



Welcome from the Chair

The English Department faculty and staff sincerely hope that you and your loved ones continue to be safe and well during these challenging times. This fall, UNM has returned to face-to-face operations and, while it has not been a hitchless endeavor, students seem to be invigorated by being back on campus and in the classroom, as we all are yearning for some sense of normalcy and human interaction.

This newsletter highlights and celebrates the many accomplishments of our students, faculty, and alumni/ae during the start of a difficult pandemic year. If you would like to feature your accomplishments in our next newsletter as well as on our [website](#), please fill out and submit [this form](#) for our [Alumni Spotlight](#), or email us at english@unm.edu.



Anita Obermeier

Faculty News



Tiffany Bouelle, Associate Professor of Rhetoric & Writing, was the recipient of the 2019 Wertheim Research Award.

Studies, is one of 24 professors across the United States to be awarded a 2020-21 Ford Postdoctoral Fellowship.

Finnie Coleman, Associate Professor of American Literary Studies, was elected as Faculty Senate President during 2019-2020, and has been re-elected to serve during 2020-2021.



Julianne Newmark, Lecturer in Rhetoric & Writing, was awarded a Phillips Fund for Native American Research grant from the American Philosophical Society.



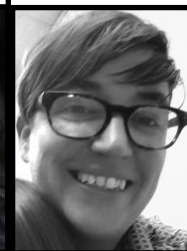
Marissa Greenberg, Associate Professor of British and Irish Literary Studies, was recognized as UNM's Online Teacher of the Year.

Nahir Otaño Gracia, Assistant Professor of Medieval Studies, has been awarded membership to the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton University.



Rachael Reynolds, Lecturer in Rhetoric & Writing, has been named a recipient of the College of Arts & Sciences Teaching Excellence Award for her outstanding teaching.

Bernadine Hernandez, Assistant Professor of American Literary Studies, along with Chicano Studies Professor, Frank Galarate started a fashion blog inspired by chicano/a culture called, "La Dama y el Catrin."



Kathryn Wichelns, Associate Professor of American Literary Studies, is the 2019 recipient of the Keleher/Telfair Hendon Award.



Sarah Hernandez, Assistant Professor of American Literary



Graduate Student News



Jecca Bowen is the 2020 recipient of the Graduate Student Award in Rhetoric & Writing.

Tori Cárdenas, MFA Poetry Student, was named the Executive Editor of *Skull + Wind*, a literary publishing press founded by University of New Mexico alumni, Trevor Ketner.



Sunnie Rae Clahchischiligi published an Op Ed in the *New York Times* titled, "Nowhere is Remote Anymore" where she discusses the devastating effects of COVID-19 in the Navajo Nation.

Gerard Lavin, doctoral candidate in British and Irish Literary Studies; **David Puthoff**, doctoral candidate in 19th Century American Literature; and **Lauren Perry**, doctoral candidate in American Literary Studies have all been awarded Russel J. and Dorothy S. Bilinski Fellowship in the Humanities from the Bilinski Educational Foundation for 2020-2021. Lauren Perry furthermore received the first place award for the 2020 Larry Memorial Scholarship for her dissertation, "Animal Texts: American Environmental Literature and Its Potential Power to Save Nonhuman Lives Through Animal Studies Readings."



Emma Mincks, PhD Student of British and Irish Literary Studies, was a recipient of the Larry Memorial Scholarship and the Joseph C. Gallagher Scholarship for Study in Ireland and Europe. Mincks was also awarded a Susan Deese-Roberts Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award.



Zakery Munoz accepted an offer at Syracuse University in the department of Composition & Cultural Rhetoric to complete his PhD with full funding and a Syracuse University Fellowship.

Katherine Walker, a MA student in English Literature, completed her first semester as the inaugural recipient of an Arms-ALS scholarship to complete a graduate certificate in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies.



Emma Mincks



Zakery Munoz



Lauren Perry



David Puthoff



Katherine Walker

Giving Opportunities

Many of the accomplishments of our faculty, alumni, and students have been made possible by scholarships and fellowships established by alumni donations. If you would like to support one of our diverse scholarship and research opportunities, you can learn more about them and make an online gift by clicking on a fund name when you visit our [English Department Funds Page](#).



Undergraduate Student News



4th annual Karen McKinnon Poetry Contest winners

Joseph T. Page II 1st place for his poem, "Broken Arrow."

Adilene "Ady" Ruiz-Olivas 2nd place for her poem, "The Seven Deadly Sins that I Am."

Hylar Bowman (who asked not to be pictured) 3rd place for her poem, "On Reliving Trauma."

University Libraries Hulsman Undergraduate Library Research Awards

1st place Emerging Researcher Award went to **LaVonne Yazzie** for her research paper, *Literature Review of the Literary Term "Interpretation."*

3rd place Advanced Researcher Award went to **Elizabeth Brooke Holland** (with Alexandra VK Iturralde & Coleman Piburn, both Seniors in Liberal Arts) for, *Live Local, Renew Local: Community Sourced Solar Energy in New Mexico.*

Undergraduate Publications

Conceptions Southwest:

Eva Allison won 1st place prize, sponsored by the English Department, for publication of "Apprentice"

Erin Benton published, "Breaking a Mirror, Breaking a Gaze, And Facing Your Double in the Mirror"

Nell Johnson published, "Runner of the Woods" and "Phobia"

Zoe Perls published, "Dayenu"; "On Going Backwards"; "How it Will Happen"; and "The Body Speaks French (The Body Cannot Speak French)"

Rosanna Samudio published, "For Brown Girls"

Limina:

Alex Dickey, won the 1st place prize for publication of "and that can't come from God, right?: An Exploration of Queerness and Religious Violence Through Danez Smith's 'Genesis'"

Benjamin Tabáček published, "The Sectional Identities of Sandra Cisneros in Chicana Literature"

Scribendi:

Erin Benton published, "An Address on the Fragmentation of My Self"

Spring 2020 English Major Honors Theses

Kyle Browder "Living for the Thrill" Advisor: Andrew Bouelle Graduating cum laude

Alyssa Covarrubias-Powell "Beowulf through a Chicana Literary Lens" Advisor: Melina Vizcaíno-Aléman Graduating summa cum laude

Carly Heidenfeld "Classification of the Constitutes of a Chaos: The Use of the Eco-Gothic to Critique American National Identity in *Moby-Dick*" Advisor: Bernadine Hernández Graduating magna cum laude

Andrew Marcus "Nature and Death in *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*" Advisor: Lisa Myers Graduating magna cum laude

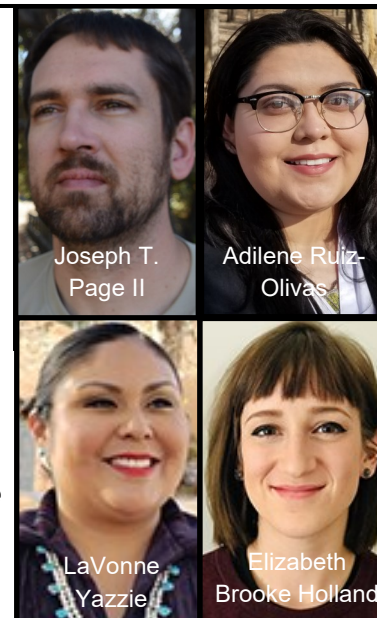
Grace McNealy "Queering the Gaze: Visualizing Desire in Lacanian Film Theory" Advisor: Belinda Wallace Graduating summa cum laude

Hugo Patino-Cano "Once Upon a Dream: A Comparative Analysis of Disney Princesses from The Golden Era and The Modern Era" Advisor: Jesús Costantino Graduating cum laude

Tirzah Reeves "Seratia" Advisor: Daniel Mueller Graduating magna cum laude

Jacob Ring "Revolving Zukofsky: Subjective Mediation and the Parallax Shifts of *A-24* and *Ketjak*" Advisor: Matthew Hofer Graduating magna cum laude

Kamille Smith "Flick a Marble, Break the Glass" Advisor: Daniel Mueller Graduating magna cum laude



Emeriti/ae Faculty News



Professor Emerita of Medieval Studies, **Helen Damico** recently passed due to complications arising from COVID 19. Damico taught at UNM for over 30 years, and founded the Institute for Medieval Studies at UNM which hosts the popular annual Medieval Spring Lecture Series. She also established other initiatives that brought her passion for Medieval and Old English studies to her students and the community at large.

Professor Emeritus of Creative Writing, **David Dunaway**, published an Op-Ed Piece titled, "Fallout Could Have Silver Lining" in the Albuquerque Journal where he reflects on his experience during the COVID-19 pandemic crisis.



Alumni/ae News



Christine Kozikowski, graduate of our PhD program in Medieval Studies, co-edited the festschrift for professor emerita and founder of the UNM Institute for Medieval Studies, Helen Damico, *New Readings on Women and Early Medieval English Literature and Culture: Cross-Disciplinary Studies in Honour of Helen Damico* (ARC Humanities Press, 2019). Another alumna, **Colleen Dunn**, published an essay in the volume, "Playing with Memories: Emma of Normandy, Cnut, and the Spectacle of *Ælfheah's Corpus*."



Jake Skeets, UNM alumnus and author of *Eyes Bottle Dark with a Mouthful of Flowers*, is one of ten emerging writers selected to receive the generous Whiting Award from the Whiting Foundation.

Find out more about the accomplishments of our alumni on our [Alumni Spotlight Page](#). We'd love to share your news and accomplishments in our next newsletter, please complete and submit [this form](#) with an update and any relevant photos.

The Institute for Medieval Studies Outreach Program to the Secondary Schools hosted its first research events for high school students in Zimmerman Library and the Center for Southwest Research and Special Collections. The two research events were designed by the 2019-2020 UNM Medieval Outreach Fellow and English Ph.D. student **Jessie Bonafede** (pictured to the right, middle) and included an IMS Outreach Research Contest and a Special Collections Manuscript Project.



THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH PRESENTS

The Tenth Annual

RUDOLFO AND PATRICIA ANAYA LECTURE ON
THE LITERATURE OF THE SOUTHWEST



Joy Harjo, U.S. Poet Laureate

*Author of In Mad Love and War,
The Woman Who Fell from the Sky,
She Had Some Horses, Crazy Brave: A Memoir
and An American Sunrise: Poems*



Tuesday, October 5, 2021 @7pm

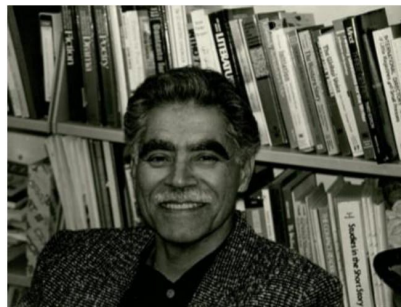
**NATIONAL HISPANIC CULTURAL CENTER,
ALBUQUERQUE JOURNAL THEATRE,
1701 4TH STREET SW**

For more information, please check our website at <https://english.unm.edu/dept-life/events/anaya-lecture/>

Archie Archuleta, *Homecoming 101*, pastel on paper. Permission courtesy of the artist.

Dear Friends:

Last year was an exceptionally difficult time for our local community and nation. In the midst of many challenges, we lost our beloved Rudolfo Anaya on June 28, 2020. Known as “Rudy” to his friends and colleagues, Mr. Anaya is recognized worldwide as the Godfather of Chicana/o letters. Many beautiful tributes and public celebrations of his life followed, and now the University of New Mexico has approved a more lasting tribute to Mr. Anaya: the creation of a dedicated space to showcase the incredible body of work he left, not only for UNM, but for our entire community.



The space, located inside Zimmerman Library, will be called *The Rudolfo Anaya Sala* and is located in one of the busiest areas of Zimmerman library, where students gather before convening for class, where the public mingles before and after lectures, and where the community can view Mr. Anaya’s memorabilia and other special collections held by the library. Most importantly, *The Rudolfo Anaya Sala* sits near where the Rudolfo Anaya Papers rest.

The purpose of this letter is to ask for your contribution to help outfit the area with display cases, new furniture, signage, a video wall and infrastructure and connectivity. To contribute and be one of our inaugural donors, please visit <https://www.unmfund.org/fund/rudolfo-anaya-sala-fund/>. Our target goal is \$40,000, and we are confident that your support will help build a lasting tribute that is appropriate to the magnitude of New Mexico’s Chicana/o literary Godfather.

About “Rudy”

Mr. Anaya is one of New Mexico’s most important Chicano writers, recognized nationally and internationally for his first novel, *Bless Me, Ultima* (1972), and the author of sixteen additional novels, including three for young adults; eleven children’s books; four edited anthologies; three books of poetry; a travelogue; a collection of plays; and numerous contributions to journals, magazines, and anthologies of fiction, non-fiction, and essays on the Southwest. The countless books, articles, essays, and dissertations about Mr. Anaya’s work reflect his impact and inspiration to our local community and to the greater literary world.

In addition to his published work, Mr. Anaya collaborated with Mary Rose Montalvo to establish and support the Rudolfo Anaya I Love to Read Summer Reading Program (<https://www.anayareaders.org/>). The “Rudolfo Anaya I Love to Read Day” is now a NM State holiday, and it falls on Mr. Anaya’s birthday (October 30). President George W. Bush awarded Mr. Anaya the National Medal of the Arts in 2001 (currently on display in Zimmerman Library), and President Barack Obama awarded him the National Humanities Medal in 2017. In 2005, Mr. Anaya donated the first part of his manuscript collection to the Center for Southwest Research and Special Collections in Zimmerman Library, and he donated the remainder of his collection in 2019.

Please visit <https://www.unmfund.org/fund/rudolfo-anaya-sala-fund/> for more information and to donate today!

Contact Carol Kennedy, Director of Development for the UNM Foundation, at carol.kennedy@unmfund.org with any additional questions.