



LOS ALAMOS

Student Services Newsletter

MAY 2026

MEET FERNANDO TRUJILLO



Fernando is the owner of Fernando’s Cleaning, which does residential and commercial cleaning. He currently has six employees, and he has contracts with several businesses, both on the Hill and the Valley. He has been contracted to UNM-Los Alamos for almost 15 years, which makes him one of the longest-serving members of our community.

A native of Española, Fernando has worked in Los Alamos for around 40 years. He worked for the Los Alamos schools for 25 years, but he was eager to work for himself, so he retired as soon as he was eligible and set up shop.

In addition to running his business, Fernando also spends time renovating houses that he can sell or rent.

When he is not working, Fernando likes to fish and hunt. He prefers fly fishing, but the only type of fishing he avoids altogether is lake fishing.

“I don’t have the patience for lake fishing. It is just waiting for the fish to bite. If you drink and smoke, it’s OK, but since I don’t do those things, I like to fish in the stream where you’re doing something.” He usually hunts deer and elk, but his largest quarry is a bear that he has mounted in his house.

Fernando likes relaxing with dog, and he recently got a puppy that he finds fun and troublesome. “Puppies will chew up anything: your pliers, all of your tools.”

If you see Fernando on campus, be sure to thank him for the work he does to make our campus amazing.

IMPORTANT DATES

May 8: Last day to drop with Dean’s permission. See an advisor.

May 11 - 16: Final exams

May 15: Commencement!

June 1: Summer session begins

June 12: Last day to drop without a “W” grade and full refund

June 19: Juneteenth, campus closed

July 3: Independence Day (observed), campus closed

July 28: Summer semester ends

August 17: Fall semester begins

FOLLOW US



ASIAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH: DR. MIN RO



May is Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, and this May Student Services would like to honor mathematics instructor Min Ro. Dr. Ro is one of the most versatile instructors at UNM-Los Alamos, having taught every advanced mathematics class that we offer.

Dr. Ro earned his bachelor's degree at

The Ohio State University, and his master's and Ph.D. at the University of Oregon. He first came to Los Alamos because his parents lived here. He ended up moving here when his father passed away. He likes Los Alamos, particularly the quietness and safety of the community.

Dr. Ro identifies his objective as an instructor as, "Focusing on giving the students a firm understanding of the material." His students describe him as "thoughtful and efficient," and they particularly appreciate the speed at which he returns their assignments.

Dr. Ro occasionally goes on hikes, but his favorite activities are centered on his home. His favorite hobby is reading, and his tastes include fiction, non-fiction and classic literature. He is reticent to name his favorite book.

UNM-Los Alamos is fortunate to have an instructor who is as dedicated to his craft as Dr. Ro.



PHI THETA KAPPA INDUCTION CEREMONY MAY 1st AT 9:00 AM



by Jimmy Gurule, PTK member

Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) is an honor society for students at two year colleges that recognizes academic achievement and gives students opportunities to get involved, build leadership experience, and connect with others on campus.

At UNM-LA members help with different campus events, like Lobo Paw Awards, which recognize staff and faculty for excellence.

Since it is a smaller campus, meetings are held occasionally, usually only when decisions need to be voted on or organized, so the program is not a huge time commitment. Members can also get involved in leadership opportunities where they are able to apply for positions through the PTK website, and those roles are voted on during meetings. There's also a lot of overlap with Student Government, so members often support each other and work together on campus activities.

To join PTK, students typically need a 3.5 GPA and will receive an invitation. If you qualify, it is definitely worth joining. It opens a lot of opportunities for scholarship awards exclusive to PTK members, and includes important resources for transfer students looking to continue their education.

The PTK induction ceremony, at which new members are recognized, will take place on Friday, May 1st at 9:00 AM.

Contact Citla Nava-Gaxiola at cnavag@unm.edu if you have questions.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAM IS APPROVED

by Elizabeth Rue, Marketing Manager

UNM-Los Alamos (UNM-LA) has received official approval to offer a new Associate of Arts in Early Childhood Education, marking an important step in expanding educational opportunities for students and supporting the early childhood workforce in northern New Mexico.

The decision followed a comprehensive review of the community college's proposal, including submitted application materials and a favorable recommendation from the New Mexico Higher Education Advisory Committee.

"We're very pleased that the Higher Education Department has approved our Associate of Arts in Early Childhood Education," Brent Pickett, Ph.D., UNM-LA Dean of Instruction, said. "This builds on the certificate program and courses we already launched this spring, and it allows our students to take the next step toward a full degree right here at UNM-Los Alamos. Expanding into a complete AA program strengthens our mission to serve our community and directly supports local workforce needs — especially in partnership with Los Alamos Public Schools, who have been a great partner in this effort. This is exciting news for our students, our college and our region."

With approval granted by the state and the institution's governing bodies, UNM-LA is authorized to move forward with implementation of the program. The new degree is designed to prepare students for careers in early childhood education and related fields, while also supporting transfer opportunities to four-year institutions.

UNM-LA advisors are available to answer questions and help interested students enroll in early childhood education courses offered this fall. For assistance, call (505) 662-5919 or email jbateman1@unm.edu.



FINALS WEEK MESSAGE FROM DEAN BRENT PICKETT



The end of the semester, and summer, are nearly upon us! Of course, that also means that we are coming up on final exams. Remember to set yourself up for success: eat a balanced diet, stay hydrated, make an effort to get the sleep you need.

If you are worried about a particular test, reach out to your professor and set up a time to talk. I talk with our faculty every day and all of them enjoy working with students. You aren't taking up their time, you are giving them a chance to engage with and help a student. Finally, remember to breathe and believe in yourself.

A promotional poster for 'Finals Fuel' featuring a yellow background with scattered snacks like chips, nuts, and popcorn. The text is centered and reads: 'NM LOS ALAMOS' at the top, followed by 'FINALS FUEL' in large black letters with leaf-like accents, 'GRAB-N-GO SNACKS' in red, and a yellow box containing 'MAY 11 - 14', '9 AM - 3:30 PM', and 'BUILDING 1 FOYER (STUDENT SERVICES OFFICE)'. At the bottom, it says 'FUEL UP ON FREE SNACKS TO PUSH THROUGH EXAMS!' in bold black and red text.

NM
LOS ALAMOS

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ADA STATEMENT

The University of New Mexico-Los Alamos is committed to the recognition and the proactive pursuit of compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). The University makes reasonable accommodation for religious observances, national origin practices of a student and to the known physical or mental limitations of a qualified student, unless such accommodations have the end result of fundamentally altering a program or service or placing an undue hardship on the operation of the University. Qualified students with disabilities should contact Student Services for information regarding accommodations in the academic and/or employment setting. If you have a special need and require an auxiliary aid and/or service, please contact Student Services at (505) 662-5919.



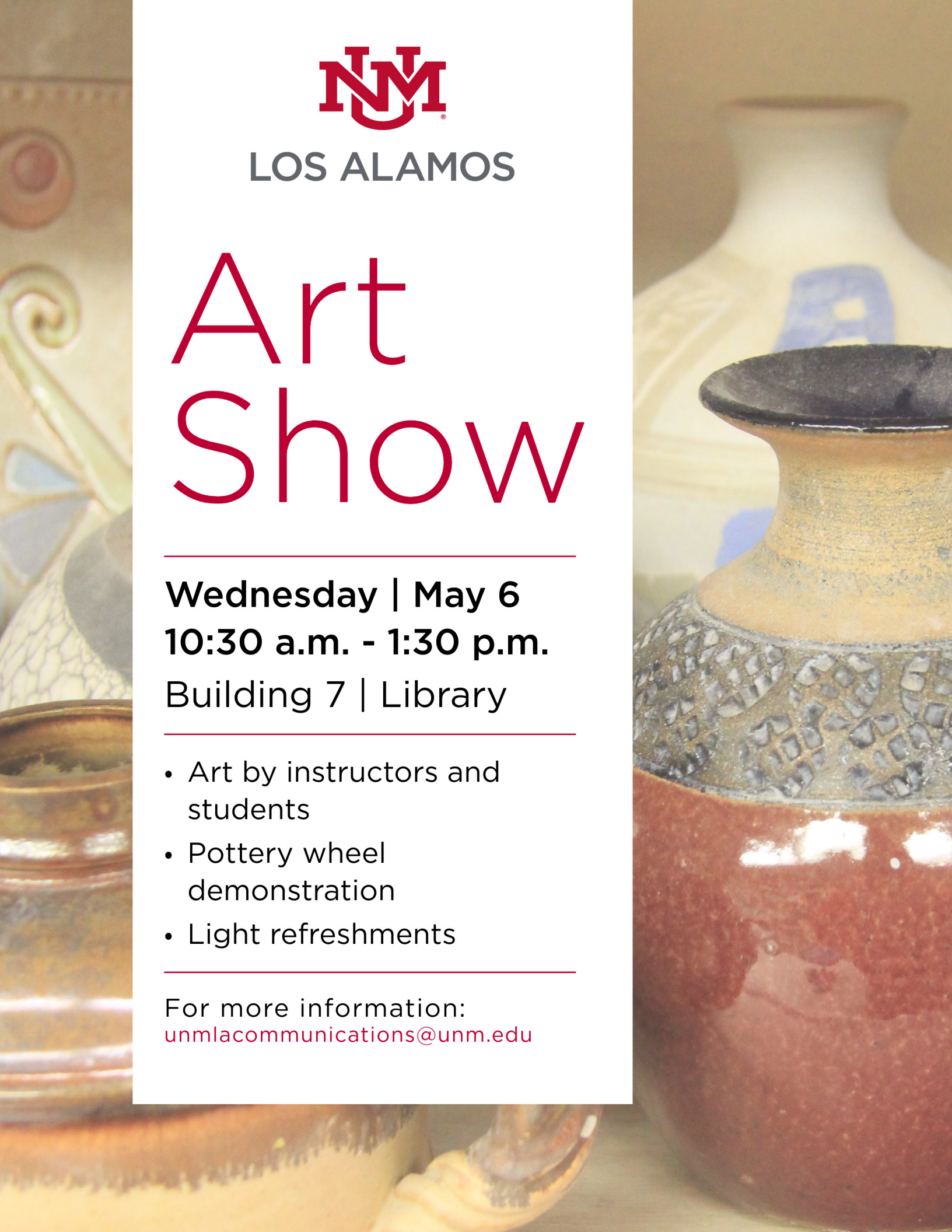
LOS ALAMOS

Art Show

Wednesday | May 6
10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Building 7 | Library

- Art by instructors and students
 - Pottery wheel demonstration
 - Light refreshments
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For more information:
unmlcommunications@unm.edu



STUDENT SERVICES

Student Services is a central hub of information for prospective, current, and former students to find assistance and answers to questions about admissions, financial aid, registration, academic advising, career services, and other resources on campus.



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Admissions

The Office of Admissions can help if you have questions or are ready to apply to UNM-Los Alamos. The Office of Admissions can provide application instructions for degree-seeking, non-degree, dual credit/concurrent, international, senior, or transfer students. Complete details can be found on the Admissions page: losalamos.unm.edu/admissions.

Financial Aid

The Office of Financial Aid provides information on financial resources available to degree-seeking students. These resources may include scholarships, grants, and loans from the federal or state government, independent organizations, and/or UNM-LA itself. UNM-LA determines financial aid eligibility from the FAFSA, so please take time to file this document online every year. Don't assume you are ineligible—there are many opportunities to pursue.

Enrollment Services

The Office of Enrollment Services at UNM-LA processes high school and other college transcripts of current and former students. The registrar can also answer questions about dual credit and concurrent enrollment, VA benefits, and graduation requirements.

Academic Advising & Student Success

Academic advisors can provide guidance through the admission process, degree and course selection, and registration. Advisors also assist with changing a major, following up instructors' early alerts, filing graduation petitions, and planning for baccalaureate work. Advisors can also help resolve registration errors. Degree-seeking students must meet with an advisor before registering for each semester to check that their chosen classes will continue to make progress toward their degrees and to have their advising hold lifted. The Director of Student Affairs coordinates ADA accommodation services for students, and oversees academic advisement, student retention, and success initiatives.

Career Services

Student Services offers career services to assist students with self-exploration, selecting a major, and opportunities for gaining experience in their chosen fields. Career services also include resume reviews, internship connections, job fairs, quantifying or translating skills, sharing job postings, and building connections between employers and our students.