

# THE BROADSHEET

*The newsletter of New Mexico Press Women*



[Photo: Tookapic / Pexels]

*More great reads  
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## A Message from the President

**BY SHERRI BURR**

New Mexico Press Women launched its productivity season (October - March) last month. With many new members, here is a rough draft of what's coming up and who on the NMPW Board will be in charge.

### **Beginning of October 2021**

Launch Communications Contest (Carolyn Carlson)

Launch Scholarship Process (Colleen Keene)

Launch Zia Awards (Leonie Rosenstiel)

Launch NFPW High School Contest Notifications (Margaret Cheasebro)

### **November 30**

Giving Tuesday - raise \$2000 for two scholarships (Sherri Burr)

### **December 1**

Launch 2022 Conference Sign-up and Registration block (Sherri Burr, Loretta Hall, Margaret Cheasebro)

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# President

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Launch Communicator of Achievement Process (Adam Biederwolf)

Launch Search for New Officers (Nominating Committee)

## January 2022

Contests and Scholarship Process Close, as does the Zia Awards by February 1

## February 2022

Judging of Contests, Notification of Contestants, Ordering of Awards (Carolyn, Colleen, Leonie, Adam)

**March 10-12, 2022**

Farmington Conference

On behalf of the New Mexico Press Women Board, I hope you will join us to participate in our contests, contribute to our scholarships, and join us in Farmington.

Sherri Burr, President

## NMPW President Burr named NFPW Communicator of Achievement

New Mexico Press Women President **Sherri Burr** has been honored by the National Federation of Press Women as its 2021 Communicator of Achievement. This award, which is presented to one member each year, is the organization's highest honor. It recognizes professional achievement in communications, service to the organization and service to the community. Read more about Sherri [in this post](#), which announced her selection as New Mexico Press Women's 2021 CoA.



2021 NMPW Communicator of Achievement and President Sherri Burr

Only four other members of New Mexico Press Women have been named NFPW's Communicator of Achievement. They are:

**Faye Plank** (1981)

**Ree Sheck** (2005)

**Cary Herz** (2008)

**Loretta Hall** (2016)

## Make Plans for Giving Tuesday

BY SHERRI BURR

New Mexico Press Women will once again participate in #GivingTuesday. This year's date is Tuesday, Nov. 30.

Last year, with donations and pledges ranging from \$10 to \$1,000, NMPW raised \$2,000 — 25 percent more than our stated goal of \$1,500.

All funds were added to the Doris Gregory Scholarship to award out two \$100 scholarships to benefit an undergraduate and graduate journalism student in New Mexico. We are grateful to NMPW members and friends who donated during 2020:

**Anthony Albidrez**

**Anne Hillerman**

**Carol Kreis**

**Damien Willis**

**Denise Tessier**

**Kathleen McCleery**

**Linda Lockett**

**Loretta Hall**

**Mike Gallagher**

**Marilyn Ward**

**Patricia Hodapp**

**Robert Flinkman**

**Robert Kidera**

**Sharon Niederman**

**Sherri Burr**

**Vicky Ramakka**

We hope these wonderful people and others will contribute once again on Nov. 30. This year's goal is \$2,000, so we can continue to give out two \$1,000 scholarships.

Thank you!

“There can be no higher law in journalism than to tell the truth and to shame the devil.”

— Walter Lippmann



## Communications Contest now open

BY CAROLYN CARLSON

The 2022 New Mexico Press Women Communications Contest is open for entries. The state contest is the first tier in the National Federation of Press Women's contest. First-place winners in the state-level contest are eligible to move to the national level of judging. To be eligible to move to the national contest, the entrant must be a member in good standing with the National Federation of Press Women.

The contest is open to media people over the age of 18 regardless of gender, professional status or location. There are 61 categories covering writing, editing, photography, graphic design, radio and television, web and social media, advertising, communication programs and campaigns, public relations materials, information for the media, speeches and collegiate/education.

All work must have been published or broadcast between Jan. 1, 2021 and Dec. 31, 2021 to be eligible for entry.

In addition to the Communications Contest, NMPW has also announced the College and Graduate School Journalism Scholarships, and the Zia Book Awards Contest. The annual High School Communications Award is administered directly by the National Association of Press Women and is also now open. These competitions have different instructions and cut-off dates. Please make sure to read the detailed instructions before submitting entries.

We are also beginning to accept nominations for NMPW's Communicator of Achievement.

Links to full information on each contest may be found on our Awards/Contest page. Good luck, everyone!

For information, go to [www.newmexicopresswomen.org](http://www.newmexicopresswomen.org) and [www.nfpw.org](http://www.nfpw.org).

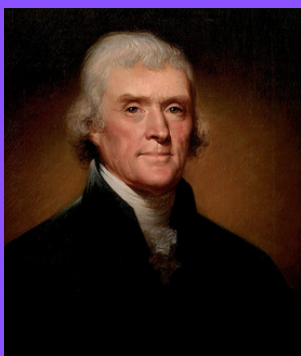
## Member News

**Anne Hillerman** and **James McGrath Morris** have been collaborating to promote McGrath Morris' biography, *Tony Hillerman: A Life*, released in late October by the University of Oklahoma Press. They plan at least four joint appearances. McGrath Morris is vice president of the Northern New Mexico Chapter of NMPW. The book is his sixth biography.

Hillerman received the Rounders Award from New Mexico Agriculture Secretary Jeff Witte on Oct. 26 at the New Mexico Farm and Ranch Heritage Museum in Las Cruces. The award recognizes writers, artists, musicians and others "who live, promote and articulate the western way of life." Previous recipients include author Max Evan, whose 1960 novel, *The Rounders*, gave the award its name, and historian Marc Simmons.

Earlier in October, Hillerman traveled to Kearney, Nebraska where she was the city's Community Reads author. She gave a talk and conducted a writing workshop in a program sponsored by the city's public library.

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*"Our liberty depends on the freedom of the press,  
and that cannot be limited without being lost."*

— Thomas Jefferson



**Dianne Layden** has been selected by the New Mexico Humanities Council to give a lecture about and Chautauqua portrayal of former Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg statewide — including judicial opinions, family life, reverence for opera, and the celebratory opera "Scalia/Ginsburg," which is now performed worldwide. Ginsburg visited Santa Fe many times and called the Santa Fe Opera the finest summer opera company in the world.

Bernalillo County appointed also appointed Layden to the Sheriff's Advisory and Review Board, created by ordinance in September 2020. She represents District 5 in Albuquerque's Northeast and Southeast Heights, east and west of Tramway. She has worked with law enforcement during more than 30 years of research on violence and service in the mid-1970s as assistant county manager for labor relations at Bernalillo County when the sheriff's deputies unionized.

**Elaine Montague's** travel story is a winner in the 2021 SouthWest Writers Writing Contest. *The Matter of the Platter* begins in 1911 when eight women in Ohio paint china as a wedding present for Elaine's grandparents. Through four generations, the platter narrates military family life from before WWI, through WWII and VietNam, and ending just prior to the attacks of 9/11. She is looking for suggestions about where to freelance this story.

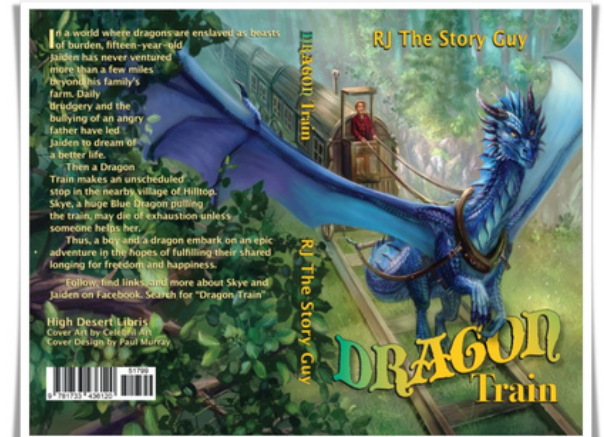
**Sharon Niederman**, NMPW secretary, has been named to the board of directors of the New Mexico Humanities Council. Her term begins in January 2022. Her most recent book, *Backroads & Byways of New Mexico*, published by the Countryman Press, recently won a New Mexico-Arizona Book Award.



Sandi Hoover and Jim Tritten

NMPW award-winning authors **Sandi Hoover** and **Jim Tritten** won a Gold Medal for 1st place from the Military Writers Society of America for their romance novella, *Love and Lies: Call Me Eve*.

**RJ Mirabal** had a book signing at Treasure House of Books and Gifts on Oct. 3. Written as "RJ The Story Guy," his latest young adult fantasy book, *Dragon Train* — a 2021 NMPW Finalist — was featured, as was *Trixie Finds Her People*, another NMPW Finalist in 2020. His *Rio Grande Parallax*, a New Mexico/Arizona Book Awards Finalist series — published as RJ Mirabal — is also available.



*Dragon Train* is the latest young adult fantasy book by RJ Mirabal, aka RJ The Story Guy

Congratulations to **Mary Morris**, winner of the 2020 Wheelbarrow Books Poetry Prize (Established) for her collection, *Late Self-Portraits*. Selected by judge Leila Chatti, *Late Self-Portraits* will be published in 2022 by MSU Press.

"Late Self-Portraits is a riveting look into the lives — and bodies — of those suffering from illness," writes Chatti. "The speaker shapeshifts, taking on the persona of various women throughout history — Joan of Arc, Frida Kahlo, Marie Curie — as well as famous men (Francis Bacon, Dylan Thomas, Jorge Luis Borges). These poems voyage to vibrant, distant places in time and geography, melding past and present."

Additionally, Kwame Dawes has selected a poem from Mary Morris's book, *Dear October*, as his next selection for *American Life in Poetry*.

**Marcia Meier's** 2021 book, *Face, A Memoir*, was shortlisted for the Eric Hoffer Book Award grand prize and won honorable mention in the memoir category. An essay based on the memoir was shortlisted for the Fish International Short Memoir Prize and appeared in the most recent issue of Reed Magazine. And, finally, her short story, *Santa Anas*, recently won first place in the Southwest Writers writing contest in the romance category. She said she is very grateful for the recognition

**Carrie Ishee's** book, *Seduced into Darkness: Transcending my Psychiatrist's Sexual Abuse*, won first place for autobiography/memoir for the state (NMPW) as well as the national competition (NFPW).

She has been holding events to promote the book. Details can be found on her website, [seducedintodarkness.com](https://seducedintodarkness.com).

**Sonja Dewing** recently hosted a "Short Storyathon," during which writers go from story idea on Friday to a published short story on Amazon. The most recent one was held Oct. 15 -17.



**Sonya Chavez**

**Sonya Chavez** was recently recognized as a Distinguished Alumna of New Mexico State University during the 2021 Homecoming festivities. Chavez, is a "driven leader with proven success in organizing, planning, implementing and evaluating complex investigative plans and operational strategies to mitigate risks and criminal threats," the university stated.

In her current role as the United States Marshal for the District of New Mexico, she proudly serves as the first woman to be appointed to the position in New Mexico and the first Hispanic Woman to be appointed U.S. Marshal in the history of the United States Marshals Service.

From NMSU, she holds a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism and Mass Communications and earned a minor in Criminal Justice, which sparked her career interest.

She currently serves on the Director's U.S. Marshal Advisory Council and the Enhancing Employee Communication Committee for the Marshals Service, among other duties.

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*"A free press can be good  
or bad, but, most  
certainly, without  
freedom a press will  
never be anything but  
bad."*

*— Albert Camus*

## NMPW Members Win New Mexico-Arizona Book Awards

Six New Mexico Press Women members recently won first places in the 2021 [New Mexico-Arizona Book Awards](#).

They are **Sherri Burr, Anne Hillerman, Marcia Meier, Mary Morris, Sharon Niederman** and **Patricia Walkow**.

Additionally, Anne Hillerman's book, *Stargazer*, won special honors for Fiction: Mystery/Thriller, Cover Design, and Best New Mexico Book.

We are proud of you all!



## Membership Report

BY DAMIEN WILLIS

As of Nov. 1, 2021, New Mexico Press Women has a total of 102 current members. We hope you know just how much we appreciate your support — particularly as we've had to find new ways to, meet, network and offer programming to our members during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Now would be a great time to [renew your membership](#) for 2022, in time to take advantage of discounted registration rates for our first in-person conference in two years. We'll be meeting in Farmington March 10-12, 2022, with COVID-safe protocols in place for the safety of all attendees. Panels, programming, workshops and awards ceremonies are beginning to take shape, so please **SAVE THE DATE!** It'll be great to see everyone together in the same room again, and we're all looking forward to it.

# The NMPW Board

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