NMSDA and NM District Special Awards

Year	2026
NM DISTRICT:	
Student of the Year	Faith Young, V. Sue Cleveland
Coach of the Year	Elise Matton, Albuquerque Academy
Assistant Coach of the Year	Malyssa Egge, Navajo Preparatory
New Coach of the Year	Kim Ayres and Cheryl Walker, The ASK Academy
Volunteer of the Year	Susan Zates, community judge
Alumni of the Year	Jennifyr Vickery, Eldorado, attorney
NM District Chair/Committee:	Hannah Flake, East Mountain High School, Chair Mackenzie Lementino, V. Sue Cleveland Elise Matton, Albuquerque Academy Adelynn Rizvi, East Mountain Bill Torres, Cottonwood Classical
NMSDA:	
Akin Award:	Stacey Asonganyi, V. Sue Cleveland Sulamit “Suli” Shin, Cottonwood Classical
Speech Coach of the Year:	Atalie Nelson, East Mountain
Debate Coach of the Year:	Elise Matton, Albuquerque Academy
NMSDA Board:	Mackenzie Lementino, V. Sue Cleveland, President Bill Torres, Cottonwood Classical, Vice President Atalie Nelson, East Mountain, Secretary Elise Matton, Albuquerque Academy, Treasurer Adelynn Nee, East Mountain High School, Past President
Hall of Fame Inductee:	Nancy Ellis-Hines, Albuquerque High

Year	2025

NM DISTRICT:	
Student of the Year	Uxue Sansinena, Los Alamos
Coach of the Year	Margo Batha, Los Alamos
Assistant Coach of the Year	Jen Kaskalla, Navajo Preparatory
New Coach of the Year	Anne MacNaughton, Taos High School
Administrator of the Year	Heather Henegar, Ladera del Norte Elementary School
Volunteer of the Year	Kellen Nee
NM District Chair/Committee:	Hannah Flake, East Mountain High School, Chair Margo Batha, Los Alamos Elise Matton, Albuquerque Academy *(Received NSDA district leadership commendation)* Adelynn Rizvi, East Mountain Bill Torres, Cottonwood Classical
NMSDA:	
Akin Award:	Nastashia Anderson, Navajo Preparatory
Speech Coach of the Year:	Sherri Bublitz, Los Alamos Middle School
Debate Coach of the Year:	John Russell, Navajo Preparatory
NMSDA Board:	Adelynn Nee, East Mountain High School, President Mackenzie Lementino, V. Sue Cleveland, Vice President Sherri Bublitz, Los Alamos Middle, Secretary Elise Matton, Albuquerque Academy, Treasurer Bill Torres, Cottonwood Classical, Past President
Hall of Fame Inductee:	Randall McCutcheon, Albuquerque Academy (postumously)

Year	2024
NM DISTRICT:	

Student of the Year	Becca Ferber, Albuquerque Academy
Coach of the Year	Mackenzie Lementino, V Sue Cleveland
Assistant Coach of the Year	Jason Barton, Albuquerque Academy
New Coach of the Year	Courtney Lawson, Eldorado
Administrator of the Year	Rainy Crisp, Navajo Preparatory
Alumni of the Year	Hallie Brown, East Mountain High School Class of 2014
Communicator of the Year	Jada Yuan
Volunteer of the Year	Ed Henry
NM District Chair/Committee:	Hannah Flake, East Mountain High School, Chair Margo Batha, Los Alamos Elise Matton, Albuquerque Academy Adelynn Rizvi, East Mountain Bill Torres, Cottonwood Classical
NMSDA:	
Akin Award:	Faith Young, V Sue Cleveland, and Darian Kapelianis-Donado, Cottonwood Classical
Speech Coach of the Year:	Mackenzie Lementino, V Sue Cleveland HS
Debate Coach of the Year:	Bill Torres, Cottonwood Classical
NMSDA Board:	Adelynn Nee, East Mountain High School, President Mackenzie Lementino, V. Sue Cleveland, Vice President Sherri Bublitz, Los Alamos Middle, Secretary Elise Matton, Albuquerque Academy, Treasurer Bill Torres, Cottonwood Classical, Past President
Hall of Fame Inductees:	Cat & Bill Bennett (Bill posthumously)

Year	2023
NM DISTRICT:	

Student of the Year	Yunseo Kim, Los Alamos High
Coach of the Year	John Russell, Navajo Prep
Assistant Coach of the Year	Matt Pecastaing, La Cueva
New Coach of the Year	Lisa Goldman, Santa Fe High
Administrator of the Year	N/A
Alumni of the Year	N/A
Communicator of the Year	Sophia Liem and Noor Ali
Volunteer of the Year	Jessica Carothers, Albuquerque Academy
NM District Chair:	Hannah Flake, East Mountain High School
NMSDA:	
Akin Award:	
Speech Coach of the Year:	Adelynn Nee, East Mountain High School
Debate Coach of the Year:	Jen Pecasting, La Cueva High & Desert Ridge MS
Coach Hall of Fame	Noel Trujillo, Los Alamos
NMSDA President:	Adelynn Nee, East Mountain High School

Year	2022
NM DISTRICT:	
Student of the Year	Addison Fulton, Albuquerque Academy
Coach of the Year	Bill Torres, Cottonwood Classical
Assistant Coach of the Year	Elise Matton, Albuquerque Academy
New Coach of the Year	Bre Masserole, Taos
Administrator of the Year	
Alumni of the Year	Geordan Tilley, Albuquerque Academy
Communicator of the Year	Peter Kierst, UNM Law & ABQ Theatre community

Volunteer of the Year	Ashley Bradshaw, V Sue Cleveland
NM District Chair:	Hannah Flake, East Mountain High School
NMSDA:	
Akin Award:	Naima Pyarali, Albuquerque Academy
Speech Coach of the Year:	Mackenzie Dixon, VSC
Debate Coach of the Year:	Ambrose Ferber, SFP; and Elise Matton, Albuquerque Academy
NMSDA President:	Bill Torres

Year	2021
NM DISTRICT:	
Student of the Year	Shena Han, Los Alamos
Coach of the Year	Sheridan Johnson, Albuquerque Academy
Assistant Coach of the Year	Amanda Windust, East Mountain
New Coach of the Year	Wendy Graham, Arrowhead
Administrator of the Year	N/A
Alumni of the Year	Scott Elder, APS Superintendent, Alum of Albuquerque Academy
Communicator of the Year	Students of New Mexico Speech & Debate
Volunteer of the Year	Stacey Nash, community judge
NM District Chair:	Hannah Flake, East Mountain High School
NMSDA:	
Akin Award:	Christina Klas, Cottonwood Classical
Speech Coach of the Year:	Kathryn Sokolowski, Eldorado
Debate Coach of the Year:	Elise Matton, Albuquerque Academy
NMSDA President:	Bill Torres, Cottonwood Classical

Year	2020
NM DISTRICT:	
Student of the Year	Abigail Francis, Santa Fe Prep
Coach of the Year	Sheridan Johnson, Albuquerque Academy
Assistant Coach of the Year	Kathryn Sokolowski, Eldorado
New Coach of the Year	Jason Gates, Eldorado
Administrator of the Year	Trey Smith, East Mountain
Alumni of the Year	John Wertheim, Taos
Communicator of the Year	Bernard Chimoni, teacher of Native Languages in APS, of Zuni Pueblo
Volunteer of the Year	David Otero, parent, Cottonwood Classical
NM District Chair:	Hannah Flake, East Mountain High School **Also NSDA's "Best New Chair" award 2020*
NMSDA:	
COACH HALL OF FAME (Inaugural)	Michele Lockhart-Henry and Ed Henry
Akin Award:	Mireya Sanchez-Maes, Mayfield
Speech Coach of the Year:	Sheridan Johnson, Albuquerque Academy
Debate Coach of the Year:	Austin Martin-Likes, Mayfield
NMSDA President:	Jose?
National Tournament Success:	Addison Fulton, National Champion in Original Oratory

Year	2019
NM DISTRICT:	
Student of the Year	
Coach of the Year	Trey Smith, East Mountain
Assistant Coach of the Year	
New Coach of the Year	

Administrator of the Year	
Alumni of the Year	
Communicator of the Year	
Volunteer of the Year	
NM District Chair:	Trey Smith, East Mountain High School
NMSDA:	
Akin Award:	Tiffany Delgado, East Mountain
Speech Coach of the Year:	Hannah Flake, East Mountain
Debate Coach of the Year:	John Goldberger, Cottonwood Classical
NMSDA President:	Jose Samora, St Pius X

Year	2018
NM DISTRICT:	
Student of the Year	
Administrator of the Year	Scott Affentranger, VSC
Alumni of the Year	Elizabeth Kistin Keller
Communicator of the Year	Tim Keller, Mayor of Albuquerque
Volunteer of the Year	Peggy DeGrazio, community judge
NM District Chair:	Trey Smith, East Mountain High School
NMSDA:	
Akin Student of the Year:	Annika Davenport, Jemez Mt Homeschool
Speech Coach of the Year:	Susan Ontiveros, Albuquerque Academy
Debate Coach of the Year:	Michelle Watson, V. Sue Cleveland HS
NMSDA President:	Hannah Flake, East Mountain High School

Year	2017

NM DISTRICT:	
Student of the Year	
Administrator of the Year	
Alumni of the Year	
Communicator of the Year	
Volunteer of the Year	
NM District Chair:	Trey Smith, East Mountain High School
NMSDA:	
Akin Student of the Year:	Tim Mondloch, Del Norte High School
Speech Coach of the Year:	Christine Beverly, Del Norte High School
Debate Coach of the Year:	Trey Smith, East Mountain High School
NMSDA President:	Hannah Flake, East Mountain High School

Year	2016
District:	
Student of the Year	Matthew Bedeaux, East Mountain High School
Administrator of the Year	Eric Fraass, Mayfield High School Principal
Alumni of the Year	Carrie Menapace Alumni of Eldorado High School, Class of 2005 Director of Government Affairs and Policy, Albuquerque Public Schools
Communicator of the Year	Colton Shone, news anchor for KOB 4
Volunteer of the Year	Ann Maxwell
NM District Chair:	Trey Smith, East Mountain High School
NMSDA:	
Akin Student of the Year:	Elijah Larson, Farmington HS
Speech Coach of the Year:	N/A
Debate Coach of the Year:	Melissa Brown, Farmington HS

NMSDA President:	Lisa Lincoln, Desert Academy

Year	2015
District:	
Student of the Year	Adelynn Nee, East Mountain High School
Administrator of the Year	Rex Kilburn, Principal of Los Alamos Middle School
Alumni of the Year	Jacob Candelaria, New Mexico State Senator, St. Pius X Class of 2005
Communicator of the Year	Kristelle Siarza of Siarza Social Digital, La Cueva Class of 2005
Volunteer of the Year	Georgia Will, Albuquerque Academy
NM District Chair:	Trey Smith, East Mountain High School (?)
NMSDA:	
Akin Student of the Year:	Matthew Taylor, Rio Grande High School
Speech Coach of the Year:	Sherri Bublitz, Los Alamos Middle School
Debate Coach of the Year:	Kris Blais, Mayfield High School
NMSDA President:	Margo Batha, Los Alamos High School

Year	2014
NM District Student of the Year:	Michael Chavez, Albuquerque Academy
NM District Chair:	
NMSDA:	
Akin Student of the Year:	PJ Nyland, East Mountain High School
Speech Coach of the Year:	Carolyn Connor, Jemez Mountain Home School
Debate Coach of the Year:	Janet Newton, Los Alamos High School
NMSDA President:	Margo Batha, Los Alamos High School (?)

Year	2013
NM District Student of the Year:	Cherise Nieto, Rio Grande High School
NM District Chair:	
NMSDA:	
Akin Student of the Year:	James Clarke, East Mountain High School
Speech Coach of the Year:	Louanne Schulte, Zuni High School
Debate Coach of the Year:	Margo Batha, Los Alamos High School
NMSDA President:	Trey Smith, East Mountain High School

Year	2012
NM District Student of the Year:	Quinlan Cao, East Mountain High School
NM District Chair:	
NMSDA:	
Akin Student of the Year:	Jace Reynolds, East Mountain High School
Speech Coach of the Year:	Ed Henry, Rio Grande High School
Debate Coach of the Year:	Trey Smith, East Mountain High School
NMSDA President:	

Year	2011
NM District Student of the Year:	
NM District Chair:	
NMSDA:	
Akin Student of the Year:	
Speech Coach of the Year:	N/A
Debate Coach of the Year:	Trey Smith, East Mountain High School

NMSDA President:	

LEAVE THIS TABLE BELOW BLANK–and copy it as needed for additional years!

Year	
NM District Student of the Year:	
NM District Chair:	
NMSDA:	
Akin Student of the Year:	
Speech Coach of the Year:	
Debate Coach of the Year:	
NMSDA President:	