

ISSUE
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NEW MEXICO
SCHOOL COUNSELORS'
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

COUNSELOR CONNECTION

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*NM School Counselors'
Community of Best Practice*

DIGITAL MEDIA ARTS STUDENTS WIN FILM HONORS



A group of students from Deming High School's media arts program are getting some attention for the work they are doing to further their burgeoning film careers in New Mexico. Deming was the grand prize winner in the inaugural 2022 Film Prize Jr. New Mexico Competition.

The winners in each category are:

- Audience Choice Award for Best Short Film: "Deuce" from Deming High School
- Judges' Choice Award for Best Short Film: "Estela en el Mar" from Deming High School
- Best Comedy: "What's the Name of the Game?" from New Mexico School for the Arts
- Best Drama: "I Really Like You Too" from The MASTERS Program, Santa Fe Community College
- Best Sci-Fi/Thriller: "House Sitting" from Capital High School
- Best Documentary/PSA: "Estela en el Mar" from Deming High School

Deming took home the top prize by winning "Audience Choice," "Judges Choice," and "Best Documentary/PSA" awards for its two short films. The students will be featured on NPR and a variety of mainstream news networks as part of their award. The recognition they will receive is unprecedented for student film competitions in New Mexico.

"The judges must have had an incredibly hard time choosing because these

(Continued on page 2)

**AMERICAN
SCHOOL
COUNSELOR
ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL
CONFERENCE**

No Limits
ASCA 2022 Annual Conference

Join thousands of school counseling professionals July 9-12 at the Austin Convention Center in the heart of downtown Austin, Texas, for the American School Counselor Association's annual conference. The conference boasts four days of inspirational keynotes, informative breakouts, and in-depth looks at hot topics in the school counseling profession.

You can elect to participate in-person or virtually. CEU credits are available.

Learn, network, and re-energize yourself. To view the full schedule of speakers and events, click the button below.

**Learn More
and Register**

**DIGITAL MEDIA ARTS STUDENTS
WIN FILM HONORS**

films were all so creative and so remarkable in many different ways," Public Education Secretary Kurt Steinhaus said. "What a brilliant way to expose New Mexico students to the collaborative, creative art of filmmaking and invite them to begin considering careers in this growing New Mexico industry."

The festival, held last month in Española, featured 62 films from 38 schools in 16 New Mexico counties. More than 500 students participated over the past school year.

"They poured their creativity and hearts into these films, and to me, they're all winners,"

~ Rosey Hyatt, director of Film Prize Junior New Mexico.

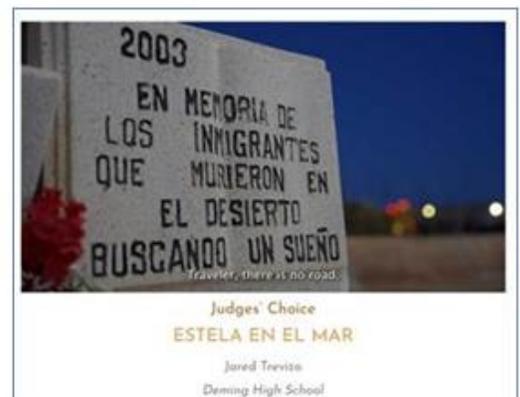
The winning Deming High School productions were funded through the school district's Career and Technical Education grants, Carl D. Perkins federal program, and NextGen state program, administered by the New Mexico Public Education Department's College and Career Readiness Bureau.

"Any school district or charter school with an interest in media or film programs can use CTE funding to support these efforts. Now is a good time to start planning student productions to enter into the second annual Film Prize Jr. New Mexico competition to be held in April of 2023," said the PED's Susan Chaudoir, who collaborated with Film Prize Jr. New Mexico and its partners to make the festival a success. "The exposure students receive in such a venue can open the college and career pathways CTE students need."

Deming CTE Administrators Armando Chavez and Gaspar Lorenzo worked diligently to allocate funding for students to make these projects this year.

To watch the Deming films visit: [\(23\) Deuce - YouTube](#) and [\(23\) Estela en el Mar - YouTube](#).

All winners and entries can be viewed at [FPJRNM](#).



COUNSELING FOR CAREERS: IMPROVING STUDENT OUTCOMES

The world of work is changing: Technological jobs are increasing. Soft skills - such as teamwork, work ethics, leadership, critical thinking, and problem-solving - are critical for success. And now, virtually all jobs require basic math and computer skills. Within this changing environment, the parameters of school counseling are changing as well.

Without a strong career counseling program, students remain unaware of what they need to succeed – such as math and technical proficiencies - and either make career decisions in a “vacuum of information” or table making career decisions at all. Exceptional career counseling directly affects student success in postsecondary settings, and ultimately in job placements (Wake Forest University, 2021).

NOSCA (National Office of School Counselor Advocacy) outlines eight areas that should be addressed in career counseling. They include development of student dreams and aspirations from K-12; engaging students in planning, enrichment, and leadership activities; motivating students to enroll in challenging courses; encouraging students to engage in college exploration activities; providing students and families with college information and resources; collaborating with students and families to educate them about costs and financial aid, including scholarships and grants; and helping students understand the college enrollment process (Lee, n.d.).

To access the complete white paper, published by NS4ed, click [HERE](#).

NOSCA's COMPONENTS OF COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS

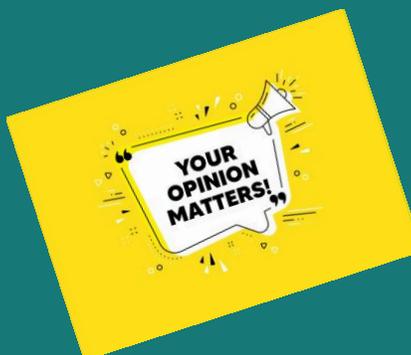


YOUR FEEDBACK IS GREATLY APPRECIATED!

We want to continue providing supports that are valuable to you! Please take five minutes to complete the April/May feedback survey. Your responses guide planning and our continued development of the New Mexico School Counselors' Community.

Thank you, in advance!

[Complete Survey](#)



HELP THE FAA PROMOTE AVIATION CAREERS

The Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) [Youth Access to American Jobs in Aviation Task Force](#) is providing recommendations to the FAA to encourage students to pursue in-demand careers in aviation. The task force is seeking input from middle and high school counselors to help develop strategies to educate youth on career opportunities in aviation. If you're interested in contributing to this work, please take this short five-to seven-minute survey by clicking [HERE](#).

**APRIL
WINNER!**



Congratulations to a high school counselor from Española Public Schools! She is the March winner of a \$50 Amazon gift certificate for posting on one or more of the Collaboration boards on the New Mexico School Counselors' Community [resource website](#).

Each Thursday, we send out an email with a new Community Collaboration activity. Entries for the monthly drawing are limited to one per counselor per week.

EMPOWERING STUDENT SUCCESS: CAREER ADVISING AND CTE EDUCATION

CCRB To Host Advance CTE Free Workshops for Counselors June 8-9

The New Mexico Public Education Department’s College and Career Readiness Bureau, with Advance CTE will host a free, two-day workshop for counselors to strengthen career advising and Career Technical Education. Advance CTE will facilitate the workshops, June 8-9, from 9 a.m. to noon each day, in a virtual environment. The workshops are delivered by qualified facilitators experienced in working with school counselors.

Advance CTE launched the career advising workshops in partnership with the Association for Career Technical Education (ACTE) and the American School Counselor Association (ASCA) in 2019, reaching over 600 school counselors to increase awareness of CTE and provide effective strategies to advance career exploration and development for each learner.

This workshop, while designed for school counselors, is open to all school practitioners and leaders connected to career advising at your discretion. This opportunity is generously supported by the Siemens Foundation.

Workshop specifics include:

- Free to participants;
- The workshop, delivered in two half-day sessions, will provide school counselors and other advising professionals with the information and resources they need to connect students with opportunities aligned with their career passions; and
- Participants will emerge with an enhanced knowledge of the full range of education and career options, with a specific focus on Career Technical Education (CTE).

The workshop capacity is limited to 30 attendees to allow robust participation and engagement. If you would like to attend, please email CCRB Education Administrator Barbara Armijo at Barbara.armijo@state.nm.us.

CONTACT US

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[**NM SCHOOL COUNSELORS COMMUNITY RESOURCE SITE**](#)

NEW MEXICO'S U.S. PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS SEMIFINALISTS ANNOUNCED

*SEVEN NEW MEXICO HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS
ON LIST OF 620 NATIONALLY*

Seven New Mexico high school seniors, including one student who excels in Career and Technical Education, are semifinalists in the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program, the Public Education Department announced recently.

The six semifinalists for U.S. Presidential Scholar are:

- Quinn Ennis, Cedar Crest - Albuquerque Academy
- Louis A. Hay, Taos - Taos High School
- Isabel N. McCabe, Albuquerque - McCabe Home School
- Ethan D. Nguyen, Farmington - Farmington High School
- Kaya A. Perce, Albuquerque - Albuquerque High School
- Melody Yeh, Albuquerque - La Cueva High School

One student is a semifinalist for U.S Presidential Scholar in Career and Technical Education:

- Jace E. Martinez, Belen - Belen High School

The students listed above are among 25 New Mexico high school seniors nominated in November by Public Education Secretary Kurt Steinhaus.

“We are incredibly proud of these students because each of them worked hard to overcome obstacles, including a global pandemic, and still achieve academically and contribute to their families, schools, and communities,” Steinhaus said.

“They stand as role models for every New Mexico child, showing that many paths can lead to academic success.”

“We must also remember the supportive families and motivational educators who helped these students succeed, and we thank them for their partnership and hard work as well,” Steinhaus said.

Altogether, more than 5,000 students were identified as candidates this year. The seven New Mexicans are among 620 semifinalists nationwide in the 2022 U.S. Presidential Scholars Program. Semifinalists form the pool from which the U.S. Department of Education will select up to 161 U.S. Presidential Scholars for 2022. That announcement is expected in mid-May.

The U.S. Presidential Scholars Program was established in 1964 by executive order to recognize and honor some of the nation’s most distinguished graduating seniors. In 1979, the program was expanded to recognize students who demonstrate exceptional talent in visual, literary, and performing arts. It was expanded again in 2015 to recognize students who demonstrate accomplishment in career and technical fields.

PROJECT ECHO VIRTUAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY



All professionals engaged in college and career planning and serve Native American students are invited to participate in a free, virtual professional development opportunity offered by Project ECHO. Stipends are offered to participants.

While Wednesday, May 4 is the final session for this academic year, sessions will continue on the first and third Wednesday of each month from August through December of 2022. Sessions begin at 3:30 p.m. and last one hour. You can still sign up by clicking [HERE](#).

Participants will gain access to experts, resources, training, and best practices to better equip them to serve their students.

To view the ECHO Institute’s presentation shared at the April School Counselors’ Community monthly meeting, along with the session recording and other materials, click [HERE](#).