



The Broadsheet

Newsletter of the New Mexico Press Women

Jay Newton Small with NMPW President Regina Griego

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A Message from the President

BY REGINA GRIEGO

The New Mexico Press Women's 2025 Conference was held on March 21-22, 2025 at Isleta Resort in Albuquerque, NM. Thank you to all who attended.

The conference opened with a hybrid panel on multimedia and guardianship, chaired by Léonie Rosenstiel, with panelists Jack Canfield (via Zoom), Michael Brasher, and Jay Newton Small.

I enjoyed having the time in the Photography and Poetry of Sunrises workshop conducted by Wanda and Jasmine to sit and reflect after being so busy preparing for the conference. The panel and workshop on Friday were well received.

The evening performance of Voices of the Barrio poetry slam group was "riveting ... great perfumers with important messages" as one of the attendees said. Deb Haaland spoke following the poetry slam group, but she also attended and enjoyed the performance. As she said in her talk, "their poems speak for thousands of people and it makes us rethink our own privilege."

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President

She also said that communicators “hold a mirror to our society, our beauty and our scars” and cited a number of challenges in New Mexico that communicators are covering with their stories, noting that this is the power of freedom of speech, freedom of expression, and of the First amendment.

When talking about the importance of communicators and the unprecedented times we are in she said “Millionaires and Billionaires don’t live the same lives we live, and they believe that with money they can control what people see and hear. . . I believe we can change the game for New Mexicans. I believe that New Mexicans deserve to know how those in power are operating. The public deserves to be informed and I commend you all for the jobs that you do.” She stayed afterwards to answer many questions from the attendees.

Saturday’s panel on healing generational trauma woke people up as the panelists (myself, Denise Chávez, and Josie Méndez-Negrete) shared their experiences of trauma, the need for artistic endeavors, and their work in the community.

The second panel was a multicultural look at artistic expression as three children’s book authors (Khadijah, Alexandra, and Laurel) shared their experiences, including times where they were discriminated against in their writing careers.

Our keynote speaker, Jay Newton-Small, wowed the attendees with a thirty-minute landscape of the history and interplay of politics, journalism, and technology and where we are today. That was followed up by forty-five minutes of a broad array of questions, some of which covered the work that she is doing in reimagining the Albuquerque Journal and questions that deeply considered the topic of balance in reporting on liberal and conservative views.

Our lunch was dedicated to our Zia Award Winners after Léonie Rosenstiel announced the Rosenstiel Scholarship Award winner Lacey Yazzie. The Zia Award finalists were introduced and each read from their book. Then the first-place winner was announced as Kate Niles for her book *The Last Hanging of Angel Martinez*. The second-place winners were co-authors Sue Boggio and Mare Pearl for *Hungry Shoes* and the third-place winner was D. Liebhart for *Feral Creatures of Suburbia*.

After lunch the workshop given by Denise Chávez and Josie Méndez-Negrete had everyone writing and sharing about their story as writers and identifying defining moments of their lives for future writing projects. Attendees liked this event.

Saturday evening’s banquet was dedicated to our Communicator of Achievement Award and Communications Contest winners. After a delicious dinner we had Michelle Otero as our Banquet Speaker. Michelle is an Albuquerque Poet Laureate who weaved a story about time and place as she read from her memoir *Vessels*, ending with “I’m curious what your medicine is, what’s the light source you are feeding on right now and how will that shape what you write, what you share, the culture that you offer to others.”

Many people mentioned they really liked Michelle’s talk at the banquet.

We had two extremely qualified finalists for the Communicator of Achievement Award. Congratulations to Léonie Rosenstiel for winning and to Carol Clark as an extremely close second. We are so lucky to have such talented communicators as part of NMPW.

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President

Catherine Lynch, Communications Contest Chair, announced some of our Communications Contest First Place winners, asking them to come up and collect their certificates as all their contest awards were displayed on a screen.

There were 202 entries and sixty-one applicants, judged by twelve judges. Fifty-six entries won First Place, thirty entries won Second Place, nineteen Third Place, and thirty-eight Honorable Mentions.

Linda Lockett collected registrations, made all the meal arrangements, did our budget estimations, and managed payment processing. Linda's was the friendly face that people saw when they registered and she prepared all the badges and tracked our attendees.

Catherine Lynch photographed Friday events. Byron Powdrell, broadcaster and candidate for Albuquerque City Council District 9, videoed the Guardianship Panel and Arianna Andreatta was the photographer and videographer on Saturday.

Thanks to Loretta Hall for managing the overhead slides on Friday and Saturday, and for chairing the Communicator of Achievement Award Committee.

Léonie Rosenstiel participated in the scholarship selection committee, secured our keynote speaker and arranged the Guardianship Panel on Friday.

Jennifer Hull chaired the Zia Awards and hosted the awards ceremony during Saturday's lunch. Catherine Lynch and Carlolyn Carlson were a dynamic duo handling the entire Professional Communications Contest and hosting the awards.

A special thanks to Susan Walton for her dedication to the book table, enabling authors to sell their books at the conference. Bravo!

Overall people thought the event was a success or "lovely conference" citing the atmosphere, the check-in process, the opportunity to share with colleagues, as well as the diversity and quality of the speakers.

Complaints were mostly about the audio equipment and the lighting for speakers, especially Friday night.

Suggestions included outreach to other writer's groups and a more affordable venue. The NMPW Board will consider all the feedback as we plan for the 2026 NMPW Conference. We have yet to decide on our conference theme for next year. Please e-mail me at president@newmexicopresswomen.org with your ideas.

Rosenstiel Scholarship Winner

By Léonie Rosenstiel



Lacey Yazzie, Rosenstiel Scholarship winner

Brandon Larrañaga and I joined the Albuquerque Community Foundation Scholarship Committee to consider the applicants for the Anne and Tony Hillerman Scholarship (the undergraduate scholarship) as well as the Rosenstiel Scholarship (the graduate scholarship).

Rosenstiel Scholarship winner Lacey Yazzie grew up in San Juan County and is currently completing an associate degree in Digital Media Arts and Design in New Mexico. She intends to build a career as a digital marketing strategist, helping businesses develop effective marketing and engaging content. Yazzie hopes to impact her community by empowering local businesses with innovative digital solutions.

The committee was unable to find a qualified candidate to win the Anne and Tony Hillerman Scholarship in 2025. Please email president@newmexicopresswomen.org with your ideas.

The Historian's Report Presented March 21, 2025

By Arianna Andreatta

NMPW Board Officers

President: Regina Griego

Vice-President: Léonie Rosenstiel

Secretary: Susan Walton

Treasurer: Linda Lockett

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Broadsheet Editor: Léonie Rosenstiel

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Historian: Arianna Andreatta

Immediate Past President: Sherri Burr

Member at Large: Loretta Hall

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Zia Book Award Chair: Jennifer Hull

Chapter Representatives to the Board:

Albuquerque Press Women Steering Committee Representative: Linda Lockett

Northern Chapter Representative: Patricia Hodapp

The 2024 NMPW Conference was held on March 15-16, 2024 at Isleta Resort and Casino in Albuquerque, NM. The theme for the Conference was "Profiling Courageous Communicators: Celebrating 75 Years of New Mexico Press Women." This was a special year and we were honored to have several notable guest speakers.

The conference opened with Sherri Burr moderating a discussion with Regina Griego about her book, *Sins of the System*. Regina went into the details of her first-hand account of how the systems in place fail our youth and the trauma her nephew endured.

Next, Lynne Hinton moderated a panel with Sherri Burr, Margaret Cheasebro and Léonie Rosenstiel, as they talked about what courage means to them as journalists and being the voice for others who can't speak for themselves.

The first day of the conference wrapped up with a reception where Albuquerque Mayor Tim Keller proclaimed March 15th as National Press Women's Day in Albuquerque. He was preceded by Congresswoman Melanie Stansbury who read a proclamation honoring New Mexico Press Women from the National House of Representatives.

Leandro Vazquez-Diaz, a senior at Atrisco Heritage Academy High School, who read his "Courageous Woman Communicator" paper. Denise Tessier and Melanie Majors reflected back on their roles as women in journalism in a competitive men's world and Julie Hamel, the President of the National Federation of Press Women, gave the first champagne toast, celebrating NMPW's 75th Anniversary. (Continued on Next Page)



Arianna Andreatta

Historian's Report (Cont'd)

By Arianna Andreatta

Saturday opened up with Loretta Hall moderating, as panelists Anne Hilerman and James McGrath Morris talked about the importance of carrying on her father's (Tony) legacy of mystery writing.

Following that, Sherri Burr interviewed well known author, Hampton Sides, discussing the themes throughout his books—historical fiction characters in extreme environments – and why it was important to put himself into those situations, to get a sense of the character.

The Zia Award luncheon highlighted two talented writers, Dede Feldman and Elizabeth Rose

In the afternoon, Eric Draper took the stage as he recounted his job at the Associated Press that eventually led him to become the personal photographer of President George W. Bush who said, "Welcome aboard Eric, we will see the world together."

He shared his photography and gave the audience a glimpse into what it was like waiting for moments to happen and capturing the moments of the President's work, including the unfolding drama of 9/11 and the President's personal life.

The 75th anniversary conference wrapped up with a Keynote speaker—the celebrated author, George R.R. Martin. He captivated the audience with his reflection on what it means to be courageous as he thoughtfully and humorously pondered the topic of free speech.

Being the recipient of an NMPW Courageous Communicator award, he left the audience with a thought to remember: "I will try to do better in the future. I promise. All of us need to do better."

There was not a Communicator of Achievement Award for 2024.

On the Occasion of its 75th Anniversary, New Mexico Press Women Bestows its Courageous Communicator Award on:

Sherri Burr, Denise Chávez, Margaret Cheasebro, Eric Draper, Loretta Hall, Anne Hilerman, Lynne Hinton, Rose Marie Kern, George RR Martin, Melanie Majors, Lorene Carpenter Mills, Sherry Robinson, Léonie Rosenstiel, Hampton Sides, David Steinberg and Denise Tessier.

2024 Zia Book Award winner: Dede Feldman for her book, *Ten More Doors*.

First Runner-up : Elizabeth Rose, for *When Cows Wore Shoes*.

*Communications Contest Sweepstakes
Individual Winners*

First Place: Sherri Burr

Second Place: Sherry Robinson

Third Place (tie): Mark Tiarks, Jim Tritten

On June 1, The Northern NM Press Women hosted a presentation by former Senator Dede Feldman at their meeting at Joe's Dining in Santa Fe. Dede recapped her legislative career and highlights of her successful legislation. She shared her latest book which won the NMPW's Zia Award for 2024.

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Historian's Report (Cont'd)

At the National Federation of Press Women (NFPW) Conference, held in St. Louis on September 20-22, 2024, the 2024 NFPW Communicator of Achievement Award winner was Gwen White from North Carolina. Sharon Almirall from Colorado was the runner-up.

The conference culminated with the Communications Award Banquet on Saturday evening where two NMPW contestants received their awards.

Christian Valle from Las Cruces, NM was presented a Third Place Award for Special Programming, Television. We congratulate all our NMPW contest winners who also won awards at National!

New Mexico Press Women entered 33 First Place New Mexico winners' works into the NFPW competition. These entries had been written by 27 different members. Of these, 11 New Mexico entries won First Place Awards.

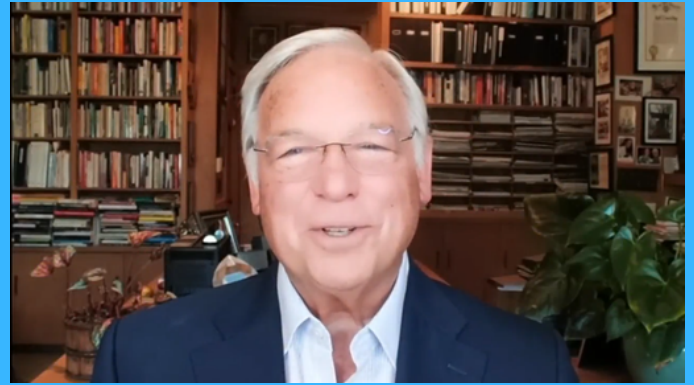


George R.R. Martin (center) with incoming and outgoing Board members, after the banquet. L-R: Robert Flinkman, Loretta Hall, Regina Griego, Sherri Burr, George R.R. Martin, Lynne Hinton, Linda Lockett, Margaret Cheasbro, Brandon Larrañaga.

Photo Highlights from the 2025 NMPW Conference



In-person Multimedia Guardianship Panel (L. to R.: Michael Brasher, Jay Newton Small and Léonie Rosenstiel)



Jack Canfield, who appeared via Zoom during the Guardianship panel.



Léonie Rosenstiel with Byron Powdrell (volunteer videographer for the Guardianship Panel on Friday)



Jasmine Tritten and Dr. Wanda W. Jerome with the book on which they based their workshop.

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Photo Highlights (Cont'd)



Marcial Delgado performing



The Audience at the Slam Poetry Performance



Gubernatorial candidate Deb Haaland addressing the reception guests



Gubernatorial candidate Deb Haaland (center), with reception guest Marcial Delgado (left) and his group, Voices of the Barrio, after their performance.

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Photo Highlights (Cont'd)



Generational Abuse Book Panel (L-R: Regina Griego, Denise Chávez and Josie Méndez-Negrete)



Artistic Expression through Cultural Lenses Panel (L-R: Laurel Goodluck, Kadajah VanBrackle and Alexandra Diaz)



Jay Newton-Small giving her keynote address



Immediate Past President Sherri Burr speaks with Jay Newton-Small after her keynote speech

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Photo Highlights (Cont'd)



Members' books on display (and for sale) at the Conference



Jennifer Hull, Zia Awards Chair, addresses the Zia and Scholarship Award Luncheon



Jennifer Hull (right) with Kate Niles (2025 Zia Award-Winning Author)

Award Banquet Photos:



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Photo Highlights (Cont'd)



Poet Michelle Otero reads from her works during the Awards Banquets



COA Chair Loretta Hall introduces COA finalists

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Photo Highlights (Cont'd)



COA Award Chair Loretta Hall presents Runner-up certificate to Carol Clark



Loretta Hall with COA Winner Léonie Rosenstiel



Jennifer Black receives awards from Catherine Lynch as Carolyn Carlson stands at the Podium and Regina Griego Looks on



Gail ("Doyenne of Death") Rubin arriving on the podium to accept her award

Photo Highlights (Cont'd)



Wanda W. Jerome (outside) and Jasmine Tritten (inside) receive award from Catherine Lynch as Regina Griego looks on



Jim Tritten receives awards from Catherine Lynch



Catherine Lynch presents flowers to Regina Griego after the Banquet



Retiring Treasurer and COA Chair Loretta Hall receives flowers from Catherine Lynch after the banquet

Communications Contest Winners

By Léonie Rosenstiel

Writers for a new publication—*New Mexico Jewish Journal*—scored seven First Place Awards this year in the contest, three Second Place Awards, three Third Place Awards and eleven Honorable Mentions. They garnered a total of 24 awards, in all, thereby garnering the most for any organization submitting entries to this contest. The New Mexico Jewish Journal won First Prize for a publication. Below is a list of all the First Place Award winners and their entries—in the order in which they were presented at the banquet:

Anna Sochocky	Catherine Keck: Born to Ride Range
Anna Sochocky	Genevieve and Michaela Munson: Sisters in the Sport
Jim Tritten	The Final Goodbye
Rose Kern	The Competently Quirky Parables of an Eccentric Master Gardener
Ranae Wischmann	The Golden Cup
Katy Hammel	Mrs. Wise Meets a Pigeon
Jasmine Tritten	Crow Wisdom: A Seasonal Journey
Wanda Whittlesey-Jerome	Magical Morning Moments
Elizabeth Jacobson	There Are as Many Songs in the World as Branches of Coral
Debra Denker	"Of Chosen Family and 'Childless Cat Ladies'"
Elizabeth Hardin-Burrola	1. Santa Fe Archdiocese back in court... (April 17, 2024) and 2. Questions on abuse claim remain... (August 26, 2024)
Sylvia Ramos Cruz	In the Year of Our Peril
Jill Gibson	Beyond the blast
Merilee Dannemann	Medical leave might not work for ranches
Jennifer Edelson	Dust Up

Contest Winners (Cont'd)

Tara Lumpkin	Voices for Biodiversity website
Jennifer Black	Indicators of the Marsh
Paula Nixon	Alaskan Migrations
Arin McKenna	Northern New Mexico College and Española Valley High School Students Engineer Glove to Help Mitigate Parkinson's Disease Symptoms
Arin McKenna	Facebook page: Author Anne Hillerman
Whitney Spivey	National Security Science: the New Mexico issue
Stuart Kelter	A Cause Fraught with Peril: Exposing Abusive Medical Research
Lena Keslin	Hidden in Plain Sight, The Old Jewish Cemetery on the Lido
Claudette Sutton	Seeds of a Good Year: Black-Eyed Peas for Rosh Hashanah
Diane Joy Schmidt	The Fifth Question
Norma Libman	Looking for your ancestors? Let Judith Fein Show You How To Get the Real Story
Norma Libman	Marco Polo Didn't Have a Guidebook: Judith Fein Goes Deep in Exploring New Mexico
Ron Duncan	
Hart Diane	Jews and the Crisis of the Religious Right in America
Schmidt Jonny	New Mexico Jewish Journal
Coker conditions	New Mexican cannabis operators voice concern over current market
Angelina Malone	Borderland Storytellers: Stahmann Farms
Angelina Malone	KRWG Public Media's Instagram page
Anthony Moreno	2024 General Election Results with Algernon D'Ammassa

Contest Winners (Cont'd)

Noah Raess	Water utility in Sunland Park continues to face criticism from residents
Noah Raess	Some elected officials in southern New Mexico say they have faced violent threats
Christian Valle	Borderland Storytellers 102 - Stahmann Farms: A Legacy
Gerold Yonas	The Dragon's Brain
KC Counts	KRWG's Beer Confidential
James Frost	AI & Family History
James Frost	Search for Royal Lineage of José Vásquez de Lara
James Frost	No Ordinary Schoolgirls
Sherry Robinson	Linda Davis
Sherry Robinson	La Cronica
Ruth Heidi Marshall	The Town That Lost Its Colors
Natalie Hegert	"The Doors Were Breaking, Things Were Moving": Inside the Roswell Museum After Disastrous 500-Year Flood
Scott Brocato	NMSU students and faculty stage walkout for Palestine
Scott Brocato	Former inmate adopts the dog he trained through PAWS program
KC Counts	KRWG News - election 2024 results
Eleanor Hutterer	Fighting Fentanyl Overdose and the Opioid Crisis
Chancey Bush	Bull Rider
Chancey Bush	The art of bodybuilders
Glenda Balas	UNT Dallas Arts Journal
Nicolás Cabrera	nicolascabrera.com

Contest Winners (Cont'd)

Emily

Withnall

Jean Toomer's Search for Identity in Taos

Cara

Romero

Sand & Stone

Cathy

Cook

New Mexicans continue generations of family tradition with pilgrimages up Tomé Hill

High School Competition Winners

By Léonie Rosenstiel



Standing from L to R - Nicole Briceño, Mrs. Ma. Gloria M. King, and Lorelai Hopkins; Seated from L to R - Blake Keffler, Aurelia Hoffman, Demilade Rasaki, and Adam Briceño (Albuquerque School of Excellence)

New Mexico participants in the 2025 at-large High School Communications Contest came from two different schools. Ma. Gloria King of the Albuquerque School of Excellence, a charter school, continues to be our most energetic teacher. Every year, her students enter many of the contest categories.

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High School Competition Winners (Cont'd)

The other school to enter was the New Mexico School for the Arts in Santa Fe. It had only one entry, a feature story called “Witch, Please,” which did not place.

All the Albuquerque School of Excellence entries were from their school newspaper, *The Phoenix Times*. Here are the winning submissions:

First Place – Video feature story, “The Carlsbad Caverns.” (Aurelia Hoffman)

This feature has been entered into national competition. The results will be announced on May 14, via an online Zoom ceremony.

Third Place – Double truck layout for student of the month (Lorelai Hopkins and Demilade Rasaki)

Honorable mention – Radio/television interview or talk show, “New Mexico State Fair” (Adam Briceño and Blake Keffler)

Honorable mention – Radio/television interview or talk show,” The Present State of Politics in the US” (Nicole Briceño)

Honorable Mention – Single page lay-out, front page (Lorelai Hopkins and Demilade Rasaki)

Honorable Mention – Single page lay-out, “Feather on Our Cap” on page 17 (Lorelai Hopkins and Demilade Rasaki)

Honorable Mention – Double truck lay-out, ”In the Land of Enchantment: Santa Rosa Blue Hole” (Lorelai Hopkins and Demilade Rasaki)

Honorable Mention – Single page lay-out, Literary and public speaking presentation, photos in action (Lorelai Hopkins and Demilade Rasaki)

High School Winners (Cont'd)

Nine additional entries from the Albuquerque School of Excellence did not place.

These amazing young journalists are not only excelling in print journalism and broadcast media, but also in filmmaking. One of their films also received the Film Prize Jr. of New Mexico—Founder's Circle Award for Best Film in the middle school division during the Film Prize Jr. of New Mexico Film Festival.



The students after receiving the Founder's Circle Award.

A special note of recognition for Mrs. King, the extraordinary teacher of all these award-winning students. Her students submit their work to contests and win consistently, year after year.

2025 Zia Award Winners Announced



Left to Right: Kate Niles (winner), Jennifer Hull, D. Liebhart, Sue Boggio and Mare Pearl

By Jennifer Hull

The Zia Award recognizes outstanding women authors with strong ties to New Mexico. This year's category was fiction. Judges reported that they were impressed and delighted by the exceptional quality of the entrants in a remarkably competitive field.

Kate Niles won the 2025 Zia Award for her novel *The Last Hanging of Angel Martinez*. Judges described the novel as “compelling, complex and satisfying” with “strong, weak, human, and inhumane characters—a fascinating mix where good is not always good and evil demonstrates surprising flashes of compassion.”

Kate is the award-winning author of three novels, a book of poetry, and numerous short stories, essays, and poems. She holds an MFA from Vermont College, and an MA in anthropology from the University of New Mexico.

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2025 Zia Award Winners (Cont'd)

Sue Boggio and Mare Pearl's novel *Hungry Shoes* won second place. Judges commented that "the two primary characters grip your heart, twist it, and hang it out to dry while they strive to heal from trauma... Readers are pulled from a hostile world into one of love and healing and are introduced...to characters they will never forget."

Hungry Shoes' authors credit their long careers at the UNM Children and Adolescent Psychiatric Center as instruction in their psychodynamic approach to fiction writing.

D. Liebhart was awarded third place for her novel *Feral Creatures of Suburbia*, praised by judges as "gripping and moving, with characters who shake up the reader's world." D. Liebhart is an award-winning author and nurse. Her first novel *House on Fire* won the 2023 Page Turner award for both fiction and debut.

2025 Communicator of Achievement Winner



COA Chair Loretta Hall reads out results of COA competition to finalists Léonie Rosenstiel and Carol Clark.

New Mexico Press Women's 2025 Communicator of Achievement is Léonie Rosenstiel. This annual COA award recognizes a member who has distinguished herself (or himself) within and beyond the communications profession.

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2025 COA (Cont'd)

In accord with National Federation of Press Women (NFPW) guidelines, the criteria include professional achievement and, to lesser degrees, community service and service to both NMPW and NFPW. Léonie has distinguished herself in all of those areas and is New Mexico's nominee for this year's NFPW COA award.

Léonie has written, translated, edited, and contributed chapters to more than a dozen books in addition to writing numerous articles and short stories. The quality of her writings has been recognized many times since a conference best-paper award in 1997. Her 2021 book, *Protecting Mama: Surviving the Legal Guardianship Swamp*, alone, has won 30 awards.

Since 2019, Léonie has played many roles on the NMPW Board. She has served as Public Relations Chair and Broadsheet Editor, continuing those roles along with being in her second term as Vice President. She also chaired the Zia Book Award contest one year and has organized panels for the state conference. Her entries in the NMPW/NFPW Communications Contests have won several awards, including two national first places.

In 2024, the NMPW Board decided to establish endowed scholarship funds to ensure the long-term viability of its support of post-secondary students. Léonie generously contributed the base funding for the new Rosenstiel Scholarship to assist New Mexico graduate students who are studying in the fields of journalism, communications, or law and are interested in journalism, the First Amendment, or other Constitutional Bill of Rights issues.

Léonie has also served as a board member and officer of several other organizations including SouthWest Writers and the Board of Health Security for New Mexicans, a nonprofit group comprised of representatives from 141 statewide organizations, supporting health equity and access legislation. Because of her family experiences, she is particularly dedicated to issues related to elder care and guardianship.

2025 COA (Cont'd)

She provides a seminar, a course, a knowledgebase, and other services through Dayspring Resources (DayspringResources.com) to help make others' journeys easier. Her latest book, *They're Coming for Your Elders and Your Inheritance: Ways to Protect Your Family, Mitigate the Damage, and Change the System*, was released in April 2025.

Congratulations, Léonie!

Many Thanks to Loretta Hall—An Extraordinary NMPW Board Member



Immediate Past President Sherri Burr (on the left) awarding the Courageous Communicator Award to Loretta Hall at the 2024 NMPW Conference

By Sherri Burr

Loretta Hall is the sort of Board Member non-profits pray to have join them. Loretta has served New Mexico Press Women as the ZIA Award Chair (2012-2014), President (2016-2018), Treasurer (2014-2016, 2018-2024), Immediate Past President (2018-2024), Website Chair (2021), and COA Chair (2024-2025). After winning both the NMPW and National Federation of Press Women's Communicator of Achievement in 2016, she served as the National COA Chair in 2017. She retired in March 2025 and on behalf of the board, I write to thank Loretta for her dedicated leadership of both NMPW and NFPW.

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Many Thanks (Cont'd)

She continued to serve NMPW while taking care of her husband, Jerry, who developed a debilitating disease that led to his death. Loretta continued serve NMPW despite numerous other personal challenges. She was always available to answer questions from members and officers about various contests and to fix the website when needed.

Not only did NMPW acknowledge Loretta's service with the COA award, she also won numerous awards in the State and National Communications Contests. In 2024, on the occasion of NMPW's 75th Anniversary, she was awarded the Courageous Communicator Award to recognize her outstanding books and articles on space exploration and underground architecture.

Many NMPW members proudly consider her a friend. Loretta is someone we like having around and feel comfortable discussing professional and personal challenges. I appreciated that she was in the trenches with me when we made several trips to Farmington to plan the 2022 conference, the first in-person one post-Covid, and she helped scout Isleta and other venues. In the immortal words of the television show *Cheers* themes song, Loretta, "Thank you for being a friend."

Sherri Burr

Immediate Past President, 2018-2025

Chapter News

Linda Lockett writes:

"Here is the latest info for Albuquerque Press Women & Friends Chapter about our May-September meetings (for use in Broadsheet and on NMPW website):

Monday, May 12 - Speaker will be Chris Ramirez, communications director for UNM Health Sciences, including UNM Hospital. Ramirez was previously a television journalist and Public Information Officer for the City of Albuquerque.

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Chapter News (Cont'd)



At the left: Chris Ramirez (communications director for UNM Health Sciences)

Monday, June 9 - Speaker will be NM Representative Marian Matthews (District 27 in Bernalillo County) sharing a summary and analysis of the 2025 NM Legislative session.

July and August - APW&F does not meet.

Monday, Sept. 8 - Speaker TBD.”

Member News and Announcements

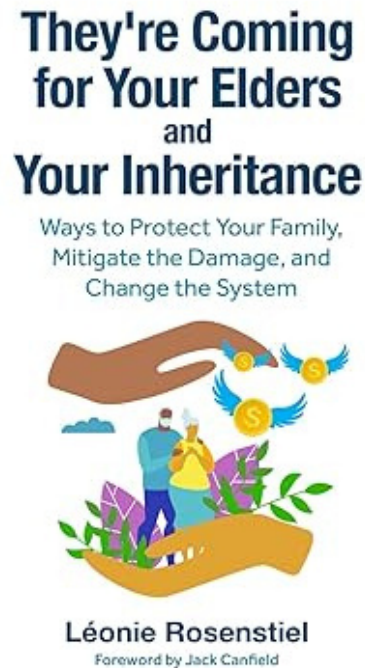
Sherri Burr, NMPW Immediate Past President, announces that her Mount Vernon research has been accepted to be presented at the 9th Global Meeting: Slavery Past, Present and Future, to be held at the Vrije Universiteit in Amsterdam from 26th to 28th of June 2025. She also published [A Call to Stand Up: Meanings of Independence for People of African Descent](#)

Jim Tritten reports that he and **Jasmine Tritten** have published a new book, [Around the World in 80 Years](#). The book is a collection of forty stories inspired by the experiences of Jasmine and Jim Tritten during a lifetime of seeking happiness in different parts of the world.

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Member News (Cont'd)

Léonie Rosenstiel, NMPW Vice-President, is pleased to announce that her latest book They're Coming for Your Elders and Your Inheritance: Ways to Protect Your Family, Mitigate the Damage, and Change the System has reached Number 1 in its category on Amazon. Her 2024 book Legal Protection: Affordable Alternatives for Individuals Families and Small Businesses (which remained Number 1 in its category for more than a year) has now won four separate awards, including Reference Book of the Year.



Dianne Layden, known for her appearances dramatizing the work of Ruth Bader Ginsburg, will give a free presentation about RBG on June 14, 2025, 1:00 PM, at La Mesa Presbyterian Church, Albuquerque, 7401 Copper Ave. NE, about two blocks north of Central and three blocks east of Louisiana. The one-hour presentation includes handouts, slides of RBG's life and career, a display of books and memorabilia, and a Q&A. For more information: dlayden@Earthlink.net



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Member News (Cont'd)

Heidi Marshall received Honorable Mentions from Ethos Literacy in their 2025 Short Short Story contest in two of their categories: Envy, "Not even The Bard" and Turtle, "A Place for the Brave."

Mark Fleisher is one of seven authors whose work is included in *Reasonable Facsimile* released in April by the Lionheart Publishing Group. Fleisher's story Charting New Journeys is his first venture into the Young Adult genre.



Anna Sochocky, President of the New Mexico Book Association, announces that Deborah Taffa, author of the acclaimed book *Whiskey Tender*, as their keynote speaker for the organization's 2025 Summer Gala on Thursday, August 21, at Las Campanas. Taffa's *Whiskey Tender* was a finalist for the 2024 National Book Award. More information will be available soon on the New Mexico Book Association's website <https://www.nmbookassociation.org/>

Author Deborah Taffa



Board Members

NMPW Board Officers

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Scholarship Chair: Brandon Larrañaga

Reach any NMPW board member by email [here](#) or [here](#). Place the board member's name in the subject line.

Nominating Committee:

At the Annual Meeting, the following individuals were elected to the Nominating Committee: Sherri Burr, Catherine Lynch, and Denise Tessier.

They state:

If you are interested in nominating yourself or another candidate to become an officer, please contact us. We seek creative, fiscally responsible individuals to lead the organization. The Nominating Committee is required to announce its proposed slate of officers at least 60 days prior to the next annual meeting in 2026.