

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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ORTIZ AWARDED LIETTE MARTINEZ MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Silver City, NM – Western New Mexico University student Felicia Ortiz was recently awarded the Liette “Lola” Martinez Memorial Scholarship.

The scholarship is awarded annually to juniors and seniors with a 3.0 GPA or better.

Ortiz, from Hurley, New Mexico, is majoring in nursing.

Established in 2009, the memorial scholarship is named after Liette Martinez who was tragically killed at Purdue University in 2008 while on a one-year exchange program with New Mexico State University. Martinez’s grandmother Becky Estrada is an employee at Western New Mexico University and helped establish the scholarships at WNMU, NMSU, Dona Ana Community College and Purdue University.

This is the first time the scholarship is being awarded to a WNMU student. Previous monies have been awarded to students attending the other universities where the scholarship is administered.

“The reason we awarded a scholarship to a WNMU student is because we have had so much support from people of Grant and Hidalgo counties,” said Estrada. Estrada is behind the annual horseshoe tournament in Lordsburg which helps raise funds for the scholarship.

Martinez was the daughter of Gabe and Geraldine Martinez, both WNMU alumni.



Pictured is Becky Estrada, WNMU employee and grandmother to Liette Martinez; Felicia Ortiz, scholarship recipient; and Onorina Franco, Director of Financial Aid.

Located in Silver City, New Mexico, Western New Mexico University has served the people of the state of New Mexico and its surrounding areas as a comprehensive, regional, rural, public coeducational university since 1893 and caters to a student body diverse in age, culture, language and ethnic background.

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