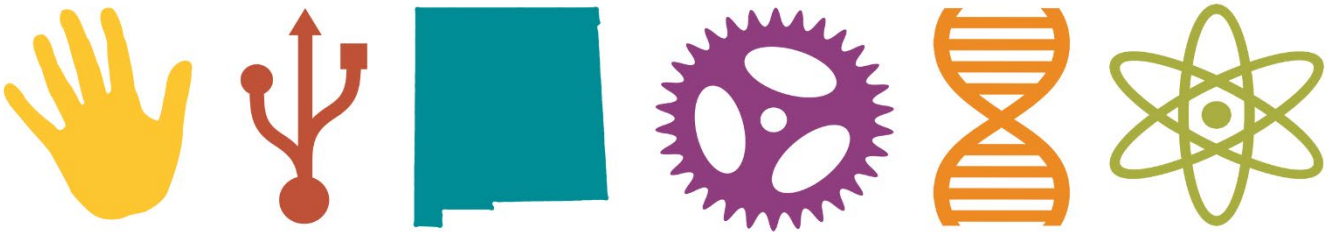
Booklet of Awards & Schedule of Events

2026 Central New Mexico STEM Research Challenge



March 18-22, 2026

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Karen Kinsman & Holly Lowe

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(Individual cash & in-kind donations of $100-$249)

Selena Connealy
Emily Weigel
Randy Woodcock

The MANY judges who donate their time and expertise to interviewing students and evaluating projects.

The MANY other volunteers who do set-up, security, registration and countless other vital tasks. Research Challenge would not be possible without them!

HEALTH SCIENCES
OFFICE FOR DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

STEM-H Center

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STEM-H CENTER
PROMOTING SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, MATH & HEALTH EDUCATION

2026 Central New Mexico STEM Research Challenge

March 18 - 22, 2026

EXPO NM Manuel Lujan Building & UNM Student Union Building

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

rclobby.unm.edu

Visit the RESEARCH CHALLENGE VIRTUAL LOBBY for instant access to virtual Research Challenge events!

March 16 – 22 ~ Virtual Lobby Open~ visit at your convenience!

PROJECT SHOWCASE – *browse all student research projects competing in Research Challenge*

STEM HALL – *visit profiles and interactive exhibits from our sponsors and community partners*

SPEAKERS & PANELS – *view engaging discussions with STEM professionals including:*

- The 2026 featured STEM Panel is ***a discussion with informal STEM educators.***

Monday, March 16

6:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Judging Workshop – ***Live on Zoom***
Students, prepare for judging day with long-time Research Challenge Master Judge Chairs Len Duda and Robert Deblassie as they provide tips to prepare for judging interviews and answer your questions.
https://tinyurl.com/47s84asa

Wednesday, March 18

3:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Project Set Up – *EXPO NM, Manuel Lujan Building*
ALL student exhibitors must register and set up their project displays during this time. ***Doors will close promptly at 7:00 pm!***

Community Partner Showcase will also take place during set up. We are excited to host fun and informational booths from local STEM partners!
Students, complete a Community Partners Passport by visiting booths. Turn in completed passport before you leave and be entered into a raffle for prizes!

Thursday, March 19

9:45 am – 12:00 pm — **Junior Division Category Judge Interviews – *Manuel Lujan Bldg, Hall A***
STUDENTS AND JUDGES ONLY ON EXHIBIT FLOOR! Doors open at 9:30am. ***9:45 is the required start time for ALL students.***

12:00 pm – 1:15 pm — **Lunch Break** —**NOT PROVIDED**—Food vendors will be available. EXHIBIT HALL CLEARED OF ALL STUDENTS.

1:30 pm – 3:15 pm — **Junior Division Special Award & Grand Award Interviews**
– Manuel Lujan Bldg, Hall A
STUDENTS AND JUDGES ONLY ON THE EXHIBIT FLOOR!

Exhibitors must take project board and all other materials with them when they leave at the end of the day!

Friday, March 20

9:30 am – 12:00 pm — **Hands on activities with Air Force Research Labs and ¡Explora!** (for participating 4th & 5th grade students) – ***Manuel Lujan Bldg, Hall A***

9:45 am – 12:00 pm — **Senior Division Category Judge Interviews – *Manuel Lujan Bldg, Hall B***
STUDENTS AND JUDGES ONLY ON EXHIBIT FLOOR! Doors open at 9:30am. ***9:45 is the required start time for ALL HS students.***

12:00 pm – 1:15 pm — **Lunch Break** —**NOT PROVIDED**— Food vendors will be available. EXHIBIT HALL CLEARED OF ALL STUDENTS.

1:30 pm – 3:15 pm — **Elementary Division Judging Interviews – *Manuel Lujan Bldg, Hall B***
STUDENTS AND JUDGES ONLY ON THE EXHIBIT FLOOR!
*Note: elementary students will be interviewed by **both** category and special award judges during this time.*

1:30 pm – 3:15 pm — **Senior Division Special Award & Grand Award Interviews**
– Manuel Lujan Bldg, Hall B
STUDENTS AND JUDGES ONLY ON THE EXHIBIT FLOOR!

Exhibitors must take project board and all other materials with them when they leave at the end of the day!

Sunday, March 22

4:30 pm — **Award Winners Reception** – ***UNM Student Union Building***
For award winners and guests only. Light refreshments and "selfie station"

5:15 pm — **Grand Awards Ceremony** – ***UNM Student Union Building***
Awards Ceremony is by invite only. Student winners, parents/guardians and teachers will be notified on Saturday if they have won an award and are invited to attend the ceremony.

*Note: **Senior Division** ~ high school; **Junior Division** ~ middle school; **Elementary Division** ~ 4th & 5th Grade*

2026 Grand Awards Ceremony

Central New Mexico STEM Research Challenge

Sunday, March 22

Keynote Speaker

Deleso Alford, J.D., LL.M.

Deleso A. Alford, J.D., LL.M. is the University of New Mexico (UNM) OfDEI Humanity Matters Visiting Professor. She is no stranger to UNM, first serving as the UNM Health Sciences Center, Office for DEI Inaugural Diversity Visiting Scholar in 2012, then returned in 2018, and in 2019 as UNM HSC's Distinguished Diversity Scholar Luncheon speaker and again in May 2024. Her current visiting professorship is led by the HSC Office for DEI leadership and is an innovative collaborative effort with several contributing funding partners including the Health Sciences Library and Informatics Center, UNM Hospital, and the Office for Community Health, along with in-kind contributions from the Office for Continuous Professional Learning. Her academic department is Family & Community Medicine, and she is also an Affiliated Faculty member at UNM School of Law. Since her visitorship which began in February 2025, the integration of Professor Alford's interdisciplinary and interprofessional scholarship has fostered meaningful connections and augmented impactful programming with, and our UNM faculty, staff, learners, graduates, trainees, community members, and leaders.

Professor Alford is notably referred to as the "Architect of the theory of unjust enrichment, as applied to the immortal cell line of Mrs. Henrietta Lacks." Her work bridges law, healthcare, and ethics using what she calls "HER stories"—the unique and particularized lived inhumane experiences of marginalized women intersecting with healthcare and research. Professor Alford's national reputation as a speaker and scholar with outstanding contributions to the legal field has been memorialized as an inductee into Southern University Law Center's 2025 Hall of Fame, where she holds the distinguished rank of Rachel Emanuel Endowed Professor. Her seminal law review article authored in 2012 entitled, *HeLa Cells and Unjust Enrichment in the Human Body*, serves as the catalyst and theory of the case for the historical lawsuits filed on behalf of the Estate of Henrietta Lacks, after over seventy years fighting for justice. Professor Alford's book proposal entitled, Mrs. Henrietta Lacks, HeLa Cells and Unjust Enrichment: Humanity Matters was recently accepted by Carolina Academic Press.

The Association of American Law Schools (AALS) selected Professor Alford as the 2025 recipient of the Impact Legacy Award for her scholarship and legal advocacy in the historic Henrietta Lacks' cases amongst other contributions. She is the prestigious 2024 National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) awardee for the National Leadership Award for Education held during the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's Annual Legislative Conference.

Recently, on behalf of the UNMH Patient Family Advisory Committee (PFAC), Professor Alford received an iCare Award for exemplifying UNMH excellence during her presentation aimed at engaging patient family advisors to share their lived experience as it relates to Humanity Matters. Her scholarship has moved from classrooms to courtroom, benefiting legal, healthcare professions and society. Professor Alford earned a Bachelor of Science, magna cum laude at Southern Univ. A&M College, a Juris Doctorate at Southern University Law Center, and a Master of Laws at Georgetown University Law Center. Her interest in bioethics led to her earning a Certification in Clinical Bioethics from the Medical College of Wisconsin.

Byron Morton

Master of Ceremonies

Emmy Award-Winning and Certified Broadcast Meteorologist Byron Morton has been forecasting New Mexico weather for more than two decades. His fascination with weather began while growing up in Tornado Alley. And…he did chase tornadoes while interning in Oklahoma City.

Byron graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree from the College of Geosciences at the University of Oklahoma in 1996 (Boomer, Sooner!)

Byron holds seals of approval for television from both the American Meteorological Society and the National Weather Association. He also served on boards for both organizations. Byron is also very active within his parent company, Hearst Television (HTV) – acting as a co-chair for HTVPride (An LGBTQ+ employee resource group) and he is involved in the HTV mentor program.

When he's not keeping an eye on the sky, Byron loves the outdoors, hitting the gym, is an avid foodie and enjoys traveling. Catch Byron at 11 am and 4 pm weekdays on KOAT 7!

Regional Research Challenge ~ Top-of-Category Awards

Un-sponsored category awards are sponsored by operational funds donated by various companies.

The following prizes are awarded in each of the competition categories:

First Place: $100, gold medallion and certificate
Second Place: $75, silver medallion and certificate
Third Place: $50, bronze medallion and certificate
Honorable Mention: Medallion and certificate

2026 Categories	Sponsor
Elementary Chemistry	**Intel Corporation**
Elementary Engineering & Energy	**Intel Corporation**
Elementary Life & Environmental Sciences	**Intel Corporation**
Elementary Physical Science	**Intel Corporation**
Junior Animal Science	
Junior Behavioral & Social Sciences	**Albuquerque Journal**
Junior Chemistry	**Sandia National Laboratories**
Junior Computer Science	**Intel Corporation**
Junior Earth & Environmental Sciences	
Junior Energy & Transportation	
Junior Engineering	**UNM School of Engineering**
Junior Medicine & Health	**UNM School of Medicine/Health Sciences Center**
Junior Microbiology	
Junior Physics & Astronomy	**The Boeing Company**
Senior Behavioral & Social Sciences	**Albuquerque Journal**
Senior Biochemistry	
Senior Chemistry	**Sandia National Laboratories**
Senior Computer & Mathematical Sciences	**Intel Corporation**
Senior Earth & Environmental Sciences	
Senior Energy & Transportation	
Senior Engineering	**UNM School of Engineering**
Senior Materials Science	
Senior Medicine & Health Sciences	**UNM School of Medicine/Health Sciences Center**
Senior Microbiology	
Senior Physics & Astronomy	**The Boeing Company**
Senior Plant Science	
Senior Robotics & Intelligent Machines	

Regional Research Challenge ~ Top Junior Division Winner Award

Recognition of the top Junior Division exhibitors.

Junior Division	**Physical Sciences:**	**First Place:** $250	**Second Place:** $200	**Third Place:** $150
	Life Sciences:	**First Place:** $250	**Second Place:** $200	**Third Place:** $150

Thermo Fisher Scientific Junior Innovators Challenge

Awarded to the 1st and 2nd place winners of **EACH** category in the Junior Division

Junior Division **First & Second Place**: Certificate and an invitation to submit project to national competition

Regional Representatives to the International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF)

Top projects will be named ISEF Finalists and compete at ISEF in May, 2026

Senior Division **Excellence Award:** Expense paid trip to Phoenix, AZ to compete in ISEF *(awarded to top placing individual or team projects; up to four projects will advance)*

Junior Division **Excellence Award:** Expense paid trip to Phoenix, AZ to attend ISEF as a student observer *(awarded to the top placing 8th grade student)*

ISEF Finalist Awards sponsored by Nusenda Credit Union

Awarded to each regional ISEF qualifier and observer *(funds will be split evenly among team members for any team projects that qualify).*

Excellence Award: $250

A^{2}CE Award for Innovativeness

For excellent projects in any category that display innovativeness and/or a novel or creative approach to answering scientific questions.

Elementary Division	**First Place:** $50
Junior Division	**First Place:** $50
Senior Division	**First Place:** $50

AIC General Contractors Award for Best Sports Related Project

For an excellent project related to sports.

Any Division	**First Place (x2):** $250

Albert M. Kudo Memorial Award

For an excellent project in any category in memory of Dr. Albert M. Kudo.

Junior or Senior Division	**First Place:** $100

Albuquerque Area Extension Master Gardeners

For excellent projects related to plants

Junior Division	**First Place**: $100	**Second Place:** $75	**Third Place:** $25
Senior Division	**First Place**: $100	**Second Place:** $75	**Third Place:** $50

Albuquerque Astronomical Society Award

For the best Astronomy related projects. Winners invited to exhibit projects at Astronomy Day. Prizes include 1-year membership in the Albuquerque Astronomical Society.

Junior Division	**First Place**: $250	**Second Place:** $175	**Third Place:** $100
Senior Division	**First Place**: $250	**Second Place:** $175	**Third Place:** $100

Albuquerque Rocket Society Award in Memory of Jerry Cross

For excellent projects related to rocketry or the field of aeronautics.

Junior or Senior Division	**First Place:** $100

American Association of University Women Young Scientist Award

For excellent projects by female exhibitors in the categories of Physics, Computer Science, or Engineering.

Elementary Division	**First Place (x4):** $25
Junior Division	**First Place (x6):** $30

American Chemical Society Awards, Central New Mexico Section

For the projects that best demonstrate a thorough and logical approach to the investigation and observation of a chemical phenomena or property using the principles of the scientific method.

Junior Division	**First Place:** $200
Senior Division	**First Place:** $200
Junior or Senior Division	**First Place:** $200

American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics Award

For projects relating to the fields of Aeronautics and Astronautics.

Junior Division	**First Place (x2):** $125 & certificate. Membership in AIAA
Senior Division	**First Place (x2):** $125 & certificate. Membership in AIAA

American Psychological Association Award

For an exhibit recognizing outstanding research in psychology in the category of behavioral and social sciences.

Junior or Senior Division	**First Place:** Certificate & 1 year student membership in APA

Association for Women Geoscientists Award

For a female student whose project best exemplifies high standards of innovativeness and scientific excellence in the geosciences.

Junior or Senior Division	**First Place:** Certificate & honorary membership in AWG

Association of Old Crows Award

For a project in the Elementary Division related to electromagnetic spectrometry or information operations.

Elementary Division	**First Place:** $100	**Second Place:** $50

Austin Hudson LaPore Biochemistry Award

For projects that demonstrate research excellence in biochemistry, pharmaceutical sciences, or related field.

Senior Division	**First Place (x2):** $100

Bohannan Huston Award

For outstanding Engineering projects.

Any Division	**First Place (x2):** $250

Chalmers Ford Award

For an excellent project related to the automotive industry.

Elementary Division	**First Place:** $150
Junior or Senior Division	**First Place:** $150

Citadel Securities Innovation Prize

For an outstanding project that displays innovation and expert data analysis to address and solve real-world problems.

Junior Division	**First Place:** $100
Senior Division	**First Place:** $100

Climate Change Award

Presented to the project that demonstrates the greatest insight into climate change using the scientific method.

Elementary Division	**First Place:** $75
Junior Division	**First Place:** $75
Senior Division	**First Place:** $75

Diane Vigerust Memorial Award

For a project by or benefiting a student with special needs.

Any Division	**First Place:** $100	**Second Place:** $50

DoD STEM Leadership Prize

For a student who demonstrates excellence in STEM knowledge, technical and problem solving skills, communication skills, creative thinking and determination to overcome challenges throughout the research project.

Junior Division	**First Place:** $100

Don't Stop Now Award

For projects in any category that show enthusiasm and promise for continued learning.

Junior or Senior Division	**First Place (x6):** $50

Dr. Donald Partridge Memorial Neuroscience Award

For the projects which best demonstrate and test principles of neural science. Human or animal studies are eligible. Students should demonstrate a knowledge about the brain systems studied in their research projects.

Junior Division	**First Place**: $100	**Second Place:** $50
Senior Division	**First Place**: $100	**Second Place:** $50

Dr. John K. Prentice "Coolness" Award

For especially novel and ingenious projects in any category in memory of Dr. John K. Prentice.

Junior Division	**First Place (x2):** $100
Senior Division	**First Place (x2):** $100

Enchanted Lens Camera Club Award

For projects which either advance the state of the art of film/digital photography, or use photography as a key diagnostic in an engineering and/or science project.

Junior Division	**First Place:** $75
Senior Division	**First Place:** $75

Engineering Excellence – New Mexico Engineering Foundation

For excellence in Engineering and/or applied topic or research in Engineering, Physics, Astronomy, Computer Science or Energy & Transportation.

Senior Division	**First Place(x2):** $200

ENLACE Statewide Collaborative Excellence Award

For excellent projects in any category.

Elementary Division	**First Place (x4):** $25 UNM Bookstore Gift Card
Junior Division	**First Place (x4):** $25 UNM Bookstore Gift Card
Senior Division	**First Place (x4):** $25 UNM Bookstore Gift Card

Explora Science Center and Children's Museum Award

For excellent projects in Chemistry, Environmental Science, Math, Microbiology or Physics.

Junior Division	**First Place (x10):** $50 plus an invitation to exhibit project virtually at Explora.

Groundwater Partners Award

For an outstanding project that demonstrates innovation in promoting sustainability in environmental and geosciences.

Elementary Division	**First Place**: $100
Junior Division	**First Place:** $100
Senior Division	**First Place:** $100

International Test & Evaluation Association Awards, Roadrunner Chapter

For the best application of test and evaluation techniques in an experiment.

Junior Division	**First Place:** $100	**Second Place:** $50	**Third Place:** $25
Senior Division	**First Place:** $250	**Second Place:** $100	**Third Place:** $50

Jim Adams Memorial Award

For an excellent project by a student faced with physical or mental challenges.

Junior or Senior Division **First Place:** $100

Kate Barone Dimock Award

For an excellent project related to real estate, including architecture, civil engineering or environmental issues.

Any Division **First Place:** $200

Lemelson Early Inventor Prize

For an excellent invention project which demonstrates problem-solving, empathy, and entrepreneurial and environmental-friendly thinking.

Junior Division **First Place:** $100 & certificate

Louis & Stacy Abruzzo Award

For an excellent project related to real estate, including architecture, civil engineering or environmental issues.

Any Division **First Place (x2):** $250

Mauro4micro Teacher Awards

For creative and insightful science teachers in memory of Dr. Mauro Martignoni.

Any Division **Teacher Award (x4):** $250

Maxine Grossman Award

For an excellent project in the category of Plant Science.

Junior or Senior Division **First Place:** $100

Nancy Schmierbach Award

For an excellent project from a Valencia County student related to real estate, including architecture, civil engineering or environmental issues.

Any Division **First Place (x2):** $250

NASA Earth System Science Award

For the project that best demonstrates insight into Earth's interconnected systems. The project should incorporate studies of the different components of Earth systems, their interactions and their evolution over time.

Junior or Senior Division **First Place:** Certificate & invitation to a webinar with a NASA scientist

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Award

For the project whose research emphasizes NOAA's mission to understand and predict changes in Earth's environment and conserve and manage coastal and marine resources.

Junior or Senior Division **First Place:** Certificate

New Mexico Trout Award

For a project that supports the goals of New Mexico Trout: the study, conservation and restoration of riparian habitats.

Junior Division	**First Place:** $100 and membership	**Teacher Award:** $100
Senior Division	**First Place:** $100 and membership	**Teacher Award:** $100

Pavilion Construction Award

For an excellent project related to real estate, including architecture, civil engineering or environmental issues.

Any Division **First Place (x4):** $250

Pérez López Excel NM Award

For a project in Computer or Mathematical Sciences that demonstrates hard work and dedication, a strong understanding of the methods used in the project design, creativity in overcoming challenges encountered during the course of the research and a genuine joy and enthusiasm for learning.

Junior Division **First Place**: $100

Senior Division **First Place**: $250

Pérez López Salud NM Award

For a project in Behavioral/Social Sciences that demonstrates excellence in journaling through dedicated documentation throughout the course of the project, critical and creative thinking and the growth of a young researcher as observed through their curiosity and reflection. Special consideration is given to students who examine how social determinants of health shape health outcomes with an understanding that an important goal of research is to serve humanity and advance equity, compassion and meaningful change.

Junior Division **First Place**: $100

Senior Division **First Place**: $250

Public Service Company of New Mexico (PNM) Awards

For an excellent project related to utility efficiency, energy or engineering.

TBD

Regeneron Biomedical Science Award

Awarded to an exceptional student scientist who not only demonstrates an impressive command of biomedical science and research but also embodies Regeneron's core values and behaviors, known as The Regeneron Way.

Senior Division **First Place:** $375

Regional Research Challenge Ingenious Research Award

For a project involving the testing and/or use of common materials.

Junior Division **First Place:** $100

Regional Research Challenge Junior Encouragement Awards

Sponsored by the Foreman Family. For outstanding middle school projects in **EACH** category.

Junior Division **First Place:** $35 **Second Place:** $30 **Third Place:** $25
Teacher Award: $25 to teacher of first place winners

Regional Research Challenge Scholarships to UNM

Senior Division **First Place:** A minimum $750 UNM scholarships to all 12th grade participants who enroll at UNM in the Fall of 2026 (one-time award for Fall 2026)

Retired Director Karen Kinsman "If I Can See It, I Can Be It" Award

For excellent projects in any category where the student exhibitor demonstrates an understanding of the research process, ability to communicate effectively and enthusiasm about their work

Elementary Division **First Place**: $50
Junior Division **First Place:** $100
Senior Division **First Place:** $100

Richard Bild Memorial Research Challenge Award

For a student or team whose project demonstrates excellence in interdisciplinary research and who demonstrates an ongoing passion for STEM with excellent problem-solving, communication, and leadership skills.

Elementary Division **First Place(x2):** $25 **HM:** Certificate
Junior Division **First Place(x2):** $100 **HM:** Certificate
Senior Division **First Place(x2):** $200 **HM:** Certificate

Ricoh Regional Sustainable Development Award

For a project whose principles and technical innovations offer the greatest potential for increasing our ability to grow environmentally friendly and socially responsible businesses.

Junior or Senior Division **First Place:** Certificate

Sandia Peak Tram Company Award

For an excellent project related to real estate, including architecture, civil engineering or environmental issues.

Any Division **First Place (x2):** $250

Shirley Anderson Award

For an excellent project related to real estate, including architecture, civil engineering or environmental issues.

Any Division **First Place:** $200

Society for In Vitro Biology Award

For the most outstanding 11th grade students exhibiting in the areas of plant or animal in vitro biology or tissue culture.

Senior Division **First Place:** Certificate and membership in SIVB

Society of Women Engineers Award, Central New Mexico Section

For an exhibit in Engineering, Physics & Astronomy, Computer Science, Environmental Management or Energy & Transportation.

Junior Division **First Place (x2):** $100

Springer5 Investments Award

For an excellent project from a Rio Rancho student related to real estate, including architecture, civil engineering or environmental issues.

Any Division **First Place:** $300

Springhill Suites by Marriott at the Journal Center Award

For an excellent project related to real estate, including architecture, civil engineering or environmental issues.

Any Division **First Place (x4):** $250

United States Air Force Awards

For projects in Engineering, Space Sciences, Mathematics, Computers or Environmental Sciences or for projects that offer Air Force applicability.

Junior or Senior Division **First Place (x4):** Certificate & Tangible Award

United States Metric Association Award

For a project that involves a significant amount of quantitative measurement and which best uses the SI Metric System.

Junior or Senior Division **First Place:** Certificate & 1 year of membership in USMA

United States Navy and Marine Corps Awards

Naval Science Awards for excellent individual projects in science and engineering.

Junior Division **First Place (x3):** Certificate of achievement and $25

Senior Division **First Place (x3):** Certificate of achievement and $50

University of New Mexico College of Pharmacy Awards

For a project related to the Pharmaceutical Sciences which best demonstrates an innovative problem, the scientific approach to the problem, the methodology for solving the problem, and the scientific interpretation of the results.

Elementary Division **First Place:** $100

Senior Division **First Place:** $200 **Teacher Award:** $200

University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center Awards

For excellent projects in each of the categories of Biochemistry, Medicine & Health and Microbiology.

Junior Division **First Place:** $150 **Second Place:** $100 **Third Place:** $50

Senior Division **First Place:** $150 **Second Place:** $100 **Third Place:** $50

UNM BioTime Awards

For outstanding projects focused on Earth-life interactions, especially ranging across time and/or geographic gradients.

Junior Division **First Place:** $300 & a fossil fish
Second Place: $150 & a fossil fish
Third Place: $100 & a fossil fish

Water Environment Federation - Stockholm Junior Water Prize

For an outstanding project related to water quality, water resource management, water protection, water treatment.

Senior Division **First Place (x2):** Certificate and possible advancement to State Stockholm competition.

Yale Science and Engineering Association, Inc. Award

For an outstanding 11th grade student exhibiting in the area of Computer Science, Engineering, Physics or Chemistry.

Senior Division **First Place:** Certificate

Congratulations to all the student participants and winners!

27	7	31	88	22	16
Co	N	G (a)	Ra	T (i)	S
Cobalt	Nitrogen	Gallium	Radium	Titanium	Sulfur
58.933	14.007	69.732	226.025	47.88	32.066

Dear Research Challenge Participants,

As President of The University of New Mexico, it is my sincere pleasure to welcome you to UNM for the 66th Annual Central New Mexico STEM Research Challenge. We are delighted to have you here, and Lobos everywhere congratulate you for all you've accomplished.

The University of New Mexico is New Mexico's premier Research 1 university, which means innovation and creativity infuses everything we do, from architecture to zoology. Our diverse research and creative works enable student success, engage our local and global communities, and help innovation thrive. It's all part of our mission as New Mexico's flagship university to meet the challenges and opportunities facing humanity head on. We do so proudly, as we contribute to the advancement of New Mexico.

That's why you're here today, and it is our privilege to be your host. We are proud to encourage each of you, the next generation of STEM professionals, to innovate and develop revolutionary ideas that will serve our state, our nation, and our planet. This long-running competition, which can trace its origins back to 1960, is a big step in preparing you for your future career in STEM, whether it's in academics, at one of our government facilities or national laboratories, in a tech startup, or maybe even in something that we haven't dreamed of yet—but that *you* might.

Many former participants of this competition have gone on to win international prizes and major recognition. Some have invented something new; others have gone on to teach in universities or run research laboratories. New Mexico is home to innumerable amazing scientists and engineers who bring their expertise and energy to every corner of the Land of Enchantment.

As we continue to advance into a rapidly growing digital age, I am confident New Mexicans will be enthusiastically leading the charge into the future, developing strategies to fight disease, explore the deepest parts of our universe, and learn to develop smarter and responsible uses for artificial intelligence. I hope you will never stop inventing, never stop innovating, and never stop asking questions. Your curiosity is the key to finding innovative solutions to the challenges we face here in New Mexico and around the world.

I'm excited to learn more about all you've accomplished, and I hope you'll consider bringing your own imagination and innovation to The University of New Mexico. Whatever your future holds, I wish you the best and the utmost of success.

I know how much work it took to get here, and the Lobos are proud of every one of you. We also know that you still have plenty of work ahead this weekend, so we'll let you get to work!

Have a great competition and thank you again for joining us here at The University of New Mexico.

Regards,

Garnett S. Stokes

Garnett S. Stokes
President

March 22, 2026

Dear Research Challenge Participants,

I want to personally congratulate you on participating in the 66th Annual Central NM STEM Research Challenge. Your commitment to inquiry and discovery reflects the qualities that will shape the future of New Mexico.

Research is not easy. It involves unexpected results and setbacks, and you must be willing to keep asking questions even when the answers are difficult to find. The critical thinking, communication, and evidence-based reasoning skills you are developing now are the same skills we rely on every day in medicine, science, and public service.

At The University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center, we are working to train the next generation of health professionals and scientists who will serve communities across our state. Many of the challenges we face will be solved by people who once stood where you are now.

Whether you pursue a career in health care, engineering, public health, or another STEM field, I hope you continue to stay curious. New Mexico needs thoughtful, prepared leaders who are willing to do hard work in service of others.

I am proud of the effort you have shown and look forward to seeing where your paths lead.

Sincerely,

Michael Richards, MD, MPA
Executive Vice President for Health Sciences Center
CEO for University of New Mexico Health System

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH

March 22, 2026

Dear Research Challenge Participants,

Congratulations on your remarkable achievement in participating in the 2026 Central NM STEM Research Challenge! This milestone is not just a testament to your hard work and perseverance, but it also lays a strong foundation for your future academic and professional endeavors. Embrace this experience as a steppingstone, as the dedication and creativity you have demonstrated will undoubtedly propel you toward greater successes. Thank you for taking on this challenge and know that I am truly impressed with your drive, creativity, and innovative spirit.

As a scientist and researcher, I know that completing a research or engineering project during the best of times is difficult and can present many obstacles that must be overcome. I applaud your interest in discovery and encourage the curiosity you possess to explore new territory and tackle new challenges. Our state is home to world-class scientists and engineers, many of whom started out just like you in local and regional competitions. I believe many of you will ultimately join their ranks and contribute to the advancement of the digital age, produce solutions to global climate change, develop innovative treatments for a range of health issues, and create new products that improve our daily lives. As vice president for research at The University of New Mexico, I also encourage you to explore the many quality programs in science and engineering that UNM has to offer.

It's imperative we acknowledge that the success of this event is a testament to the incredible teamwork that underpins every student's research journey. We thrive when parents, teachers, mentors, friends, volunteers, and sponsors unite their efforts. This collective spirit not only fuels creativity and innovation but also reinforces the idea that together, we can tackle even the most daunting challenges the world throws our way. So, let’s celebrate this collaboration of enthusiasm and support – because when we join forces, the possibilities are truly limitless!

I hope you take a moment to genuinely enjoy every aspect of this unique event, while continuing to ask questions of yourself and the other participants to truly understand more about our amazing world and what we are capable of achieving. I look forward to learning more about your successes in the years to come.

Best of luck in the 2026 Central NM STEM Research Challenge!

Sincerely,

Ellen R. Fisher, Ph.D.
UNM Vice President for Research
Professor of Chemistry

HEALTH SCIENCES
OFFICE FOR DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

Dear Central NM STEM Research Challenge Participants,

Congratulations on participating in the 66th Annual Central NM STEM Research Challenge, and thank you for bringing your talent, curiosity, and dedication to this year's competition.

For nearly 66 years, this event has celebrated the creativity and determination of students across Central New Mexico. By choosing to ask meaningful questions, design thoughtful investigations, and share your discoveries, you have demonstrated not only academic excellence, but courage—the courage to explore the unknown and present your ideas to others.

Research is more than a project—it is an act of hope. It reflects your belief that through knowledge, innovation, and collaboration, we can better understand our world and improve it. Whether your work explored health, engineering, environmental science, technology, or mathematics, your efforts contribute to a stronger and brighter future for our communities.

As Vice President and Executive Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer at the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center, I see every day how vital it is to cultivate talent right here at home. New Mexico's future depends on leaders like you—leaders who are willing to think critically, collaborate across differences, and use knowledge in service of community. The curiosity you nurture today can become tomorrow's breakthrough in cancer research, climate resilience, public health, space exploration, or equitable access to care.

Please continue asking questions. Continue seeking mentors. Continue believing that your voice and your ideas matter—because they truly do.

I join your families, educators, mentors, and supporters in celebrating your achievements. We are proud of you, grateful for your participation in this year's Challenge, and excited to see the impact you will make in the years ahead.

With warm congratulations,

Vice President and Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Executive Officer
HSC Endowed Professorship for Equity in Health
Professor of Family & Community Medicine
Executive Director, UNM SOM Combined BA/MD Degree Program
PI, New Mexico Workforce Diversity Center of Excellence

2026 Central New Mexico STEM Research Challenge

2026 STUDENT EXHIBITORS

Projects and virtual materials (abstract, virtual display board) can be viewed in the online Project Showcase. Click on link or scan QR code and then enter **KEY: CNMSRC2026**

Elementary Chemistry

ECHEM-1 Karam Mansour *Foil Fables: Is Alzheimer's on the Menu?*

ECHEM-2 Nicole Gonzalez & Taya Nance *How to Grow Crystals*

ECHEM-3 Sophia Lucero *Dog Treats*

ECHEM-4 Asher Storms *What's the Matter?*

ECHEM-5 Avianna Lopez *Nobody Wants Melted Ice Cream*

ECHEM-6 Hind Awawdeh *Toothpaste Test*

ECHEM-7 Wyatt Kersting *Flower Color Change*

ECHEM-8 Raylynn Norris & Jaycee Shiver *Egg Toothpaste*

ECHEM-9 Eshika Amol *Candy Chromatography*

ECHEM-10 Dixie McDonough & Reagan Smith *What Is Elephant Toothpaste?*

ECHEM-11 Charlotte Thoren *Tooth Decay With Eggs*

ECHEM-12 Braydon Winters *Growing Crystals in Different Temperatures*

ECHEM-13 Lilyana Adams *The Chemical Reaction of Elephant Toothpaste*

ECHEM-14 Jaxton Mayberry *"Ice"mosis*

ECHEM-15 Sadra Ghasempour *Baking Powder vs Baking Soda: Which Makes Pancakes Fluffier?*

Elementary Engineering & Energy

EENG-16 Ameera Jamaleddin *Potato Power*

EENG-17 Kenny McFarlane, Anthony Navarro & Lincoln Snyder *CubeSat*

EENG-18 Orhan Yanar *Built Forever*

EENG-19 Madison Ortiz *Biodegradable Plastic Bags*

EENG-20 Estes Gaasedelen *Training AI to Recognize Emotions*

EENG-21 Cody Bowdoin *How Do Pistons Work?*

EENG-22 **Oliver Hopkins & Abigail Montoya** *Air Powered Cars*

EENG-23 **Houston Chavez, Jahnaiyah Graham & Lyric Stitt** *What Is the Best Bowl for Ramen?*

EENG-24 **Dexter Baguskis & Cruz Benally** *The Butlerbot 1000*

EENG-25 **Forest Brister & Bryce Encinias** *Fruits vs Vegetables*

EENG-26 **Marc Crozier-Molina** *How Does Different Insulation Affect the Heat in a Chicken Coup?*

Elementary Life & Environmental Sciences

ELIFE-27 **Eliott Harding** *Sea Water Should be Used for Firefighting*

ELIFE-28 **Brantley Maestas** *Do "Energy Drinks" Actually Raise Your Blood Pressure?*

ELIFE-29 **Sanvi Lathish** *How Do Different Biodegradable Materials Affect Soil Health?*

ELIFE-30 **Kayla Torres** *Blooming Flowers*

ELIFE-31 **Allison Cain** *Pollution vs Plants: Who Will Win?*

ELIFE-32 **Emma Garcia** *Can Other Fluids Help Plants Grow?*

ELIFE-33 **Sofia Anchondo, Emma Leinen & Isabella Valencia** *Which Warm Up Makes You More Flexible?*

ELIFE-34 **Sarah El-Emawy** *Worms at Work*

ELIFE-35 **Braiden Alestra** *Leaf Color Extraction*

ELIFE-36 **Kamila Hernandez & Elizabeth Rain Lobos** *Liquid Test*

ELIFE-37 **Patrick Archibeque** *The Great Lima Bean Grow-off!*

ELIFE-38 **Elora Delaney, Olivia McConnell & Amelia Schnepple** *Mystery Jello*

ELIFE-39 **Maggie Meyerson** *Hydroponics Part 2: Growing With Different Light Sources*

Elementary Physical Sciences

EPHYS-40 **Abigail Hulskamp** *Mass Is the Key to Inertia*

EPHYS-41 **Aadav Shah** *Pendulum Power*

EPHYS-42 **Shaun Dev Zachary Bhattrai** *Measuring Light Speed Using a Laser Through a Gelatin*

EPHYS-43 **Eshana Paruchuri** *Invisible Pollution, Magnetic Solution*

EPHYS-44 **Sloan Gonzales** *Which String Carries Sound Best?*

EPHYS-45 **Cody Cashman & Ethan Dickerson** *Golf Ball of Doom*

EPHYS-46 **Andreas Gallis** *Ranking the Vitamin C Content in Fruits and Evaluating and Its Oxidative Stability*

EPHYS-47 **Niko Barela, Lucas Sipes & Preston Vogt** *Flying Lightning*

EPHYS-48 **Jayla Kirlin, Kayleigh Lallement & Morgan Waugh** *Go With the Flow*

EPHYS-49 Annika Mitchell *Turning the Tables on Wobbly Tables*

EPHYS-50 Azra Begit *Reducing Drag: A Comparative Study of Airfoils With and Without Winglets*

EPHYS-51 Mohammed Awawda *Electrolyte Energy*

EPHYS-52 Killian Thomas *Burn, Baby, Burn*

EPHYS-53 Margaret Eichenfield *Understanding Pendulums*

Junior Behavioral & Social Sciences

JBEH-101 Aya Abdullah *Walk the Talk*

JBEH-102 Haley Vincent *Sunlight to Orange Glow: How Lighting Influences Human Abilities*

JBEH-103 Max Berger & Balraj Sandhu *Music and Cognitive Performance: Effects on Memory Recall*

JBEH-104 Anna Cota *Ready. Set. React*

JBEH-105 Mira Nakip *How Middle Schoolers Learn Best*

JBEH-106 Eli Angelo Sepulvida *GAME ON!*

JBEH-107 Kenzie Otero *Blind Tasting*

JBEH-108 Rustin Morgan *Fear*

JBEH-109 John Wayne Tapia *Reaction Time*

Junior Chemistry

JCHEM-201 Jordan Krein *Can Mud Power an LED? Exploring the Feasibility of Earth Batteries*

JCHEM-202 Alharith Mansour *Dissolution Showdown: Brands vs Generics in the Stomach Acid Challenge*

JCHEM-203 Ghalia Mansour *Colorful Chemistry: The Hidden Impact of Food Dyes on Acidity and Health*

JCHEM-204 Ayat Fatima *How Does pH Level Affect Color Pigments Extracted from Plants?*

JCHEM-205 Shruthika Karthikeyan *The Surprising Truths About Vitamin C*

JCHEM-206 DeShawn Devine *The Ripening of the Fruit*

JCHEM-207 Musawer Saskai *Can pH and Heat's Power Change a Substance's Solubility?*

JCHEM-208 Ellee Sherpa *Using Pennies to Test How pH Affects Copper Corrosion*

JCHEM-209 Ahmet Yanar *Hot or Not*

JCHEM-210 Chelsea Ma *Heat and Hair Protection*

JCHEM-211 Mirabella Bernal *Fatty Jackets*

JCHEM-212 Calder Lee *How Does Soil Affect Water pH Levels?*

JCHEM-213 Elissa Ray *Which Fizzes More: Homemade or Store-Bought Bath Bombs?*

JCHEM-214 Jaydon Foulk *Why Do Darker Colors Attract More Sunlight Than Lighter Colors?*

JCHEM-215 Angel Kotlisky *Rock Candy*

JCHEM-216 Abdel Rahman El-Emawy *Reaction In Action*

JCHEM-217 Joseph Archibeque & Lilly Singer *Boba Liquid*

JCHEM-218 Johnny Titus Anaya & Modesto Lucero *Which Liquid Will Rust the Nail the Fastest?*

JCHEM-219 Mattea Contreras *Which Candle Melts Fastest Under Sunlight?*

JCHEM-220 Adrian Baca *Cookie Science!*

JCHEM-221 Jesus Dominguez *A Comparative Study of Fruit Decomposition Rates*

JCHEM-222 Ashley Nsiah *Demonstrating Enzyme Catalase Activity Using a Potato and Hydrogen Peroxide*

JCHEM-223 Krislyn Romero *C-ing The Truth*

JCHEM-224 Sophia Jimenez *H2O NO!*

JCHEM-225 Diya Panchal *Toxic Waters?*

Junior Computer Science

JCOMP-301 Sahana Paruchuri & Elena Schwarz *Beyond Accuracy: Brain Tumor AI - A Confidence-Calibrated Multi-Stage CNN for MRI Tumor Detection, Subtype Classification and Glioma Grading*

JCOMP-302 Dominic Abeita *How Long Do Different File Types Take to Open?*

JCOMP-303 Mariam Elafandy *Is Artificial Intelligence Trustworthy in Resolving Personal Conflicts?*

JCOMP-304 Jeremy Anaya *AI: Consistent or Creative?*

JCOMP-305 Matthew Chavez *Can Humans Recognize AI Images?*

Junior Earth & Environmental Sciences

JENVR-501 Anaya Faruk *The Orographic Oasis*

JENVR-502 Sydney Kerr *Fighting Liquid Rock: Testing the Power of Water Softening*

JENVR-503 Sequoia Hopkins *Biodegradable Bioplastics*

JENVR-504 Ana Gomez *Rivers vs Lakes: Which Has More Heavy Metals?*

JENVR-505 Zoheb Barrantes *Climate Change Simulation on Oyster Fungi Growth*

JENVR-506 Aurie Gomez *Painting for the Planet: Comparing Heat Reflection in Natural Eco-friendly Paints*

JENVR-507 Rubi Nodal *Making a Water Filtration System that Waters Gardens*

JENVR-508 Seraphina Phillips *The Green Spoon Campaign*

JENVR-509 Zahra Suvarna *Oasis-in-a-Pot*

JENVR-510 Aadhya Asoori *Nutrient Pollution Due to Fertilizers*

JENVR-511 Morgan Ross *Can the Same Plant Grow in Different Environments?*

JENVR-512 Caroline Aldrich *From Flames to Floods*

JENVR-513 Genesis Behrend *The Impact of Physical Compaction on Soil Porosity*

Junior Energy & Transportation

JTRAN-1101 Joshua Sers *Solar vs Battery Powered*

JTRAN-1102 Dunya Abdelhack *Wind to Watts*

JTRAN-1103 Marla Zora *The Power Pressured Car*

JTRAN-1104 Charles Vigil *Traffic, Traffic, Ahh More Traffic*

JTRAN-1105 Derek Jacquez *Need for Speed*

Junior Engineering

JENGR-401 Clay Lu *Clone CHT Nozzles: Worth It or Not?*

JENGR-402 Paxton Shaw *Make a Waterwheel With the Most Rotations Per Minute*

JENGR-403 Heath Linam *Designing and Building a Solar Powered Plane for Surveying Large Areas*

JENGR-404 Gareth Jones *Making a Generator That Uses Vortex Shedding to Convert Wind Energy Into Electricity*

JENGR-405 Evan Olson *Aerodynamic Performance of Folded Flying Objects*

JENGR-406 Amelia Fondse *Load Testing Which Bridge Ranges Strongest Out of Popsicle Sticks*

JENGR-407 Christopher Armijo *How Car Shape Affects Aerodynamic Velocity*

JENGR-408 Ezekiel Dominguez *Does the Design of the Blades on a Windmill Affect the Electrical Output?*

JENGR-409 Austin Roberson *Rocket Fins: What Type of Fin Is the Most Ideal?*

JENGR-410 Andrea Yu *Bridge Brawl: Which Shape Wins?*

JENGR-411 Soumya Gullapalli *Light Scattering: Can It Detect Microplastics?*

JENGR-412 Robert Ortiz *Home Aerodynamics*

JENGR-413 Sylas Greene *The Outperformer*

JENGR-414 Daniella Aiwuyo *Does a Truss Bridge Hold More Mass than a Beam Bridge?*

JENGR-415 Isabella Hernandez *Water Warfare*

JENGR-416 Liam Alexander *Which Boat Is the Best?*

Junior Materials Science

JMATS-601 Aylara Mills & Pazel Yarrington *The Great Orbeez Grow-off*

JMATS-602 Jeremy Smith *Plastic in Soda Cans?*

JMATS-603 Amaanah Vahab *How Does the Material Affect the pH of Water?*

JMATS-604 Theodore Ligon *Saltwater Salt Removal*

JMATS-605 Amana Khraishi *The Effect of Eggshell Powder in a Composite on Mechanical Properties*

JMATS-606 Jonathan Shockley *Functional Ferrofluids*

JMATS-607 Cruz Xie *Movement in Gooey Liquids*

JMATS-608 Taylor Nguyen *What Color Shirt Dries Fastest in the Sun?*

JMATS-609 Jaidyn Sandoval *Which Filtration Material Leads to the Best Drinking Water?*

Junior Medicine & Health Sciences

JMED-H-701 Elijah Girroir *What Technique Is Best to Reduce Heart Rate and Blood Pressure after an Intense Workout?*

JMED-H-702 Suzanna Ansari *The Thermal Trigger: Unravelling Temperature's Role in Anesthesia*

JMED-H-703 Glory Landavazo *Acidic Medicines*

JMED-H-704 June Crawford *Under Pressure: The Power of Smell*

JMED-H-705 Daniel Aragon *The Whitening War*

JMED-H-706 Meena Adeeb *Hand Grip Strength Tester*

JMED-H-707 Erin Duselis *Simulating Genetics*

JMED-H-708 Ashvita Prasankumar *A Change of Heart: Predictive Modeling of Heart Disease Risk*

JMED-H-709 Elizabeth Williams *Memory and Input: Risks of Aging*

JMED-H-710 Aayah Momani *Can Peppermint Oil Improve Reaction Times?*

Junior Microbiology

JMICRO-801 Habbas Awawda *Hand Drying*

JMICRO-802 Aariv Agrawal & Isaac Sewell *Which Natural Antimicrobials Inhibit Bakers Yeast the Best?*

JMICRO-803 Abigail Oetzel *Is the 5-Second Rule Actually Real?*

JMICRO-804 Asma Jamaleddin *Comparing Hand Cleaning Methods*

JMICRO-805 Oscar Groves *Microbial Growth in Your Rice, You Can't B Cereus?*

JMICRO-806 Emily Quintana *Can Microbes Survive in Acidic Water?*

JMICRO-807 Serenity Campos *The Effect of Heat on Bacteria*

JMICRO-808 Dylan Martinez *Bioluminescence!*

Junior Physics & Astronomy

JPHY-901 Seamus Brown & Thomas Farrow *Which Types of Shoe Treads Have the Best Traction?*

JPHY-902 Claire Lee *Does Magnification Affect Chromatic Aberration in Cameras?*

JPHY-903 Lev Daugherty *A Study of Ballistics*

JPHY-904 TeVin McVay *Hot Versus Cold Bounce*

JPHY-905 Anna Kalugin *Light Emission of Fluorescent Materials*

JPHY-906 Autumn Nguyen & Thomas Quirk *Space Pizza Phase 1: Quantifying High-Altitude Radiation and Environmental Parameters*

JPHY-907 Ruthvik Quadros *How Does Nosecone Geometry Affect Hypersonics in Consideration of Volume and Velocity?*

JPHY-908 Ethan Cochran *Resistance of Different Graphite Pencil Leads*

JPHY-909 Omar Babaa *Mighty Electromagnet*

JPHY-910 Maximilian Hiris *What Ramp Angle Makes a Toy Car Go the Fastest?*

JPHY-911 Alexander Riley *How Will the Temperature of a Tennis Ball Affect the Height it Bounces?*

JPHY-912 Scarlett Groves *Star Light, Star Bright, the Importance of White Light: The Search for Water on Distant Planets*

JPHY-913 Tanis Fortier *Blocking Wi-Fi Signals*

JPHY-914 Joseph Carlin *Messages in the Mesh*

JPHY-915 Dwight Crozier-Molina *How Do Weights Affect Model Rockets?*

JPHY-916 Ethan Goodlander *Inverter Magnet-Tractor Beam*

JPHY-917 Levi Torrez *How Do Tornadoes Form?*

JPHY-918 Frank Romero *Hitting in Motion: How Speed Affects Baseball Distance*

JPHY-919 Aryan Patel *The Effect of Three Years of Non-Use on Solar Panel Open Circuit Voltage*

JPHY-920 Brooke Shelland *Is It Worth It: Name Brand Versus Generic Brand Using a Study on Thermal Retention*

Junior Plant Science

JPLANT-1001 Jesvitha Pulagura *Can Biodegradable Hydrogels Help Conserve Water in Farming?*

JPLANT-1002 Liam Rust *How Does Water Temperature Affect Seed Germination Rates?*

JPLANT-1003 Camylle Hubbard *Sunflowers Using Photosynthesis for CO2 Absorption*

JPLANT-1004 Alyssa Morales *How Do Magnets Influence Plant Growth?*

JPLANT-1005 Cruz Martinez *H2-Oh*

JPLANT-1006 Emily Claudet *Fertilizer Frenzy*

JPLANT-1007 Jayden Saenz & Mira Thompkins *War of the Roses: A Comparison Between Extraction of Rose Water and Oil from NM Roses vs Bulgaria*

JPLANT-1008 Sofia Beverido *Creating a Symbiosis With Plants to Make Hydrogen for Space Travel*

JPLANT-1009 Annah Sarmiento *Can I Extract DNA from Fruits?*

JPLANT-1010 Riley Clifton *Cool Beans*

Senior Animal Science

SANI-1201 Evan Schleicher *Does Human Influence Affect Wildlife Activity?*

SANI-1202 Brian Jolly *How Intelligent Was the Tyrant Lizard King of the Cretaceous: The Tyrannosaurus Rex?*

SANI-1203 Chloe Bagley & Taylee Sorensen *Color Dye Preferences: Crickets and Mealworms*

SANI-1204 Aurora Terwilliger *Russian Tortoise Environment Preference*

SANI-1205 Ryan Nguyen *Gastropod Biomineralization and Water Chemistry*

Senior Behavioral & Social Sciences

SBEH-1301 Annabelle Bean & Alessandra Murrietta *Multitasking*

SBEH-1302 Miranda Garcia *Comparative Analysis of Breathing Techniques for Heart Rate Stabilization in Teens*

SBEH-1303 Laken Mills *Effect of Human Senses on Stress Relief*

SBEH-1304 Antonio Pacheco & Maddox Pinzon *Custom Adaptive Utensils*

SBEH-1305 Peyton Arvizo & Kassidy Colvin *How Music Affects Movie Viewers*

SBEH-1306 Zachary Friedenstein, Jaise Gattuccio & Colin Goldizen *Video Games Correlation to Heart Rate*

SBEH-1307 Azul Nava-Gomez *AI vs Chef*

SBEH-1308 Ariana Karnes & Esha Shivashankar *How Different Foods Impact Athletes Energy Levels*

SBEH-1309 Katie Aragon *Small Changes, Big Results: An Examination of Bias and Its Effect on Data*

SBEH-1310 Ava O'Connor & Emma Smouse *How Does the Beats Per Minute (BPM) in a Song Change Your Running?*

SBEH-1311 Daveany Lohr *Generational Differences in Identifying AI, Student and Journalist Written Articles*

SBEH-1312 Tam Pham *Cultural Identity, Coping and Mental Health: Suicidal Ideation in AAPI Youth*

Senior Biology & Microbiology

SMICRO-2101 Peyton Kerr *Targeting Biofilm Resistance: Comparative Efficacy of Hydrogen Peroxide, Acetic Acid, Medical Honey, Dakin's Solution and EDTA Against Baker's Yeast*

SMICRO-2102 Madeline Leymon *Natural Antibacterials in Canine Oral Health*

SMICRO-2103 Eric Gilbert & Britnie Robertson *Finding Anti-microbial Properties in Invasive Species for Medicine*

SMICRO-2104 Rylan Garcia & Catherine Tigert *A "Light" Dose of L-DOPA: Investigating the Biological Effect of the Light Spectrum on Enzyme Reactions*

SMICRO-2105 Alawna Wittner *UV-B Affects on Yeast DNA Damage/Repair*

SMICRO-2106 Rachel Taylor *A Fun Time With A Fungi: Simulation Neuronal Galvanotropism on Ustilago maydis Mycelium to Manipulate Cell Growth, Direction, and Cell Development and Its Applications to Nerve Regeration*

SMICRO-2107 Paul Cammarata *Yeast Beast*

Senior Chemistry

SCHEM-1401 Maleah Brashear *Is Expired Aspirin Still Effective?*

SCHEM-1402 Raine Hill & Abigail Nannemann *How Temperature Affects Carbonation in Drinks*

SCHEM-1403 Silas Etuk *Rust Removers*

SCHEM-1404 Armaan Vahab *Which Type of Water - Bottled, Universal Home Filtered or Tap Water Has the Best Quality for Drinking Based on TDS?*

SCHEM-1405 Ahana Koushik *Development of a Rapid, Portable Lateral Flow Assay for the Detection of Microplastic–drug Interactions*

SCHEM-1406 Josiah Smith *Colorful Liquid Density Gradient*

SCHEM-1407 Aiden Martinez *Colorful Fire*

SCHEM-1408 Omar Terrazas *Can You "C" It?*

Senior Computer & Mathematical Sciences

SCOMP-1501 William Arnold *USB Data Security Suite: Encryption, Hidden Storage and Self-destruct Mechanism*

SCOMP-1502 Arjun Grandhe *Where Gravitational Waveform Models Break Down: A Phase-by-Phase Analysis of LIGO Signals*

SCOMP-1503 Xavior Chacon & Keyelle Sutton *Transforming Platonic Solids*

SCOMP-1504 Carlos Serna & Billy Vuong *The Correlation Between Weather Irregularities and Stock Market Fluctuations*

SCOMP-1505 Joy Boydston & Daymon Pomeroy *The Reparability of Pi and Tau*

Senior Earth & Environmental Sciences

SENVR-1801 Sreenisha Prabu *Impact of Polystyrene Microplastics Exposure on Mitochondria Morphology and Oxidative Stress in Microglial Cells*

SENVR-1802 Layla Dees & Ray Samuel *Finding a Way to Recycle Excess Plant Water*

SENVR-1803 Kenneth Lopez *Material Heat*

SENVR-1804 Declan Padget *Do Microplastics Increase the Bioavailability of Toxic Chemicals Such as Heavy Metals or Pesticides to Aquatic Organisms?*

SENVR-1805 Hamsini Murali *Tiny Plastics, Big Effects: Effects of Microplastics on Molecular Diffusion in Simulated Gut and Marine Environments Measured Through Absorbance and Mass Change Using Dialysis Tubing*

SENVR-1806 Emma Hansen & Emma McGee *Testing Rivers in New Mexico: How Contaminated Are Our Waters Before and After Purification?*

SENVR-1807 Adam Briceno Gabauer & Nicole Briceno Gabauer *Hydropods*

SENVR-1808 Charlie Groves *Aerosolized Microplastics and Their Microbiome: "Plastisphere" the New Super Villain in the Atmosphere*

SENVR-1809 Daniel Chavez-Williamson *To Seed or Not to Seed: The Question Behind How Shade, Moisture and Plant Availability Influence Ant Seed Choices and Restoration Planning*

Senior Energy & Transportation

STRAN-1701 Orion Gonzales *Dual-Axis Solar Tracking: A Comparative Study Using 3D Printed Designs*

STRAN-1702 Keira Gray *Which Rear-Wing Design Will Provide the Best Effects of the Balance Between Drag Reduction and Downforce in Formula 1 Racing?*

STRAN-1703 Achilles Orpinel-Padilla *Harvesting Energy Through Waves in a Mechanical Prototype*

Senior Engineering

SENGR-1601 Annika LeBaron *Thrust Efficiency of Novel Propeller Designs*

SENGR-1602 Trinity Peterson *Evaluation of Efficiency of Thermal Desalination at Different Pressures*

SENGR-1603 Aidan Panturad & Matthais Trujillo *Thermal Shock and Ablation Resistance of Hypersonic Surface Materials: A Comparative Experimental Study*

SENGR-1604 Charissa Alex-Bature & Sally Moreno *Developing an Affordable and Easily Accessible Braille Printer*

SENGR-1605 James Hung *Energy-Efficient Thermal Management in Electric Vehicle Batteries Using Graphite: An ANSYS Simulation Approach*

SENGR-1606 Maxim Stout *Designing an Oscillatory Nanofluid-Cooled Heat Exchanger*

SENGR-1607 Ameen Asfan *Help With Reading for People With Visual Impairments: Creating a Low-Cost Device that Reads Text to Aid the Visually Impaired*

SENGR-1608 Oen Martinez *Computational Evaluation of Custom Heat Sink Geometries Using OpenFOAM and Parametric 3D Modeling*

SENGR-1609 Agustin Cordova *Designing and Testing a Thermoelectric Cooling System for Off-Grid Refrigeration*

SENGR-1610 Caleb Jacka *Investigating the Effects of Adding Dimples to Cars*

SENGR-1611 Henry Bullock & Makaylah Priddy *Calming the Click: Making a Microphone Filter to Reduce Clicking in Instrument Recordings*

SENGR-1612 Adan Corral & Jordan Mitchell *Designing the Most Efficient Helmet Cooling System*

SENGR-1613 Elijah Lopez *Physical Entropy Generation for Quantum Resistant Cryptography*

SENGR-1614 Chloe Garcia *Snooze in Silence*

SENGR-1615 Sam Stafford *The Double Slit Experiment: In a New Light*

SENGR-1616 Christina Agrusa & Marissa Montano *Nylon Spider Webs: A Passable Synthetic Spider Silk for the Detection of Sound*

SENGR-1617 Joetta Akudago *Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Detector*

SENGR-1618 Aegis Bartkus & Damian Sanchez *Oxa-Weld: For Professionals Working in Confined Spaces*

SENGR-1619 Johann Bourg *Aiding Research Effects: Enhanced Discovery of Disaster Victims Through Mechanical Agents*

SENGR-1620 Len Janert *SignSpeak: A Low-Cost Wearable for Translating Hand Signs to Speech*

SENGR-1621 Isaiah Nunez & Michael Wright *Water Filtration Using a Pump-Based System*

SENGR-1622 Kenan Star *Solar Powered Semi-Automated Irrigation System for Pueblo Farmers*

SENGR-1623 Emily Rodriguez *Accelerating the Performance of a Rocket*

Senior Materials Science

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SMATS-1905 Christopher Abney *Apex of Rocket Bodies*

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SMED-H-2004 Gianna Girroir *Microbiome GI Tract Probiotic Impacts*

SMED-H-2005 Noah Lovato & Rachel Rede *The Effects of Food Sequencing on Blood Glucose*

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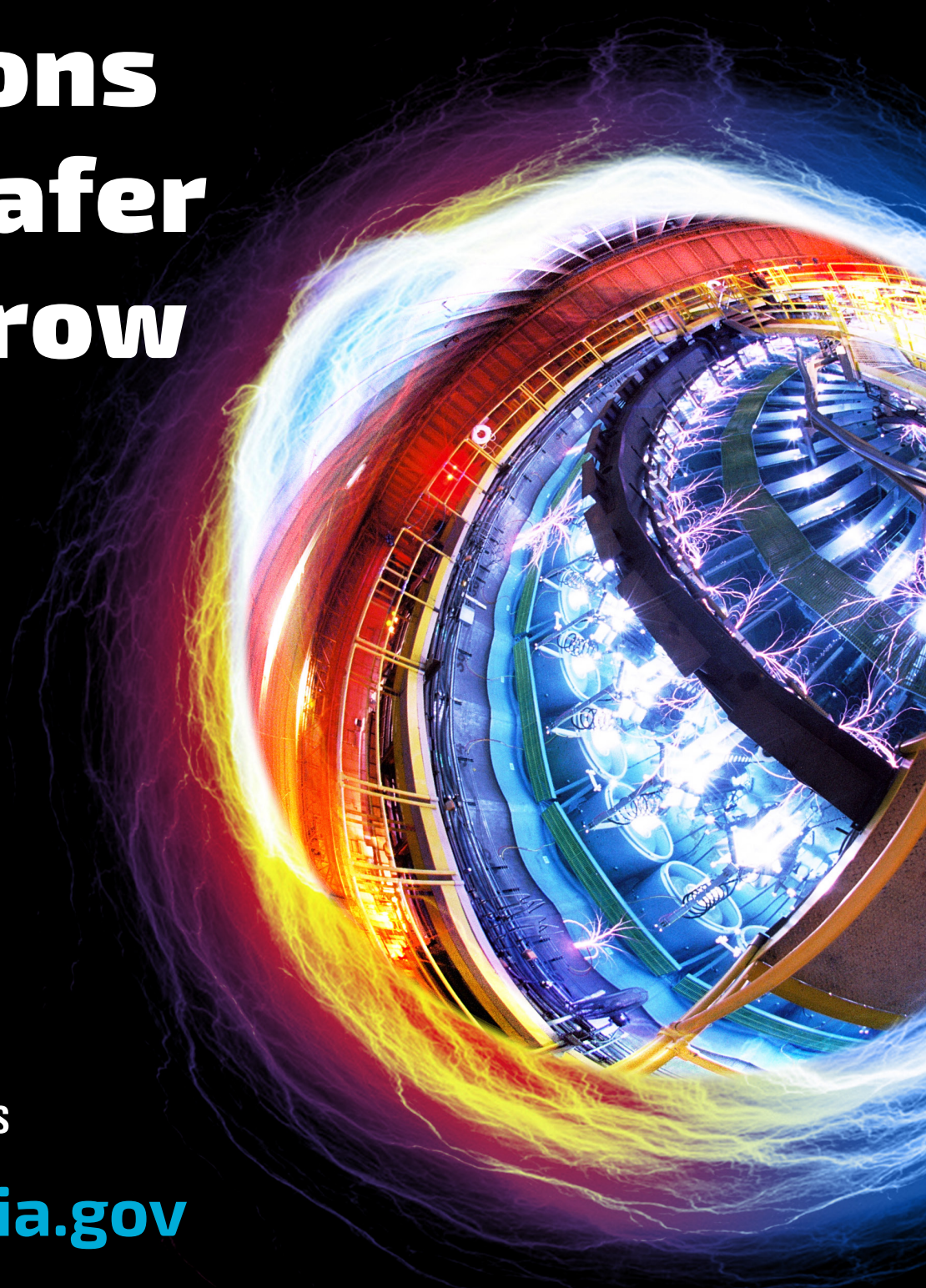

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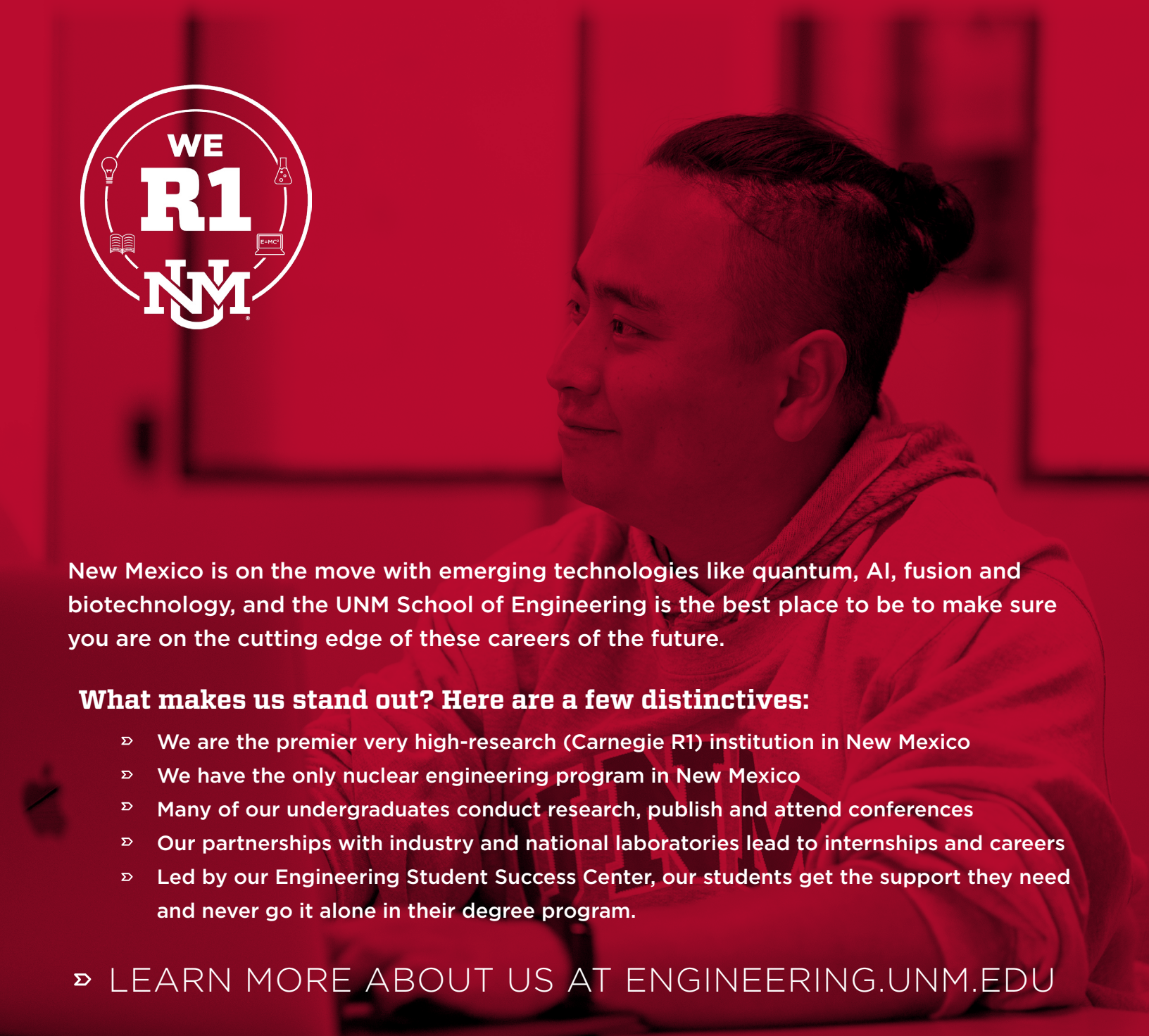

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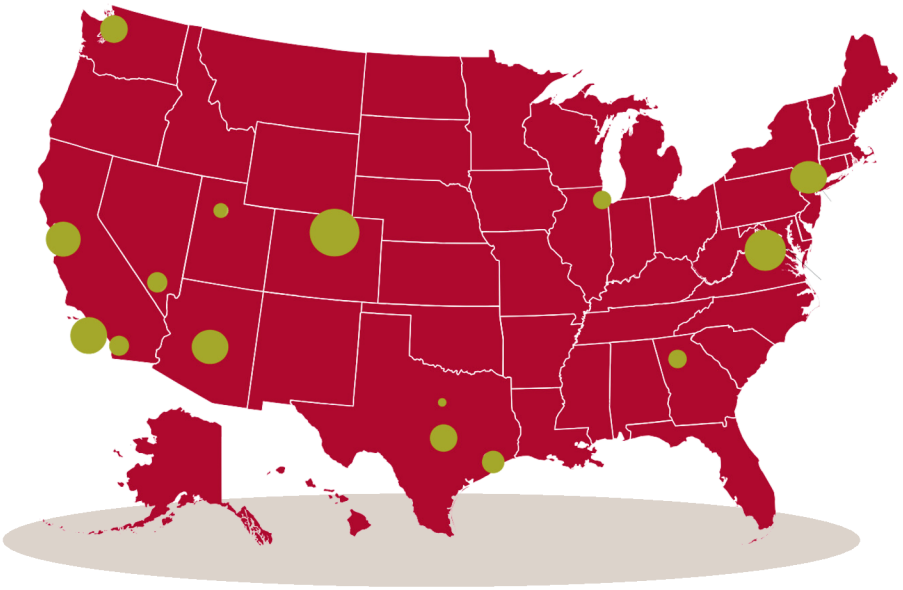

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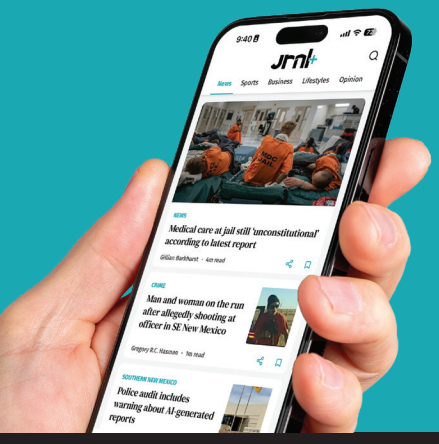

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