

New Mexico School for the Arts
Head of School Report: April 2022
Report by Eric Crites

NMSA provides access to a rigorous mastery arts and academic high school education for youth with passion and aptitude in the arts, leading to post-secondary learning, careers in the arts, and lives that contribute to society.

Kudos

- Elena Gonzales (12/music) was named the Santa Fe Youth Poet Laureate. Finalists also included NMSA 10th-grade Creative Writing Literature students Maia Hillock-Katz and Joycelyn Shroulote.
- Isa Bella Thomas (12/theatre) has received the Daniels Scholarship.
- The student council, with support from adviser Dr. Sullivan, hosted the first in-person prom in three years. The joyful event was held at the Santa Fe Farmer's Market Pavilion.
- Our Music and Dance seniors have shared their senior projects/performances. Coming up: Theatre senior projects and the Visual Arts senior exhibition.

School Year Update

- NMSA has had two positive cases of COVID since masks became optional on March 21 (1 student, 1 staff member). In both cases, the individuals had confirmed close-contact exposures off campus.
- There have been no negative repercussions reported regarding masking since March 21.
- COVID data for the school, updated daily, is available here:
- https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Me0r4kYtAMayfgJwKc-qMw_g7bXIK_C2k9dspTAasKE/edit?usp=sharing
- Juniors took both the NM-ASR (state science test) and the SAT in April.

Legislative/PED/PEC

- PED's Charter Schools Division will conduct its annual monitoring site visit on April 28.
- The annual PEC report will be submitted by June 15.

Culturally & Linguistically Responsive Instruction/Equity

- We launched the Cultural Room program on April 5. Paul Valdez has been reassigned to organize the pilot program and act as Cultural Liaison for the remainder of the school year.
- An acknowledgment/apology is being finalized, and a day of mourning for Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women and the planting of a Three Sisters Garden (squash, beans, corn) is being planned for May 5.