

Communications Contests Opening November 1, 2024

OCT 30, 2024



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Regina Griego, NMPW President

NMPW President's Message

By Regina Griego

Hello, members! The Board has been very busy this month, getting ready for the contests, planning the 2025 conference, adopting a conflict of interest policy and making our decision about a web developer who will create a new NMPW website.

The professional and high school contests begin November 1, with an early entry deadline of January 22, a book deadline of January 29, and a final deadline of February 12.

Catherine Lynch, our new Communication Contests Chair, is getting the word out and learning the specifics of managing the contest. She has extensive marketing experience

and we are so glad to have her on the Board.

Andrea Robbin is our new Social Media Chair. She is working with Catherine to get a consistent message out about NMPW, our contests, and the conference. They have written an introduction to themselves in this issue of the Broadsheet.

Margaret Cheasebro will continue in her role as High School Contest Chair, managing the at-large contest with the National Federation of Press Women (NFPW).

Jennifer Hull continues her role as the Zia Award Chair. The Zia Award Contest will begin on November 1. This year we are accepting entries for adult fiction books published in 2022, 2023 or 2024.

We are very pleased that Loretta Hall has agreed to be the Communicator of Achievement (COA) Chair. That contest will begin in January and we are looking for career professionals to enter or be nominated for this organization's highest form of recognition. The winner from New Mexico will be entered into the National contest.

The decision on which developer will do the NMPW Website redesign was made on October 23, 2024 and we are hoping the new website will be up by the end of this year.

The NMPW Board approved a Conflict of Interest policy that follows IRS recommendations. It is accessible [on the website](#).

The NMPW 2025 Conference will be held at Isleta Resort and Casino on March 21-22, 2025. We've started planning for the conference. If you would like to express your preferences about the conference please fill out [the linked Google form](#). The theme is Artistic Expression and we are planning to have a variety of speakers, workshops and panels.

If you are interested in submitting an idea for a speaker, workshop or panel, please fill out this [linked form](#). My goal is to make this conference about our members and our contest winners, punctuated with invited speakers, so I hope you can participate!

Other News from the September Board Meeting



Léonie Rosenstiel, NMPW Vice President

By Léonie Rosenstiel

We voted to set up a committee to work on website requirements and the selection of someone to revise our website. As of this writing, it hasn't been modernized in more than 10 years!

In board meetings and in separate committee meetings, we've now had multiple discussions about how to refine and clarify the language in our new conflict of interest statement for board members.

Our conference committee is already busily at work, trying to make the 2025 conference memorable for all involved.



Andrea Robbin, NMPW Social Media Chair

Andrea Robbin, NMPW Social Media Chair

By Andrea Robbin

Hello, NMPW members!

I'm Andrea Robbin. My New Mexico upbringing inspired me to commit to a lifetime of community engagement and storytelling. After initial studies at Manhattan College in Riverdale, New York, I transferred to The New School, where I'm now studying Journalism and Design. I use multimedia techniques to tell stories.

Over a decade in competitive gymnastics instilled in me the values of dedication, resilience, and teamwork. As I envision my role as the Social Media Chair for New Mexico Press Women (NMPW), I see myself engaging with the community and also building a supportive network for journalists across the state.

My goal is to foster deeper connections among journalists, using social media to create a sense of belonging and collaboration. I'm passionate about creating an inclusive space where diverse voices are heard, shared, and celebrated.

I envision a future where NMPW's community continues to grow while still honoring the current members who have contributed so much. Through thoughtful social campaigns and creative content, I want to highlight everyone's achievements, ensuring that all members feel valued and connected. I hope to elevate the collective voice of journalists across New Mexico, amplifying stories that reflect the rich, unique culture of the state.

In addition to my role at NMPW, I also write for several publications, including The New School Free Press, where I focus primarily on news reporting. I'm eager to explore other topics, such as fashion journalism, editorials, and travel writing, because I believe every story holds the potential to inspire.

I'm deeply influenced by my older sister, who is not only my best friend but also my greatest source of inspiration. Our close relationship motivates me to chase my dreams and embrace creativity, highlighting how important community and collaboration are to me.

I love exploring how different artistic media can enhance storytelling, adding layers to my creative endeavors. Looking forward, I envision myself continuing to explore the intersections of journalism, design, and community engagement.

Ultimately, I'm driven by a desire to make a positive impact through my work. Whether it involves connecting with the journalism community, designing meaningful projects, or collaborating with others, I approach every opportunity with curiosity, creativity, and a commitment to making a difference.



Loretta Hall, COA Committee Chair

Communicator of Achievement (COA)

By Loretta Hall, COA Chair

In early January, we will begin accepting nominations for the 2025 NMPW Communicator of Achievement. This is our state organization's highest honor, and our honoree will then be nominated for the designation of Communicator of Achievement of the National Federation of Press Women. A summary of the requirements is posted on our [website](#).

Details may change slightly before the 2025 contest opens. It's not too early to start thinking of nominating yourself or another qualifying member. Contact the new COA

chair, Loretta Hall, with questions at: loretta@authorhall.com.



Jennifer Hull, Zia Contest Chair

2025 Zia Book Award Contest

By Jennifer Hull, Zia Award Chair

Women authors of fiction books who have a significant connection to New Mexico are encouraged to enter the New Mexico Press Women's Zia Book Award contest. The 2025 Zia Award will be given to an outstanding fiction book (novel) published between 2022 and 2024.

Entry categories are judged on a rotating three-year cycle. Adult fiction books will be considered in 2025. Children's books will be considered in 2026. Adult nonfiction books will be considered in 2027.

Submissions may be made by the author or by someone else on behalf of the author, such as a publisher. Membership in New Mexico Press Women is not required (although it provides a discounted entry fee). However, the writer must be a woman who lives in or has a strong connection to New Mexico. The book may be published anywhere.

Selected finalists must be available to read at the annual award luncheon during the 2024 conference on Saturday, March 22, 2025.

For a detailed list of requirements, deadlines, and fees, please see [the Zia Contest web page](#).



From The New Communications Contest Chair

By Catherine Lynch

Greetings, Fellow Communicators!

I'm honored to serve as your NMPW Communications Contest Chair. I'm looking forward to working alongside the talented, creative individuals inhabiting our great state of New Mexico.

It's a pleasure to work with our President, Regina Griego, whose personal story resonated and instilled within me an appreciation of the importance of the freedom of the press, freedom of speech and our constant search for justice.

A big shout out to past chair Carolyn Carlson for being a guiding light, explaining to me the intricacies of this important role. We have worked together to find credible, professional and accomplished judges for this year's contest, which opens on November 1. The winners will be announced at NMPW's State Conference at Isleta Resort & Casino in Albuquerque. I am excited to see your submissions, and remember: "You need not be a member when you submit an entry to the state contests."

For more detailed contest information, please [consult our web page](#).

Important 2025 Dates & Deadlines for Professional and High School Contest

Contest Submissions Open
November 1st 2024

Early Entry Deadline
January 22nd 2025

Book Deadline
January 29th 2025

All Categories Deadline
February 12th 2025

You Must be a Member of NFPW to Submit for National Contest

Annual National Federation of Press Women Conference
September 11th - 13th 2025 in Golden, Colorado



Rose Kern, President of SouthWest Writers

SouthWest Writers, a Sister Organization, Celebrates Its 40th Anniversary

By Rose Kern

On October 12, SouthWest Writers (SWW), whose motto is “Writers Helping Writers,” celebrated its 40th anniversary at the UNM Continuing Education Building in Albuquerque. Of its 400 members, 64 attended in person and another 40 celebrated over Zoom. About one-third of its members attend its 30-plus meetings, each year, via the internet.

Charter SWW members include best-selling authors. A few of them are: romance writer Parris Afton Bonds, mystery authors Joanna Blaylock and Kay Lewis Shaw, children’s book author Elsie Karr Kreischer, mystery writer Tony Hillerman, humorist Eileen Stanton and historical novelist Paula Paul.

In 2008 the Albuquerque Arts Alliance awarded SWW its prestigious Bravo Award for Outstanding Arts Organization. A grant from the City of Albuquerque’s Cultural Affairs office sponsored the publication of *KiMo Theater: Fact & Folklore* which garnered several awards. SWW’s 2020 writing contest resulted in an anthology of winning entries entitled *Seeing the World in 2020*.

SouthWest Writers holds writing challenges and competitions meant to hone writing skills, including monthly writing challenges as well as calls for entries into our annual short story and poetry contest.

Recently we have worked with the State of New Mexico's Arts & the Military office to offer training and publishing opportunities to New Mexico Veterans and their families. Their 2023 Anthology "*Holes in Our Hearts*" was given an award by the Military Writers Society of America. Many NMPW members contributed to this venture, including Joe Badal, Jim Tritten, Sherri Burr, and Léonie Rosenstiel.

SWW earns most of its operating income through membership and event fees, along with some local grants. Volunteers do most of the work, with the assistance of a part-time office staff.

For more information on SouthWest Writers and upcoming events, contact the office at info@swwriters.com, (505) 830-6034, or check out our website: www.southwestwriters.com.

Chapter News



Santa Fe New Mexican Executive Editor, Bill Church on October 26, 2024.

Northern Chapter

By Linda M. Lockett

Bill Church, the new executive editor of *The Santa Fe New Mexican*, was the speaker at the lunch meeting of the Northern New Mexico Press Women on October 26, at Joe's Dining in Santa Fe.

Church was introduced by James McGrath Morris, who as usual had done his homework and shared interesting insights about Church.

Church has held editorial positions at the *Sarasota Herald-Tribune*, which won the 2016 Pulitzer Prize for investigative reporting under his leadership, the *Austin American-Statesman* and most recently, *The News & Observer* in Raleigh, NC. He is a graduate of the University of Oklahoma and Central Michigan University.

After moving to his new position with the *The New Mexican*, Church wrote this in a September 22 commentary:

"Local journalism should have the same connection as a single whole. Great communities begat great newspapers, and vice versa. But most of the country's local newspapers these days are owned by publicly held or privately equitized companies — and the single whole that should link journalism and communities has been commoditized and squeezed much like fast-food franchises that ration condiment packages.

"Not here. My favorite part of *The Santa Fe New Mexican* masthead is this statement: 'Locally owned and independent, founded 1849.' No shareholder meetings — our mission is about this community; it is about you."

Albuquerque Press Women

By Merilee Dannemann

Albuquerque Press Women (APW) & Friends meets at 11:45 a.m. on the second Monday of each month, except July and August. Our program speaker begins around noon,

following food ordering and brief networking.

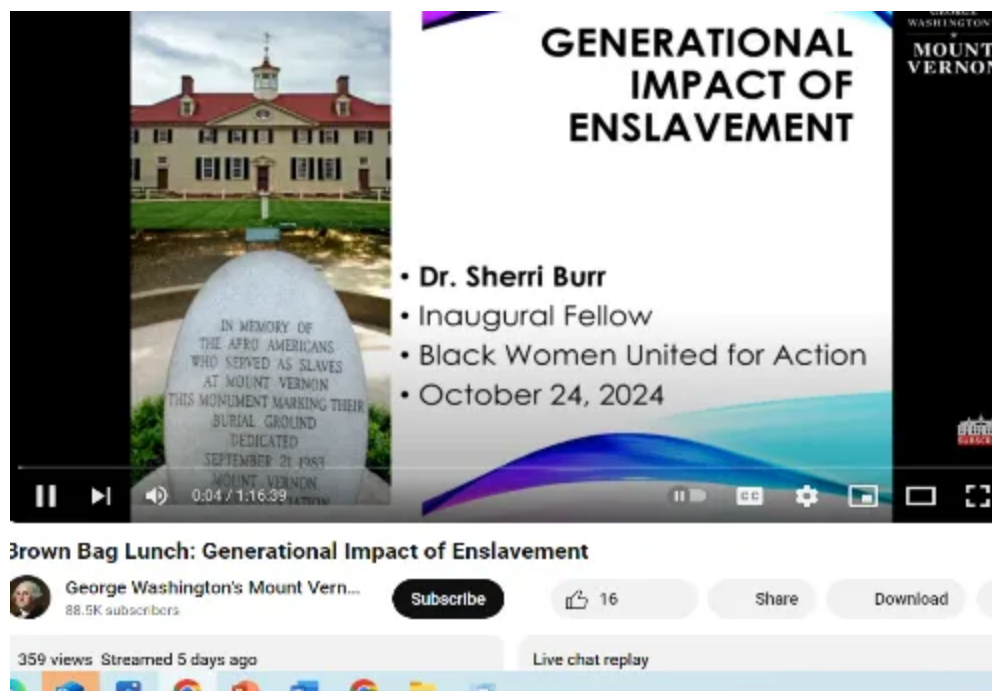
We are currently gathering at the Weck's located at 7301 Paseo del Norte, NE., near the intersections of Paseo del Norte and Wyoming and Paseo del Norte and Louisiana. It faces Holly Avenue. We are considering a meeting location change, but that probably will not happen until some time in 2025.

Dues to join APW & Friends are \$10 for the calendar year. Non-members of APW & Friends are welcome to attend our meetings and pay a \$5 guest fee per meeting. Meeting attendees may order Weck's breakfast or lunch items and pay separately for what they order.

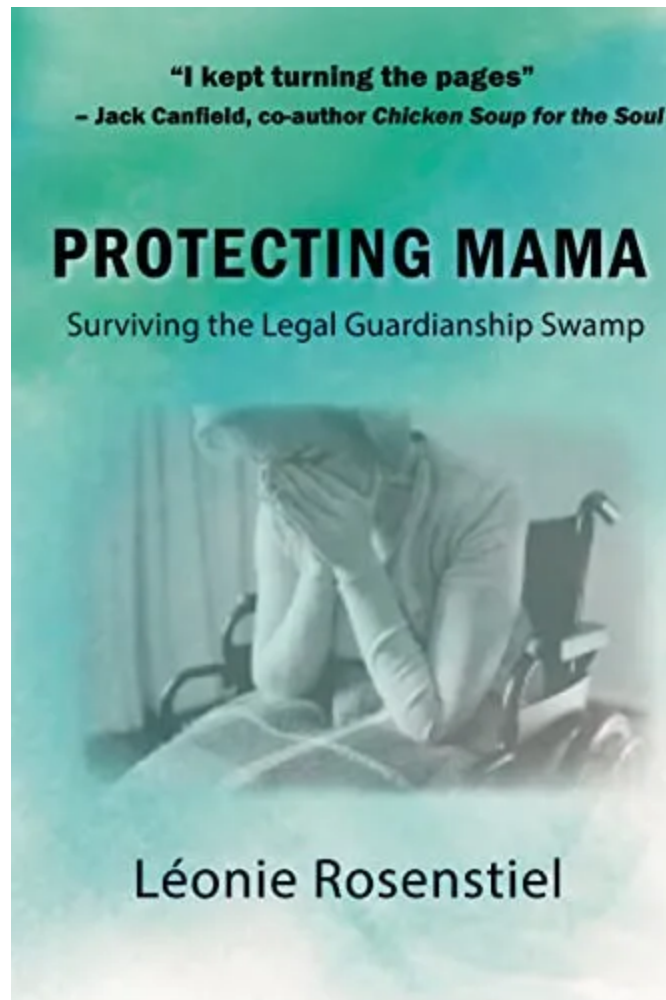
For additional information, check the website [for new developments](#).

Member News

Sherri Burr, immediate past president of NMPW, announced that, on October 24, 2024, she presented at a brown bag lunch at the George Washington Presidential Library, as their Inaugural Fellow. Her topic: *Generational Impact: An Economic Comparison of Mount Vernon's Enslaved Population Who Received Freedom in 1800 with Those Who Remained Enslaved until 1863*. The event is now [available on YouTube](#).



Léonie Rosenstiel, NMPW vice president, reports that her book [Protecting Mama](#) has won the International Impact Book Awards in four categories, winning First Place in Memoir over 199 other contestants' works. (It had previously won 14 other national and international literary awards.) In August, she spoke on "How Jack Canfield Came to Write the Foreword for *Legal Protection*." Léonie's chapter, "Against All Odds," in Jack Canfield's upcoming anthology *Unlocking Success*, is scheduled for publication in January. Four of her prizewinning short stories are slated to appear in the 2024 *SouthWest Sage Anthology*, due out in 2025 from SouthWest Writers. She will be presenting a Zoom talk for SouthWest Writers on November 22, at 6:30 P.M., entitled "AI—Your Best Hope or Your Worst Nightmare?" For a link, contact: info@swwriters.com



Melanie Majors, former NMPW president and the current executive director of the Foundation for Open Government announces: "I have some news. I am going to retire as FOG executive director at the end of 2024. I am proud of the work we do at this great organization, and welcome the next person who fulfills this important role. The application process is now open—go to nmfog.org for all the details."

NMPW Officers and Board Members

Officers

President: Regina Griego

Vice President: Léonie Rosenstiel

Secretary: Position open

Treasurer: Linda Lockett

NMPW Board

Broadsheet Editor: Léonie Rosenstiel

Communications Contest Chair: Catherine Lynch

Communicator of Achievement Award Chair: Loretta Hall

Historian: Arianna Andreatta

Immediate Past President: Sherri Burr

Member at Large: Loretta Hall

Public Relations Chair: Léonie Rosenstiel

Scholarship Chair: Brandon Larrañaga

Social Media Chair: Andrea Robbin

Website Coordinator: Pamela Ofori-Boateng

Zia Book Award Chair: Jennifer Hull

Chapter Representatives:

Albuquerque Press Women Steering Committee Representative: Linda Lockett

Northern Chapter Representative: Patricia Hodapp

Northern New Mexico Board Press Women Officers

Pat Hodapp, President

James McGrath Morris, Vice President

Ree Sheck, Secretary

Kay Lockridge, Treasurer

Albuquerque Press Women Steering Committee

Merilee Dannemann

Loretta Hall

Linda Lockett, Treasurer

Sherry Robinson

Karen Wentworth

To contact any board member or officer, feel free to email:

NewMexicoPressWomen@gmail.com with the person's name in the subject line.

Discussion about this post

Comments

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