



Welcome from the Chair

The English Department faculty and staff sincerely hope that you and your loved ones are doing well during these unprecedented times. The world, the nation, and UNM all face unique challenges, but luckily UNM has adjusted, with thoughtful planning and precautions to allow us to prevail more successfully than many other institutions of higher learning.

This newsletter highlights the many accomplishments of our students, faculty, and alumni/ae. 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



Jesse Alemán, Professor of American Literary Studies, Presidential Teaching Fellow, and Associate Dean for Graduate Studies, has been elected to the Advisory Council of the American Literature Society.



Bethany Davila, Associate Professor of Rhetoric & Writing, won the Kenneth A. Bruffee Award from the national Council of Writing Program Administrators for her article, "Standard English and Colorblindness in Composition Studies: Rhetorical Constructions of Racial and Linguistic Neutrality."



John Knapp, a visiting scholar and longtime adjunct in the department, recently published, *Fiddled out of Reason: Addison and the Rise of Hymnic Verse, 1687-1712*, Lehigh University Press.

Anita Obermeier, Professor of Medieval Studies, was elected to the Modern Language Association CLCS Arthurian Forum Executive Committee for a five-year term.



Sarah Townsend, Assistant Professor of British & Irish Literary Studies, received the Keleher/Telfair Hendon Award for junior faculty in the English Department.



Melina Vizcaino-Alemán, Associate Professor of American Literary Studies, received the Elizabeth Wertheim Faculty Research Award for senior faculty in the English Department.



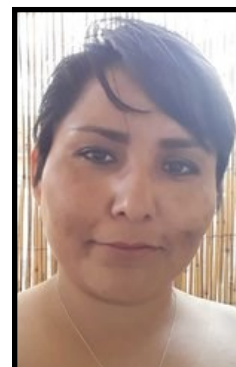
Graduate Student News



Kelly Hunnings

Kelly Hunnings, a BILS PhD Candidate, published an article with the *Journal of Interactive Technology and Pedagogy* called, "Creating Multimodal Documents to Understand Literature."

Rachel Johnson, MFA Student in Creative Nonfiction was awarded the Graduate Student Success Scholarship for the Fall 2019 semester.



Rachel Johnson

David Puthoff, ALS Doctoral Student received the Lydia Maria Child Society's 2019 Social Justice Award, a nationally-competitive award that recognizes students, faculty, and other scholars "whose work reflects Lydia Maria Child's fierce commitment to equity and social progress."



David Puthoff

Fall 2019 Graduates

Jennifer Sims, PhD Rhetoric & Writing

Jessica Troy, PhD Medieval Studies

Lydia Wassan, MFA Creative Nonfiction

Undergraduate Student News



Elizabeth Brader was awarded the Joseph Badal Scholarship in Creative Writing, as well as being nominated by UNM's National & International Scholarships and Fellowships office to apply for the national Rhodes and Marshall Scholarships.



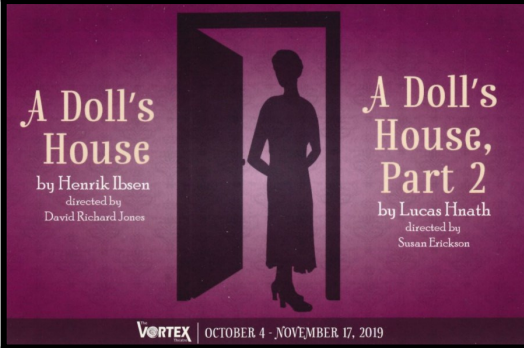
Jane Kalu, Joseph Badal, Elizabeth Brader

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](#).

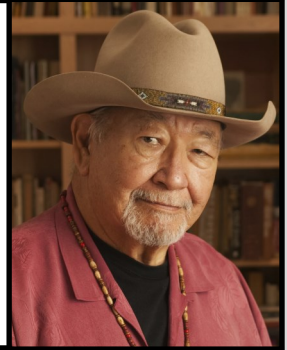


Emeriti/ae Faculty News



David Richard Jones, Professor Emeritus of British and Irish Literary Studies, directed Ibsen's play, *A Doll's House* at the Vortex Theatre in Albuquerque.

N. Scott Momaday published an article, "The Sacred Spell Of Words" in the *New York Times*.



Alumni/ae News



Oliver Baker

Oliver Baker, who recently graduated with a PhD in American Literary Studies, accepted a tenure-track position in Critical/Comparative Ethnic Studies in the long 19th Century at Pennsylvania State University.



Amy Gore

Amy Gore, recent doctoral graduate of American Literary Studies began her career as a tenure-track assistant professor of Early American Literature at North Dakota State University.



Joy Harjo

Joy Harjo, an alumna, former UNM English faculty member, and critically acclaimed poet was the first Native American to be appointed as the 23rd United States Poet Laureate.

Karra Shimabakuro, doctoral graduate of British and Irish Literary Studies, accepted a tenure-track position at Elizabeth City State University, a Historically Black College/University in Eastern North Carolina.



Karra Shimabakuro

Faerl Marie Torres (MFA 2018) and **Alice Yang** (BA English, Magna cum Laude) both Hillerman-McGarrity Scholars, met with New Mexico novelist Michael McGarrity at the launch of his most recent book in Santa Fe.



Faerl Torres, Michael McGarrity, Alice Yang

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.

