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# CELEBRATE

## Congratulations to all of our Scholars!!

*Los Ojos de la Familia has two scholarship opportunities for qualifying students: The General Scholarship and the H.O.P.E. Scholarship. Our scholarship programs award students based on financial need, school and community activities, and academic achievement.*



### H.O.P.E. Scholarship

Helping Other People Excel -

The HOPE scholarship is awarded to students with a high level of academic achievement, exhibit high levels of determination and drive, possess strong leadership skills, and are actively involved in the community.

**Jackson Lent-Koop** recent graduate of Sue Cleveland High School in Rio Rancho, is our 2017 Fall H.O.P.E. Scholarship Winner! **Congratulations Jackson!**

*When asked what he considers to be his greatest high school accomplishment, Jackson stated, "It's the relationships I value most. Whether in school, in sports, or in the community; it's the relationships that mean the most to me." He served as an active member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, the National Honors Society, and the Future Farmers of America. He enjoys all challenges academic and athletic and has been awarded as a top scholar athlete and is passionate about leading and living health and wellness. He graduated ranking 6th in his class of 492 students with a GPA of 4.42 and is a multi-sport letterman that served as Varsity captain of his high school swim team. He is a 2 time qualifier for the X-terra triathlon National Championships and District Champion in both the 50 and 100 meter freestyle swim sprints. During time spent outside of sports and academics, he gave of his time at local food banks, aided in the construction of poultry education classrooms at a local ranch, and volunteered as a lifeguard and mentor at a camp for kids battling cancer. He is bilingual in Spanish and has enjoyed serving on short term mission trips in Mexico. He will be attending Union College in Lincoln, Nebraska where he will major in International Rescue and Relief with aspirations to pursue a career in healthcare and serve as a medical missionary in Central or South America.*

**THANK YOU LETTER - we received the following note from Jackson:**

*Thank you so much for the HOPE Scholarship. I cannot tell you enough how much I appreciate this gift and promise to use it well and make you all proud. Just the other night, as my dad and I made my first college payment, I realized what a blessing it was and is, to make a \$3,000 deposit. Thank you so much for choosing me for this amazing award. - Blessings, Jackson Lent-Koop*

## **2017 Fall General Scholarship**

*We had fifteen outstanding students who qualified for the general scholarship this fall, and we were happy to be able to award each of them the general scholarship. Keep up the good work, all of you!*



**Kaitlyn Clark** is a Business major at UNM, where she has made the Dean's list every semester. She wants to finish college with top marks, with an idea of potential careers, and as a single mother, her long term goals are raising her son with strong morals and giving him a good life.

**Aurelia Dixon** is an Anthropology major at UNM, where she feels she has already learned several valuable life lessons. She now realizes her potential for success, when she works hard. She volunteers at Ronald McDonald house and is an active member of the Pre-Med Society.

**Cassandra Astorga Granados** is studying Business Administration at UNM; she believes her greatest strengths are perseverance, having learned the hard way that it is

the only way to overcome adversity, and leadership. She is a full time student, wife, and works part time, but she is proud to say she determines the course of her own life.

**Matthew Joseph Lucero** is a young man who knows how to juggle a full schedule. While pursuing his Phys. Ed degree at UNM, he also coaches wrestling at Belen MS, works 20 hours a week, and helps his sister take care of the house and two acres, while their father works out of town.

**Wesley Fernandez** just began his college career at UNM, where he is studying Statistics, with a long term goal of a career in nursing research or bio-statistics. He is an active musician, volunteers at Knights of Columbus and church, and hopes to be a good role model in society.

**Robyn Lee Lucero** is a senior at UNM, having completed her minor in Psychology, she is working on finishing her General Management degree. She is planning her career with the Forest Service, where she now interns. She manages to successfully balance full time work and school, with the added obstacle of narcolepsy, and still finds time to volunteer.

**Amber Montoya** is a Pre-Med student at Arizona State University, who has learned that success comes with hard work and determination. She plans to travel to Greece and Africa to observe medicine and do medically related community service, with the long term goal of becoming a pediatric oncologist.

**Maria Dolores Duran** is a nursing major at Trinidad State Junior College in Colorado, who has learned that she is responsible for fighting her own battles, though she happily acknowledges that her family, coaches, teachers, and church have all given her the solid foundation she needs to succeed in her chosen career, as a nurse in the maternity ward.

**Dreanna Valencia** is a senior at CNM, where she is studying to become a Doctor of Pharmacy. When she first began college, she was nervous about pursuing this career, but she soon decided that she was capable of doing anything. She refuses to give up, not only on herself, but also to be a good example for her three younger siblings.

**Madison Hirschman** is a freshman at UNM, who lost her mother at an early age, but she feels that her struggles have made her stronger. She is involved in her community and strives to set a good example through hard work and a positive attitude.

**Shae Lucero** is a senior at NMSU, where she is studying Animal Science, and plans to continue her education at graduate school. Coming from a family of ranchers and farmers, she understands the importance of hard work, as well as community involvement. She also works full time, and still makes time to volunteer for Big Brothers Big Sisters.

**Leroy Sandoval** is a Business Admin major at UNM, who has learned much about himself through his college career thus far. He is working toward a career in business marketing, and he is working harder than ever to achieve his true potential.

**Esperanza Porras** is a nursing student at CNM, who struggled for years with mental illness. Having overcome several difficult battles, she is now working toward her degree, while working full time as a manager at Dion's. She has even begun writing a book, in order to share her story with others who may be facing similar difficulties.

**Julia Montoya** is a Psychology major at UNM, and she prides herself on being a strong and independent woman, a team player, and a leader. She is a full time student, a member of the UNM Cheerleading squad and she holds down a job, yet she still makes time to volunteer at her church.

**Jerry Montoya** is a senior at UNM, who was recently accepted into the Mechanical Engineering department. He volunteers with the Big Brother Big Sister program, and he considers this the most important position he now holds. He works hard for himself but also to show his little brother what he can achieve and how to get there.

