



LOS ALAMOS

Student Services Newsletter

October 2024

STUDENT GOVERNMENT MIRANDA LOPEZ



This is Miranda's first year serving on UNM-LA's Student Government. Miranda is majoring in business management at Los Alamos, but she is also pursuing a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Eastern New Mexico University. She showed an aptitude for study early, and she was selected to study computer science at a Stanford summer program when she was 14. In addition to academic pursuits, Miranda has an eclectic mix of other interests, including playing multiple instruments, taking care of her pets, painting, drawing, fixing cars, sculpting, and working on computers.

Miranda comes from Pojoaque, and she graduated from Los Alamos High School. She currently resides mostly in White Rock, but she has maintained ties to Pojoaque. She is of Hispanic descent but recently discovered that she has ancestral roots in Pojoaque Pueblo, and she hopes to dive deeper into her own heritage.

She hopes one day to move to Nashville. Even though she is drawn to the capital city of country music, Miranda prefers classic rock (especially Queen and Led Zeppelin).

Miranda plays a variety of music on left-handed guitar, but she specializes in classical when she plays the piano. She started out by playing her stringed instrument upside down, but she has graduated to the actual left-handed version of her guitar.

Miranda has two Rottweilers, one Pomeranian, and two cats. Fortunately, her brother helps care for her zoo.

In addition to creating art herself, Miranda likes to philosophize about painting. She believes that immersing yourself in art can help you see "what else is in the painting."

Miranda is an interesting person, so take the time to greet her when you see her on campus.

RACE / ETHNICITY SURVEY

Scan the QR code below to access a race and ethnicity survey for all UNM-LA students 18 years old or older. This survey is created by the University of Texas - Austin CCCSE organization, which conducts research on student engagement. This survey is anonymous, and the collected total data will be used to help us provide services and address student needs and issues related to race and ethnicity. We do not receive any specific student-identified information.

Special survey for students at
University of New Mexico-Los Alamos Campus



Take the Race/Ethnicity Survey by scanning the QR code above or by visiting the link below to access the survey and share your thoughts: <https://www.cccse.org/ir/losalamos>

FILIPINO AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH - JOSE GARCIA VILLA



October is Filipino American History Month. October was chosen to commemorate the first recorded arrival of Filipinos to continental North America, which occurred October 18, 1587, in Morro Bay.

This year, we would like to honor Filipino poet Jose Garcia Villa, who graduated from The University of New Mexico in 1932. Villa was an innovator who introduced the concepts of “comma poetry” and “reverse consonance” into verse poetry.

Villa was born on August 5, 1908, in Manila. He came from a wealthy family, his father being a physician and his mother being an heiress and land manager. Young Villa started to pursue a medical degree until he decided that the arts were where his heart was. He tried painting and prose writing before deciding to commit himself to English-language poetry.

He published some poetry in the Philippines before coming to Albuquerque to study at The University of New Mexico, where he earned a BA in 1932. While here, Villa helped found Clay, a literary magazine that ran for several years. A year after graduating from UNM, Villa published his most widely known non-poetic work, a short story titled “Footnote to Youth.” Because the story is written in English but contains themes, places, and names familiar to a Filipino audience, the story is often used to help teach English in schools in the Philippines.

Although Villa saw success as a story writer, he decided that his true passion was exploring the beauty of the English language itself. In fact, he would eventually counsel young poets to stop reading stories so that their poems could emphasize words instead of ideas and narratives.



Villa wrote in a variety of poetic styles, but he is best remembered for his “comma poetry,” in which almost every word is separated by a comma. He wanted people to pause to appreciate the words themselves, to luxuriate in language. He described his technique as a type of pointillism, in which individual points of color are put together to make a pleasing work.

Another technique that he introduced was “reverse consonance,” in which the consonant sounds of a rhyme were reversed. Using this technique, “light” rhymes with “tile.” The effect of this type of rhyming is more subtle than conventional rhymes, but it has a pleasing beauty of its own.

Although never becoming an American citizen, Villa lived most of his adult life in the United States. He died February 7, 1997, in New York.

Villa will be remembered as one of the most innovative poets in the English language, and as a consistent proponent of the idea that poetry is about the beauty of language.

Follow Us



CIC - THINK ABOUT INTERNSHIP

Brittany Carpenter, CIC Coordinator

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Did you know that according to a recent Gallup poll, in 2023 approximately 41% of currently enrolled college students had an internship during their college experience? Will you be one of those students in 2024/2025? Internships are offered during Fall, Spring, and Summer semesters. Although most students participate during the summer semester, it can be easier to secure a Fall or Spring position. No matter which semester you prefer, having an internship on your resume can make a big difference in securing a job after college. "Prior Gallup research has shown that recent graduates who had a job or internship relevant to their degree while enrolled were more than twice as likely to secure a good job immediately after graduation." Make an appointment with Internship Coordinator, Brittany Carpenter, to determine how an internship can set you up for success.

NATIONAL TRANSFER STUDENT VIRTUAL ADVISEMENT DAY

UNM's Transfer and Transition Student Center will host a virtual advisement day for all future transfer and branch transition students. The event will take place on Tuesday, October 22 from 1:00 - 5:00 pm using Zoom. You need to set up an appointment by October 14. Scan the QR code to register. Email questions to unmtransfer@unm.edu.



If you are able to travel to Albuquerque on Friday, October 25, there will be a transfer and branch transition exploration day from 10:00 am - 3:00 pm. You will get an overview of UNM, advisement, the admissions process, securing financial aid and scholarships, and the different opportunities at UNM. There will be a campus tour and a chance to meet representatives from different departments at UNM.

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING OPEN HOUSE - UNM ALBUQUERQUE

On Saturday, October 19 from 11:00 am - 2:30 pm, UNM's School of Engineering is holding an open house for students interested in pursuing a degree in engineering. It will be at the Centennial Engineering Center, and you will be able to tour research labs, learn about degrees, and find out about student organizations. Call 505.277.4354 for more information.

IMPORTANT FALL DATES

October 10-11: Fall Break, campus open/no classes

November 8: Last day to withdraw without approval of Student Services. Contact your advisor.

November 11: Registration for spring opens.

November 28-30: Thanksgiving Holiday, campus closed/no classes

December 5: Last day to withdraw with approval of Student Services. Contact your advisor.

December 9-14: Final exams



LOS ALAMOS



NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH - VINCE CAMPOS



Hispanic Heritage Month is observed from September 15 – October 15. This year we are featuring artwork by LANL employee and former UNM-LA Student Services work study Vince Campos, who has been painting retablos since he was in grade school.

Vince grew up in El Rito. Vince first heard his calling at 7 years old, when renowned santero Nicholas Herrera, one of Vince’s relatives, visited his school. Young Vince knew right away that this was something he wanted to do, and he soon started to display his work during El Rito studio tours. He developed a reputation, but he did not dream of displaying his work outside of El Rito until someone recommended that he apply to Santa Fe Artists Market. He was fortunate to have his application accepted on the first try, and he has been displaying his retablos for about eight years.



San Lucas

Vince’s colorful retablos evoke the traditions of the villages of Northern New Mexico. Vince uses only natural gesso, pigments, and varnishes. His dyes come from minerals, plants, and animals. Some pigments that are hard to come by in the chilly north of the state, such as cochineal bugs and indigo, he gets by trading with other artists in the warmer climates. His wood is planed in Taos, and he prefers using ponderosa.



El Niño

While his techniques are traditional, his retablos come with a modern twist. The saints he portrays have their conventional emblems, but they are updated to seem in place in Northern New Mexico. For example, a retablo featuring El Niño de Atocha would traditionally feature a scallop shell, a gourd water bottle, worn out sandals, and traveler’s bag. Vince’s retablo has all these elements, but the gourd is now a travel mug, the traveler’s hat is a baseball cap, the worn-out sandals are tennis shoes, and the traveler’s bag is a grocery sack.

Vince wants people to see the images and wonder about how the various surprising elements relate to the story of the saint that he is portraying. “I want the viewer- to want to know what that is; that will let me tell them the story,” Vince explains.

Vince says that a medium-sized retablo takes about two weeks for him to complete. He has a process for applying the pigments, and he does one at a time. Sometimes a piece will require a lot of carving. Vince likes to include a lot of carved roses for a retablo of La Virgen de Guadalupe, and so that will take him quite a bit longer.



San Francisco

Despite the care he puts into each one, his retablos are surprisingly affordable. He has small ones that are about the size of an ornament that he sells for \$50. Larger pieces with numerous elements go up to \$5,000. He says that he “wants people who love something to have an opportunity to own it.”

Vince wants people to know that his unconventional way of portraying saints does not take anything away from their holiness. He wants people to see something they can relate to that will open them up to the story. He typically includes a version of the story on the back of retablo to help people understand the iconography.

Vince’s work is a part of several museum collections, including the Spanish Colonial Art Society Museum and the Museum of International Folk Art. You can find his retablos for sale at the Traditional Spanish Market in Santa Fe, the Secret Gallery in Albuquerque, and several other locations throughout Northern New Mexico.

UNM-LA Student Services is delighted to celebrate one of our own for becoming a prominent advocate of his culture. Come see Vince’s work at the Calavera Show at the Ohkay Casino Ballroom, Friday, October 8, 4:00 pm - 9:00 pm.



Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe



LOS ALAMOS FALL
Job Fair

Thursday, October 3, 2024
11:00 AM - 3:00 PM
UNM-LA Student Center, Building 2

DISCOVER YOUR NEXT CAREER STEP!



Join us for our highly anticipated Job Fair! This event presents an incredible opportunity for job seekers to connect with local businesses and non-profits to explore a wide range of career options.

Employers are **HIRING** and have current job openings now!

Why attend?

- Apply for jobs with local businesses
- Explore diverse career options
- Hear from various industry leaders
- Get your resume reviewed
- Grow your professional network

Participating Businesses Include Leaders In:

- Science & Technology
- Education
- Child Care
- Entrepreneurship
- Health Care

...and many more!



Don't miss out on this fantastic chance to kick-start your professional journey!



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.