



The Social Buzz



School of Social Work

February 5-February 11, 2025

MESSAGE FROM DIRECTOR

Dear Students,

It's hard to believe, but we are already halfway through the first mini-mester and a quarter of the way through our full semester. In addition to all your classwork, February is full of activities and events, take some time to review the Social Buzz for all that is happening.

I'm especially excited to celebrate Black History Month which runs through February (and really all year round!). Just some of the great events happening around campus and the community include:

A special dance event, "**Creative Expression**," will explore music, art, dance and the African American experience from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Feb. 7 at Rentfrow Hall dance studio. The event, hosted by NMSU's Men of Color Initiative and Family and Youth Innovations Plus, is free and open to attendees of all dance levels.

Black Programs, along with the Doña Ana County and NMSU NAACP chapters, will host "**City Connections**" from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Feb. 8 in the O'Donnell Hall auditorium. City of Las Cruces Manager Ikani Taumoepeau will be the keynote speaker. Students will have an opportunity to ask questions and become better engaged with city officials.

A special screening of "**10,000 Black Men Named George**" will take place at the historic Fountain Theater in Mesilla. The film follows Union activist Asa Philip Randolph and his efforts to organize Black porters of the Pullman Rail Company during the 1920s. The screening, sponsored by NMSU NEA, NMSU Graduate Student Workers, Black Programs and Africana Studies, runs from 6 to 8 p.m on February 11.

"**Black Voices at NMSU**" will highlight personal stories, address challenges in fostering a sense of identify and belonging, and celebrate the achievements within the Black community at NMSU. This discussion will take place from 11 a.m. to noon Feb. 12 in Corbett Center Student Union's Doña Ana Room. It is open all students, staff and faculty.

How are you celebrating the month? Let us know and we'll share student responses in our next few newsletters!

Dr. Mary Nienow, Director





BACK BY DEMAND!

HEALTHY HEART MONTH IS BACK

Aggie Health and Wellness Center

(Open to students that have paid the health fee and NMSU employees only)

**Complete Metabolic Panel (CMP)
w/Lipid Panel only \$20.00**

Includes: total cholesterol, triglyceride, HDL, LDL, glucose, electrolytes, kidney/heart/liver function

Make your appointment today!



**Feb. 10th - 14th
Feb. 17th - 21st
Monday-Friday
8:00am - 10:30am**



- *Results can be picked up at Aggie Health and Wellness Center ~1 week after lab draw
- *It is recommended that you fast (avoid eating/drinking 10-12 hrs. before testing)
- *Payments can be made by cash, check, credit card, or AggieCa\$h



wellness.nmsu.edu 575-646-1512



Appointments are limited, so book yours today! Call 575-646-1512 to secure your spot. Testing will be available Monday through Friday from 8:00am to 10:30am.

Important details:

- Location: Aggie Health and Wellness Center
- Results available for pickup one week after the lab draw
- Remember to fast (no eating/drinking except water) 10-12 hours before testing
- Payments accepted: cash, check, credit card, or AggieCa\$h
- This offer is exclusively for NMSU students who have paid the health fee and NMSU employees.

Don't miss this opportunity to prioritize your heart health.

For more information, visit wellness.nmsu.edu or call 575-646-1512 to schedule today!

Let's make Healthy Heart Month count!



The Social Buzz



socialwork.nmsu.edu 2



Collective Support Gathering for Heartbreaking Times

Facilitated by NMSU Social Work Faculty Megan Finno-Velasquez

All NMSU Social Work students, faculty, and staff are welcome

Friday, February 7

12:00 - 1:00 PM

via Zoom

<https://nmsu.zoom.us/j/86882705761>

It is more important than ever to spend time caring for ourselves and one another, holding space for our collective grief. Join us for a supportive gathering to process our emotions and reactions to recent world events.

During this session, we will:

- Process together in a safe, supportive environment
- Practice mindfulness-based somatic exercises to access safety
- Participate in a short grief ritual
- Find mutual support and connection

Let's come together to support one another as we navigate these challenging times.





PRACTICUM FAIR

Don't miss the chance to attend the practicum fair and student workforce panel, where you can meet with agencies face-to-face and have on-the-spot placement interviews.



DATE
February 28, 2025



TIME
08.30AM -12.00PM



ACTIVITY CENTER, NMSU
1572 STEWART ST. LAS CRUCES, NM 88003

Register Here for information on In Person and Online Fair: https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=aIfso7ifWEG6i_EbrOHrqaqC6iAkC8pFhUAMwNu8OY1UMEpOTiE0TFVKMldIOUuLVIzDtdCvSlhZNi4u



STUDENT WORKFORCE PANEL



DATE
February 28, 2025



TIME
01.30PM-4.00PM



NMSU Campus and Zoom:
Register Here! <https://nmsu.zoom.us/meeting/register/aJMaFshlQVK3JhFICZkH1w>



BE BOLD. Shape the Future.[®]
School of Social Work

FOR MORE INFO

BSW: SFACIO@NMSU.EDU

MSW MAIN: TNIETO@NMSU.EDU

MSW GLOBAL: MDNUNEZ@NMSU.EDU

REGISTER NOW

This is an opportunity to stand out, bring extra resumes, dress professionally, and aim to leave a lasting impression.



The Social Buzz



socialwork.nmsu.edu 4





Hello Students!

We would like to invite you to participate in our School of Social Work Practicum and Employment Fair. This year we will host agencies from Southern New Mexico and El Paso Tx. at the James Delameter Activity Center. Come join us and find out more about agency practicum placements and employment for those who are eligible. Agencies will be available for students to network and gain information about the agency and share their resumes. For students that are graduating this May, agencies are also coming with employment opportunities. Come and see what jobs are available.

Students are highly encouraged to attend as this is a convenient way to connect with practicum agencies. You will have the opportunity to network with multiple agencies. Please take note, practicum placement is a competitive process and you are not only trying to solidify a placement along with your classmates, but also with social work students from around the state and nation. It is so important that you stay on track with our requirements.

For students in the Northern Region of New Mexico, New Mexico Highlands University will also be having a Practicum Fair on April 9 , 11:00-1:30 pm at UNM Continuing Education Conference Center, North Building, 1634 University Blvd NE, Albuquerque, NM 87102.

For our global students, we will be having a virtual fair on March 5.

We are also asking students to attend the workforce panel that same day at 1:30-4:00pm. This event will be in person and virtual. You will hear from practitioners in our area about their area of expertise. Do you want to know what kind of job a medical social worker can have? Or what you can do as a macro social worker? We will have practitioners from the medical, education, etc community to talk about their experiences.

Please register below so that we can provide you with the correct information.

Practicum Fair Student in-person, February 28, 2025

[Register HERE](#)

Workforce Panel, February 28, 2025

[Register HERE](#)

For students in Northern Region of NM, April 9

[Register HERE](#)

Global Students, March 5

[Register HERE](#)





STUDENT SUPPORT RESOURCES

NMSU Police Department

(575)646-3311
police@nmsu.edu

SSW Peer Mentors

NMSU DACA



American Indian Program

(575)646-4207
amerid@nmsu.edu

Black Student Programs

(575)646-4208
blackpro@nmsu.edu

Border Servant Corps

(575)805-2832
info@bscnm.org

Children Thrive Action Network

Visit childrenthriveaction.org for more info

NMSU Latin American Program

(575)646-4206
aclopez@nmsu.edu

NMSU General Counsel

(575)646-2446
gencounsel@nmsu.edu
In instances of raids or other executive order related incidents on NMSU Campus

NMSU Timely Care

(575)646-1512
campus_health@nmsu.edu
<https://timelycare.nmsu.edu/>

Global Student Resources

(575)646-3121
globaladmissions@nmsu.edu

LGBT PProgram

(575)646-7031
lgbt@nmsu.edu

Asian & Pacific Islander Program

(575)646-3680
api_support@nmsu.edu

NM Immigration Law Center

Visit nmilc.org or call (505)547-1023

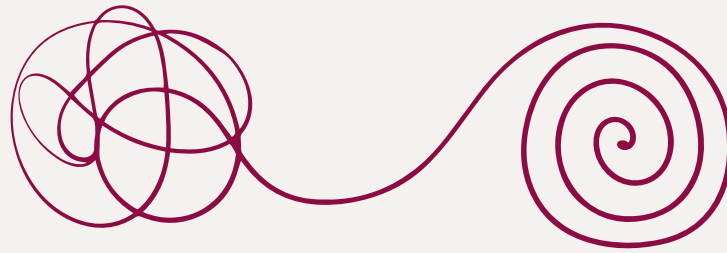
Colonias NM

Visit coloniasnm.org or call (575)647-2744



Visit our website for a complete list





Transform Your Life and Work Through Mindfulness: A Journey of Discovery and Growth

Ready to enhance both your personal well-being and professional toolkit?

Join Dr. Finno-Velasquez for an immersive **3-credit MSW elective** that bridges ancient wisdom with cutting-edge neuroscience. In this 8-week minimester course, you'll discover how to integrate mindfulness into your workday while developing life-changing self-care strategies.

What you'll experience:

- Practice evidence-based mindfulness techniques that benefit both you and your clients
- Explore research on how mindfulness transforms brain function, stress, and well-being
- Learn practical ways to integrate mindfulness into your practice with clients
- Develop a sustainable self-care routine that prevents burnout and enhances resilience in the demands of graduate school life

Classes meet Thursdays from 5:30-8pm, March 17-May 9. Don't miss this opportunity to transform your approach to your professional life while investing in your own well-being. Enroll in Mindfulness in the Helping Professions and Everyday Life today!



DEVIN FIELDS
Academic Advisor
fieldsd@nmsu.edu

SOWK 5996
Main Campus
Section: M83 CRN: 49562
Global Campus
Section: U83 CRN: 49485





IMPORTANT REMINDER

NMSU BLACK PROGRAMS & NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY CELEBRATE

BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2025

*ALL EVENTS ARE OPEN TO NMSU STUDENTS, FACULTY, STAFF AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS

<p>5</p> <p>Social Advocacy Luncheon</p> <p>Hosted by Black Programs, American Indian Programs, and Doña Ana County NAACP</p> <p>12PM – 1:30PM</p> <p>American Indian Program Building NMSU Campus</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Black History Month Lunch</p> <p>Sponsored by Sodexo, NMSU Black Programs, and NMSU Black Student Association</p> <p>11AM – 1PM</p> <p>Tees Cafeteria NMSU Campus</p>	<p>8</p> <p>City Connection</p> <p>Hosted by Doña Ana County NAACP and NMSU NAACP Chapter with Hank Taunoyeasu, City of Las Cruces City Manager</p> <p>11AM – 1PM</p> <p>HEST Auditorium NMSU Campus</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Loving Abroad</p> <p><i>The Black Student Experience Abroad</i></p> <p>Hosted by NMSU Black Programs & Office of Study Abroad</p> <p>12PM – 1PM</p> <p>Senate Chambers, 3rd Floor Corbett Center Student Union NMSU Campus</p>
<p>11</p> <p>Labor Film Series</p> <p>Hosted by NMSU NEA, NMSU Grad. Student Workers, Black Programs & Hispanic Studies</p> <p>6PM – 8PM</p> <p>Fountain Theater Mesilla, New Mexico</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Black Student Association Recognition</p> <p>NMSU Men's Basketball versus FIU</p> <p>7PM – 9PM</p> <p>Pan American Center NSMU Campus</p>	<p>18</p> <p>BHM Quiz Bowl</p> <p>Hosted by NMSU Black Programs, Conroy Honors College & NMSU NAACP College Chapter</p> <p>4:30PM – 5PM</p> <p>Conroy Honors College Building NMSU Campus</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Preserving Our Story:</p> <p><i>Black Programs Archives</i></p> <p>Hosted by NMSU Archives & Black Programs</p> <p>4PM – 5:30PM</p> <p>Branson Library, 3rd Floor NMSU Campus</p>
<p>22</p> <p>Cultural Mosaic:</p> <p><i>Voices & Rhythms of Diversity Variety Show</i></p> <p>Hosted by NMSU Men of Color Initiative, Black Programs & Latin American Programs</p> <p>7PM – 9PM</p> <p>Corbett Center Student Union Auditorium, NMSU Campus</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Marsha P. Johnson Craft Night</p> <p>Hosted by Black Programs, LGBT+ Programs, Residential Life, and Black & Brown Outer Alliance</p> <p>6PM – 8PM</p> <p>Garcia Hall Residential Dorms NMSU Campus</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Celebrating The Firsts</p> <p>Hosted by NMSU Athletics, Doña Ana County NAACP, NMSU Black Programs Celebrating Freddie Young & Delano Lewis</p> <p>12PM – 1PM</p> <p>Fallon Center, 3rd Floor Aggie Memorial Stadium NMSU Campus</p>	

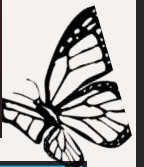
Brought to you by:



FOR MORE INFO CONTACT:
Black Programs
Corbett Center, Suite 234, NMSU
(575) 646 - 4208

@BLACKNMSU

BLACKPROGRAMS.NMSU.EDU





IMPORTANT REMINDER

MEN OF COLOR



PRESENTS

**BLACK HISTORY
MONTH**

07

FEB, 2025

CREATIVE EXPRESSION:

Exploration of Music, Art, Dance & African American Experience

5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

RENTROW HALL/DANCE STUDIO RH 103

12

FEB, 2025

BLACK VOICES AT NMSU:

Navigating Identity, Belonging, and Success at an HSI

11 AM - 12 PM

DONA ANA ROOM 312 CORBETT CENTER

22

FEB, 2025

CULTURAL MOSAIC:

Voices and Rhythms of Diversity (Variety show)

7 PM - 9 PM

CORBETT CENTER AUDITORIUM

For more info, contact Dr Patrick Turner : moci@nmsu.edu





IMPORTANT REMINDER



BE BOLD. Shape the Future.®
College of Health, Education
and Social Transformation



Scholar
Dollar\$

Scholarship Information AY2025-2026



Apply Today!

New Mexico State University's College of HEST would like to remind you that the online application for scholarships is **available now**.

APPLY TODAY FOR SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY!



TO APPLY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS visit
scholarships.nmsu.edu



APPLY TODAY

***Priority deadline is March 1st, 2025.** Applicants who submit their applications before this date will be given first consideration.

**QUESTIONS? CONTACT FINANCIAL AID &
SCHOLARSHIP OFFICE!**

NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY!

College of HEST Scholarship Coordinator:
Sapphira Garner, email: HEST@nmsu.edu





Please register whether you are attending in person or via zoom
Registration Required

JESSICA TOFT

PhD, MSW, LISW



GUEST SPEAKER

DARING TO ENVISION PROFESSIONAL DISCRETION AND BETTER WORKING CONDITIONS FOR SOCIAL WORKERS

11TH FEB

In this public talk, Dr. Toft actively engages the audience to think about the nature and importance of professional discretion of social workers and how social workers can fight for it in today's challenging workplaces. Her team undertook a statewide anonymous survey and confidential interviews on the effects of intensified business management on social workers' practice and working conditions. Social workers experience considerable pressure to work quickly, take on more clients, labor under commission-based structures, and more. Amid such conditions, findings show that social workers' practice discretion is markedly limited. Yet, social workers are resisting, and their varied examples deserve careful consideration for today's social work practice. Toft invites attendees to learn from the historical record of the myriad ways social workers have fought for professional discretion and better working conditions amid shifting political, social, and economic contexts. This account illustrates that while social workers' resistance may have been muted under neoliberal social welfare policies over the last 45 years, there is a lengthier history of social work solidarity that we can learn from for the professional fights ahead.

Domenici Hall 109

1305 Frenger St.
Las Cruces, NM

Register



12:00pm-1:30pm

Lunch will be served at
12-12:15pm



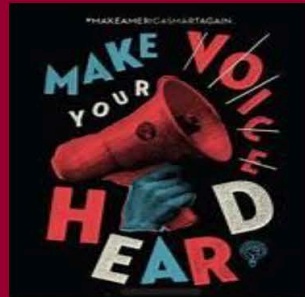
The Social Buzz



socialwork.nmsu.edu 11



Make your Voice Heard



Join Faculty and Students for **SANA** (Student Advocacy & Action) Day

at the Legislature in Santa Fe
Wednesday, February 26, 2025
9:00 am – 4:00 pm (Lunch Provided)

This free event is for students interested in learning about the NM legislative session, policy, advocacy and action! Students will have the opportunity to connect, see the legislative session in action, and participate in SANA and Behavioral Health Day at the Legislature activities. Notable speakers will present about policy, advocacy and community organizing. Lunch will be provided. *Practicum agencies are encouraged to consider providing credit to students for participating in this event.

For more information and
possible funding visit

[bit.ly/register-
SANA-day](https://bit.ly/register-SANA-day)

OR



For More Information
Contact Mari Tellez

Practicum Director at tellezm@nmsu.edu



BE BOLD. Shape the Future.
College of Health, Education
and Social Transformation
School of Social Work

in Partnership with Center for Excellence at Highlands University





Apply for the Carl A. Scott Book Scholarship for a Chance to Receive \$500

CSWE

The CSWE 2025 Carl A. Scott Book Scholarship application is now open via **Submittable**. The deadline to apply is **Friday, March 7 at 11:59 PM (ET)**. The Carl A. Scott Memorial Fund was developed to continue Carl Scott's legacy of equity and social justice in social work through building knowledge and furthering the well-being of individuals and their communities. Available for BSW or MSW students who will be in their last semester of study in the spring of 2025. View more information and eligibility requirements on the **Carl A. Scott Memorial Fund webpage**; **apply here**.

At the time of the award (May 2025), the student must meet the following requirements:

- Be graduating with a social work degree from a bachelor or master's degree program accredited by CSWE
- Have an expected graduation date no later than summer 2025
- Be enrolled full time during the period in which the grant is awarded (Spring 2025)
- Have a demonstrated commitment to promoting equity and social justice

The scholarships are targeted to but not limited to minority/BIPOC individuals. They can be awarded to a student only once.

Please submit the following:

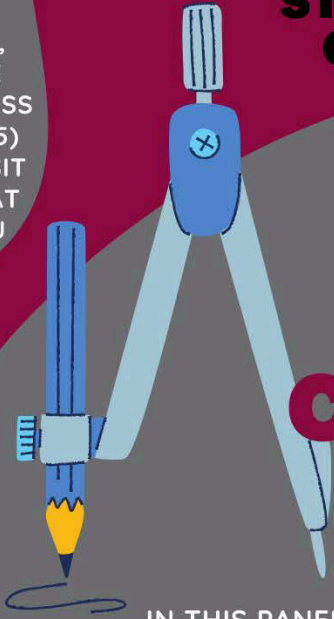
- a 3-minute video explaining how you will promote social justice (i.e., racial, economic, and environmental) in your social work career OR a short essay
- a statement of interest and a
- recommendation letter (via a request form)
-

The application cycle will close on March 7, 2025 at 11:59 PM, EDT.





FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT THE STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER AT (575) 646-3136 OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT SSC.NMSU.EDU



**STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER
GRADUATE WORKSHOP
SERIES PRESENTS:**

PREPARING FOR COMPREHENSIVE EXAMS

IN THIS PANEL, FACULTY MEMBERS WILL DISCUSS THE STRATEGIES NEEDED TO MAXIMIZE THE KNOWLEDGE STUDENTS HAVE GAINED DURING THEIR GRADUATE STUDIES. LEARN FROM THE EXPERTS ON HOW TO PLAN, PREPARE, AND EXECUTE A SUCCESSFUL COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION.

DATE: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2025

TIME: 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

LOCATION: HARDMAN JACOBS ULC, RM 230

Panel Members: Dr. Joseph Holles, Academic Department Head of Chemical & Materials Engineering, Dr. Anne Hubbell, Professor of Communication Studies and Associate Dean of Honors College, and Dr. Carlos Posadas, Professor of Criminal Justice

**Scan to join
through Zoom!**





DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK
 COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES
 Presenting Workshop:

Psychopharmacology for Mental Health Professionals

Davena Norris

PharmD, PhC, BCPS, DipACLM



DR. DAVENA NORRIS IS A REGISTERED PHARMACIST, PHARMACIST CLINICIAN, BOARD CERTIFIED PHARMACOTHERAPY SPECIALIST (BCPS), AND CERTIFIED LIFESTYLE MEDICINE PROFESSIONAL (DIPACLM). SHE CURRENTLY WORKS AT MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER IN LAS CRUCES, NM WHERE SHE WORKS COLLABORATIVELY WITH AN INTERPROFESSIONAL TEAM TO CARE FOR PATIENTS IN THE HOSPITAL AND OUTPATIENT CLINIC. SHE HAS MANY TEACHING ROLES INCLUDING FACULTY FOR A FAMILY MEDICINE RESIDENCY PROGRAM, COORDINATOR FOR A PHARMACY RESIDENCY PROGRAM, AND PRECEPTOR FOR TWO COLLEGES OF PHARMACY. IN ADDITION, DR. NORRIS IS AN INSTRUCTOR FOR THE NMSU MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CLINICAL PSYCHOPHARMACOLOGY PROGRAM. PRIOR TO HER PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS, DR. NORRIS OBTAINED A BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ANIMAL SCIENCE FROM NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY AND DOCTOR OF PHARMACY FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO. SHE IS A FREQUENT PRESENTER AT CONFERENCES ON ISSUES INCLUDING MEDICATION CONSIDERATIONS IN OLDER ADULTS, LIFESTYLE MEDICINE FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF DIABETES AND OTHER CONDITIONS, HEALTH POLICY, AND SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY IN GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION.

UTEP WELCOMES DR. NORRIS TO THIS EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOP WHICH WILL DISCUSS THE RISKS AND BENEFITS OF COMMONLY PRESCRIBED PSYCHOTROPIC MEDICATIONS, STRATEGIES TO MITIGATE POLYPHARMACY, POTENTIALLY INAPPROPRIATE MEDICATIONS IN GERIATRIC CARE, AND THE USE OF TOOLS SUCH AS SBAR AND CUS TO ENHANCE INTERPROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION.

Date: Saturday, March 29, 2025

Time: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Location: UTEP CAMPUS

Building: BLUMBERG AUDITORIUM (UTEP LIBRARY, 1ST FLOOR)

Cost: \$90.00 Professionals / \$30.00 Students

CEU Credits: 3 CEUs

Registrations: Open to Social Work, LPCs and all professionals

**Registration
QR Code:**



**Payment
Submission:**



The Social Buzz



socialwork.nmsu.edu 15



CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE
IN SOCIAL WORK



Facundo Valdez School
of Social Work

NEW MEXICO SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION SUMMIT

The Future of Social Work

March 28, 2025
Albuquerque, NM

Event Registration
NOW OPEN!

bit.ly/sw-ed-summit-2025

SCAN ME

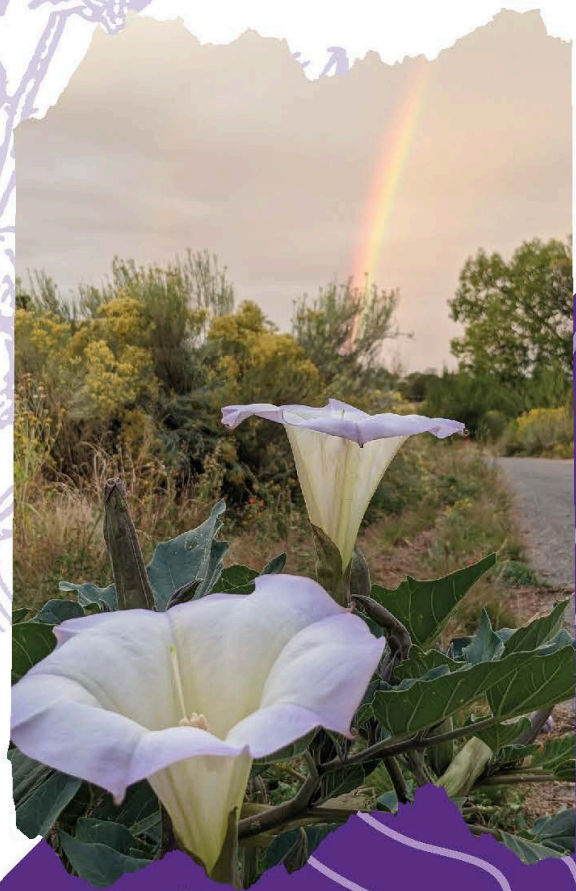


Photo by Newt Russell



STAY CONNECTED

Exciting News for Our Social Work Community! We've launched a new Careers & Opportunities webpage dedicated to connecting you with meaningful job openings. From roles within NMSU to opportunities in the broader community, this page is designed to help you find positions that align with your passion and expertise. Visit the page to explore the latest listings and take the next step in your career!



CLICK HERE



BUZZ IN NEXT WEEK

Stay tuned for the latest updates, stories, and highlights from the School of Social Work!

In next week's edition, we'll bring you:

- Spotlights on Recent Achievements
- Upcoming Events and Workshops
- Student and Faculty Features
- Useful Resources and Tips

Got something to share or a question to ask?

Feel free to reach out to us:

✉ mkeeper@nmsu.edu

☎ Phone: 575-646-7599

🏢 Office: HSS 210F

We'd love to hear from you and feature your news in our next issue!

