

Ayeh Safi

BA Film & Digital Arts

Sonia Salas

BA Film & Digital Arts

Concentration: Film Production
Summa Cum Laude*

Dominic Salazar

BA Film & Digital Arts

Concentration: Gaming
Summa Cum Laude*

Abed Samadi

BFA Film & Digital Arts

Magna Cum Laude*

Riley San Nicolas ☀️

BFA Film & Digital Arts

Mark Sanchez

BFA Film & Digital Arts

Magna Cum Laude*

Crystal Sandoval

BA Film & Digital Arts

Concentration: Animation
Minor: Computer Science
Magna Cum Laude*

Aidan Sandoval

BFA Film & Digital Arts

Magna Cum Laude*

Elias Sanera

BA Film & Digital Arts

Concentration: Film Production
Cum Laude*

Joshua Savage 🌿

BA Film & Digital Arts

Concentration:
Film Production

Dylan Schneider

BFA Film & Digital Arts

Camden Schumann

BA Film & Digital Arts

Concentration: Gaming
Summa Cum Laude*

Annalicia Sena

BA Film & Digital Arts

Concentration: Animation
Summa Cum Laude*

Samuel Shorty 🌿

BFA Film & Digital Arts

Minor: Arts Leadership
& Business

Austin Smith

BFA Film & Digital Arts

Jayden Soseeah

BFA Film & Digital Arts

Joshua Sotelo

BA Film & Digital Arts

Concentration: Film History
& Criticism

Kyndal Stallworth

BA Film & Digital Arts

Concentration: Animation
Minor: Arts Leadership
& Business

Kieran Stamber

BA Film & Digital Arts

Concentration: Film History
& Criticism
Summa Cum Laude*

Abigail Stelter 🌿

BFA Film & Digital Arts

Minor: Japanese
Summa Cum Laude*

Jason Stigler

BA Film & Digital Arts

Concentration: Film Production

Carlos Suarez

BA Film & Digital Arts

Concentration: Gaming

Aidan Sullivan

BA Film & Digital Arts

Concentration: Film Production

DEPARTMENT OF FILM & DIGITAL ARTS

JD Swardson

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Gaming

Alejandro Tarango

BFA Film & Digital Arts
Cum Laude*

Adam Tedesco

BFA Film & Digital Arts
Cum Laude*

Samuel Tomatz

BFA Film & Digital Arts
Summa Cum Laude*

Donielle Torres

BFA Film & Digital Arts
Minor: Dance

Miguel Trigo

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Film Production
Cum Laude*

Victoria Trujillo

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Film Production
Cum Laude*

Chloe Turner

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Animation
Summa Cum Laude*

Lane Udell

BFA Film & Digital Arts
Cum Laude*

Dillen Underwood

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Gaming
Cum Laude*

Samantha Valdez

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Film Production
Magna Cum Laude*

Joyce Villegas

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Film Production

Lainey Wagoner

BFA Film & Digital Arts
Magna Cum Laude*

Grace Walker

BA Film & Digital Arts
Minor: Art

Spencer Westphal

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Gaming
Minor: Art
Magna Cum Laude*

Paul Whitelock

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Gaming
Summa Cum Laude*

Faith Whittington

BFA Film & Digital Arts
Summa Cum Laude*

Alex Zelaya

BA Film & Digital Arts
Concentration: Film History & Criticism
Minor: Military Studies

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

Jon Bull

BM Music
Concentration: Performance
Cum Laude*

Damian Cabrera

BM Music
Concentration: Performance

Madison Charleston

BA Music
Minor: Arts Leadership & Business
Summa Cum Laude*

Quiara Cortez ✨

BM Music
Concentration: Performance
Cum Laude*

Citlaly Fernandez 🌿

BME Music Education
Concentration: Instrumental

Miguel Filerio

BME Music Education
Concentration: Instrumental

Aiden Gilbert

BM Music
Concentration: Performance
Minor: Mathematics
Summa Cum Laude*

Felipe Hernandez

BM Music
Concentration: Performance

Damon Hess 🌿

BME Music Education
Concentration: Instrumental

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DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

Theron Jones

BM Music

Concentration: Performance
Summa Cum Laude*

Erin Jones

BME Music Education

Concentration: Vocal
Magna Cum Laude*

Emily Martinez

BME Music Education

Concentration: Vocal
Summa Cum Laude*

Elyse McWethy

BA Music

**Davin Montoya
de Chavez**

BM Music

Concentration: Performance

Samuel Moreno

BA Music

Fermin Nieto

BM Music

Concentration: Performance

Isaac Ploof

BME Music Education

Concentration: Instrumental
Magna Cum Laude*

Lonnie Pohl

BM Music

Concentration: Jazz Studies
Cum Laude*

Lilly Porter

BM Music

Concentration: Performance
Second Major: English Studies
Minor: Honors Interdisciplinary
Liberal Arts
Summa Cum Laude*

Daniel Ramirez

BME Music Education

Concentration: Instrumental

Matthew Sanchez

BA Music

Summa Cum Laude*

Lucas Stafford

BM Music

Concentration: Theory &
Composition
Summa Cum Laude*

Adriana Vigil

BME Music Education

Concentration: Instrumental
Summa Cum Laude*

Lucy Wang

BA Music

Cum Laude*

Natalie Whitby

BA Music

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE & DANCE

Dominique Adessa

BA Dance

Concentration: Flamenco
Second Major: French
Summa Cum Laude*

Gabriella Bauer

BA Dance

Concentration: Contemporary
Dance

Sheldon Blackhorse

BA Theatre

Rashaad Bond

BA Theatre

Valeria Brenes

BA Dance

Concentration: Contemporary
Dance
Second Major: Psychology

Kathaleen Burley

BFA Design & Tech
Performance

Summa Cum Laude*

Mia Ceballos

BA Theatre

Second Major: Journalism &
Mass Communication
Summa Cum Laude*

Cody Crollett

BA Theatre

Second Major: Psychology

Kiser Davis

BA Theatre

Second Major: Journalism
& Mass Communication
Summa Cum Laude*

Dania Defilippis

BA Theatre

Summa Cum Laude*

Cee Fields Haley

BA Theatre

Summa Cum Laude*

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DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE & DANCE

Willow Glenn 🌿
BA Theatre
Summa Cum Laude*

Maddie Hopp
BFA Design & Tech
Performance
Concentration: Scenic Design
Cum Laude*

Isabelle Jabbour
BA Theatre

Nicholas Laemmer 🌿
BA Theatre
Summa Cum Laude*

Benjamin Montoya
BA Theatre
Minor: Management

Chey Parson ☀️
BA Theatre
Minor: Art

Oona Quintana
BFA Design & Tech
Performance
Concentration: Scenic Design

INTERDISCIPLINARY ARTS

Eli Behrens
BA Interdisciplinary Arts
Second Major: Philosophy
Summa Cum Laude*

Er Case 🌿
BA Interdisciplinary Arts
Minor: Psychology

Pyiere Charrette
BA Interdisciplinary Arts

Anthony Cosentino
BA Interdisciplinary Arts
Minor: Arts Leadership & Business
Summa Cum Laude*

Catarina Embry
BA Interdisciplinary Arts
Minor: Art Studio
Summa Cum Laude*

Marissa Gallegos 🌿
BA Interdisciplinary Arts

Grace Garcia
BA Interdisciplinary Arts
Cum Laude*

Eloisa Ingram
BA Interdisciplinary Arts

Lilyan Link 🌿
BA Interdisciplinary Arts
Cum Laude*

Hannah Mayhew 🌿
BA Interdisciplinary Arts
Summa Cum Laude*

Nahomy Medina
BA Interdisciplinary Arts
Cum Laude*

Christopher Ober
BA Interdisciplinary Arts
Cum Laude*

Mackeny Parmelee
BA Interdisciplinary Arts
Magna Cum Laude*

Elan Retzlaff 🌿
BA Interdisciplinary Arts
Magna Cum Laude*

Grigori Rogers 🌿
BA Interdisciplinary Arts
Cum Laude*

Brock Sandoval ☀️
BA Interdisciplinary Arts

Destiny Silos Mesillas 🌿
BA Interdisciplinary Arts
Minor: Arts Leadership & Business
Cum Laude*

Misti Starkey
BA Interdisciplinary Arts

Marisol Velazquez 🌿
BA Interdisciplinary Arts
Summa Cum Laude*

Hannah White
BA Interdisciplinary Arts

Lily Wiwi
BA Interdisciplinary Arts
Cum Laude*



GRADUATE CANDIDATES

— DEPARTMENT OF ART STUDIO, HISTORY, & EDUCATION —

Sofia Bouchet
MA Art Education

Ceinwen Carrejo
MA Art Education

Jessica Smith
MA Art Education

Lynnette Maphies
MA Art History
Minor: Museum Studies

Rebecca Shalliker
MA Art History
Concentration: Art History

Ruiqi Xu
MA Art Studio
Concentration: Art History

Graham Ansell
MFA Art Studio

Daniela Del Mar Olivares
MFA Art Studio

Karina Faulstich
MFA Art Studio

Sachika Goel
MFA Art Studio

Tiranee Moody
MFA Art Studio

Abbygail Nickels
MFA Art Studio

Kwakyé Oppong Asamoah
MFA Art Studio

Saul Ramirez
MFA Art Studio

Aaron Richmond-Havel
MFA Art Studio

Michael Schultze
MFA Art Studio

Nina Taylor
MFA Art Studio

Hannah Taylor
MFA Art Studio

Yoma Wilson
MFA Art Studio

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

Olivia Banks
MMU Music
Concentration: Performance

Nia Batiashvili
MMU Music
Concentration: Performance

Myra Bernard
MMU Music
Concentration: Performance

Olivia de Souza Maia
MMU Music
Concentration: Performance

Samuel Dickson
MMU Music
Concentration: Performance

Tyler Fries
MMU Music
Concentration: Performance

Matthew Lind
MMU Music
Concentration: Theory & Composition
Second Concentration: Woodwinds

Antonio Mamedio De Araujo Neto
MMU Music
Concentration: Performance

MUSIC

Hannah Martin

MMU Music

Concentration: Conducting

Natalie Phillips Perkoff

MMU Music

Blanca Munoz Sanchez

MMU Music

Concentration: Performance

Melissa Rios

MMU Music

Concentration: Musicology

Michael Roach

MMU Music

Concentration: Performance

Tyler Roberts

MMU Music

Concentration: Performance

Rachel Schneider

MMU Music

Concentration: Performance

Melissa Spencer

MMU Music

Concentration: Music
Education

Valeria Texeira

MMU Music

Concentration: Performance

Annika Thompson

MMU Music

Concentration: Performance

Alejandra Valencia

MMU Music

Concentration: Performance

Omar Alva Gonzalez

GCERT Music Performance

Kasey Cote

GCERT Music Performance

Marguerite DeWulf

GCERT Music Performance

Genevieve Harris

GCERT Music Performance

Cody Kurr

GCERT Music Performance

Caroline Martinek

GCERT Music Performance

Amanda Rindlisbach

GCERT Music Performance

Skyler Stone

GCERT Music Performance

Penelope Teixeira

GCERT Music Performance

Erick Tinitana Gavilanes

GCERT Music Performance

Dongqi Zhou

GCERT Music Performance

Carrie Borja

MMU Music

Concentration: Music
Education

Alan Trevizo

MMU Music

Concentration: Music
Education

Monique Vaquera

MMU Music

Concentration: Music
Education

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE & DANCE

Kayla Lyall

MFA Dance



LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Founded in 1889, the University of New Mexico sits on the traditional homelands of the Pueblo of Sandia. The original peoples of New Mexico - Pueblo, Navajo, and Apache - since time immemorial, have deep connections to the land and have made significant contributions to the broader community statewide. We honor the land itself and those who remain stewards of this land throughout the generations and also acknowledge our committed relationship to Indigenous peoples.

We gratefully recognize our history.





CLASS OF
2026



CONGRATULATIONS
TO ALL GRADUATES

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