

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Visit the [RESEARCH CHALLENGE VIRTUAL LOBBY](#) (*link coming soon*) for instant access to virtual Research Challenge events!

Link to the lobby will be emailed to participants and posted on our website no later than 3/17/25.

March 17 – 23 ~ 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 2025 featured STEM Panel is **New Mexico Donor Services**

Monday, March 17

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://hsc-unm.zoom.us/j/95410590866>

Wednesday, March 19

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 20

- 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!
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Friday, March 21

- 9:30 am – 12:00 pm **Hands on activities with Air Force Research Labs**
(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!
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Sunday, March 23

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