

PROGRAM BOOK

2025



CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF
CHANGING CHILDREN'S LIVES,
ONE DANCE STEP AT A TIME.



THE ALBUQUERQUE JOURNAL IS A PROUD SPONSOR OF NDI AND CELEBRATES THEIR GOOD WORK AND IMPRESSIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS DEVELOPING FUTURE LEADERS OF NEW MEXICO. CONGRATULATIONS ON 30 YEARS OF MAKING AN IMPACT.

ndi new mexico

NDI-NM.ORG



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It is Garcia Automotive's honor to support NDI New Mexico, who will serve over 8,000 children this year, helping them build confidence, improve their health, and succeed in school. We love to serve our community that supports us!



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NDI NEW MEXICO

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DEAR FRIENDS

of NDI New Mexico



Kate Moss
Board Chair

Welcome! Today's performance is a celebration—of courage, commitment, and the incredible journey these students have taken. As they take the stage, they bring with them more than just dance steps; they bring confidence, perseverance, and the joy of accomplishment. This moment is the culmination of weeks of dedication, where they have learned not only the art of movement but also the power within themselves. We hope you see it reflected in their bright smiles, soaring leaps, and triumphant final pose.

For over 30 years, NDI New Mexico has transformed the lives of young people through a simple yet profound belief: every child has the potential to achieve excellence. By blending high-energy, joyful movement with a culture of discipline and high expectations, we instill life skills that extend far beyond dance—confidence, focus, teamwork, and tenacity. Our core values—work hard, do your best, never give up, and be healthy—empower children of all backgrounds to reach their fullest potential in school and in life.

We believe that engaged, confident, and healthy young people are the foundation of a thriving future for New Mexico. Thanks to the generosity of individuals, businesses, foundations, government entities, and our public-school partners, we are able to serve more than 8,000 students this year. In this program book, you'll find stories of impact, insights into our statewide programs, and an introduction to the heart of our work—our extraordinary teaching artists. You'll also find a community of supporters who, like you, are inspired to invest in young people's success.

Thank you for being part of this experience. Your presence and support help make this work possible.

Now, get ready to celebrate the excellence within every child!
On with the show!



Russell Baker
Executive Director



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Empowering
New Mexico's Youth:

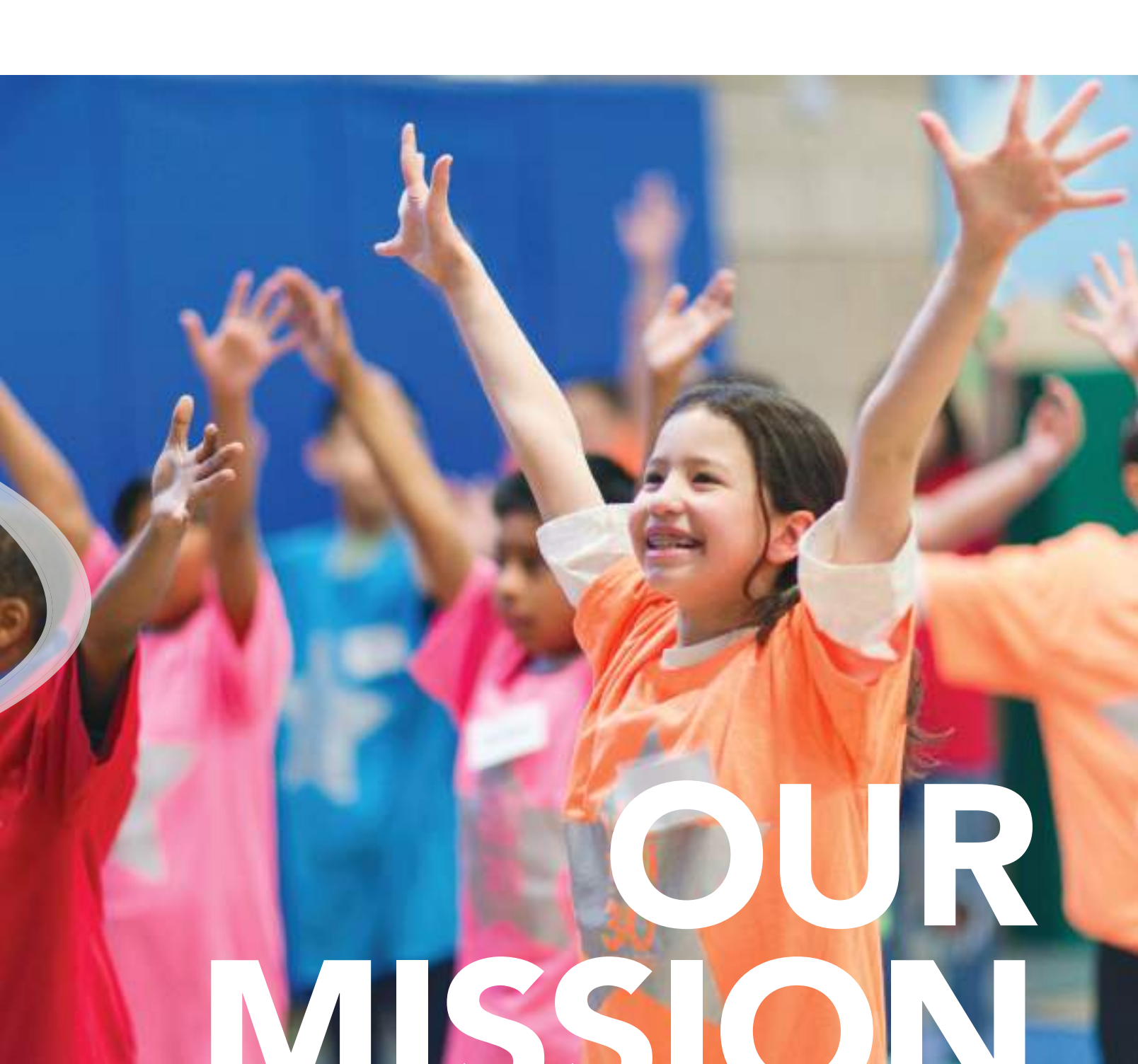
A Pathway to

**CONFIDENCE
RESILIENCE
SUCCESS**

At NDI New Mexico, we believe in the limitless potential of every child. We also know that many young people across our state face barriers that impede their ability to thrive, including limited access to quality education, mentorship, and safe, enriching environments. Our programs go beyond movement and creative expression; they instill resilience, self-discipline, confidence, and perseverance, equipping students with skills that shape their futures and uplift their communities.

From the joyful first steps in our Young Children's Division to the disciplined artistry of Company XCel, NDI New Mexico offers a pathway that can support students from early childhood through high school graduation or at any stage in between—at no cost to families or with sliding-scale tuition. Rooted in high expectations and encouragement, our Impact Model for Youth and Families is built on three key pillars: **opportunities, a positive environment, and meaningful connections.**





OUR MISSION

NDI New Mexico is founded with the knowledge that the arts have a unique power to engage and motivate children. The purpose of our distinctive programs is to help children develop discipline, a standard of excellence, and a belief in themselves that will carry over into all aspects of their lives.



“NDI has shown me what I
am capable of doing and
how far I can go.”

Aisha, NDI New Mexico Graduate



OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH TO EXCEL AND GROW

Can I do it?

Every child, regardless of background or circumstance, will grapple with self-doubt when faced with a challenge. At NDI New Mexico, we make confidence-building the foundation of our teaching philosophy. Whether a student is with us for weeks or years, we instill the values of determination, perseverance, and commitment from the very start. Our unique methodology fosters a growth mindset, helping students understand that challenges are stepping stones to success. Teaching Artists and Musicians teach and model the Core Four:

**Work Hard,
Do Your Best,
Never Give Up,
and Be Healthy,**

inspiring students to develop motivation and self-discipline—qualities that translate into greater confidence in academics, leadership, and personal aspirations.

STRENGTHENING ABILITY

I CAN





“Something I’ve learned about myself
at NDI is to just be yourself and
*people will
love you for who you are.*”

Treat fellow dancers how you
would like to be treated.

Camila, NDI New Mexico Graduate



A POSITIVE ENVIRONMENT THAT FOSTERS SELF-DISCOVERY

Who am I?

It's a question every young person faces. In a world full of challenges, choices, and potential paths, NDI New Mexico provides a supportive environment where students are encouraged to grow, discover their strengths, and build a strong sense of identity. Our programs empower students by helping them feel seen and valued by learning how to see and value others. This fosters confidence and a belief in their own potential. Every achievement—whether mastering a movement or performing on stage—reinforces their ability to succeed in all areas of life.

NDI New Mexico's structured yet nurturing environment promotes self-reflection, and an optimistic outlook for the future. As students advance, they have opportunities to take on leadership roles and greater responsibilities within the program, building self-efficacy, as well as a belief in the power of teamwork among diverse individuals.

STRENGTHENING IDENTITY

I AM





“NDI has really helped me develop my ability to make friends and *interact with others in a fun, fulfilling way.*”

Jacob, NDI New Mexico Graduate



BUILDING MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS

Where do I belong?

Even with confidence and a strong sense of self, young people need a supportive community to truly thrive. Connection and belonging are at the core of all our programs. During their time with us, students build lasting relationships with peers, mentors, and role models who inspire and empower them. These connections extend beyond the studio, strengthening friendships, families, and communities.



Our performances unite audiences, families, and invested partners from diverse backgrounds, showcasing the dedication and artistry of our students while reinforcing the power of community support. Dancers experience the pride of contributing to something greater than themselves, and have their accomplishments celebrated through exciting public events.

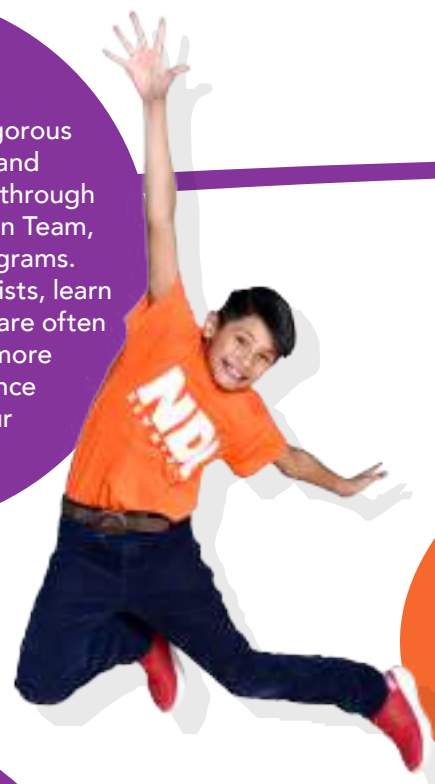
STRENGTHENING
COMMUNITY BONDS

WE CONNECT



ADVANCED TEAMS

(4th-9th grade)
Students have opportunities for more rigorous training, skill-building, and performance opportunities through our SWAT Team, Celebration Team, and Summer Institute programs. Students work with guest artists, learn diverse styles of dance, and are often inspired to continue to more advanced technical dance training, including our Company XCel.



IN-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

(3rd-5th grade)
Elementary school children learn perseverance, focus, and commitment. Our teaching artists integrate dance with youth development techniques, using movement as a tool to enhance concentration, instill a strong work ethic, and inspire achievement. In-School programs take place in Santa Fe, Albuquerque, Rio Rancho, and the Española Valley (our North Program) as well as dozens of other communities around the state through our Residency Program.

IN-SCHOOL PATHWAY

YOUNG CHILDREN'S DIVISION

(ages 3-6)
In Creative Movement and primary levels of dance in the After-School programs at The Hiland Theater and The Dance Barns, children as young as three begin exploring movement, coordination, and self-expression. Classes build physical strength, support social, emotional, and cognitive development, and inspire a love of dance.



AFTER-SCHOOL PATHWAY

PRE-PROFESSIONAL COMPANIES

Junior Company, Apprentice Company, and Company XCel

For dancers who discover a passion for the performing arts and are interested in pre-professional training, these programs offer advanced training and performance opportunities.

AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Junior and Senior Division

(ages 3-18) Dancers have opportunities for beginning, intermediate, and advanced levels of many genres of dance including ballet, jazz, tap, hip-hop, modern dance, and much more.



2025 CELEBRATION TEAM GRADS



WORK HARD, DO YOUR BEST, NEVER GIVE UP, AND BE HEALTHY

No matter which pathway through the programs a student travels at NDI New Mexico, students who stay in the program for multiple years and participate in our advanced training opportunities emerge as engaged, motivated young leaders who give back, carrying forward the values of teamwork, respect, and resilience.

Examples of these young leaders are our Celebration Team graduates, dancers who have participated in NDI New Mexico programs anywhere from 5-10 years, benefiting from the long-term impacts of the pedagogy. We celebrate and congratulate the 2025 Celebration Team graduates; we are so proud of you!



OUR 2025 GRADS:

Annabelle Briggs

The Academy for Technology and Classics

Zurisadai Celote de la Cruz

The Academy for Technology and Classics

Aisha Dakhli

The Academy for Technology and Classics

Aiden Garcia

New Mexico School for the Arts

Nevaeh Garcia

Aspen Community School

Liv Lilli Garcia-Archuleta

Santa Fe High School

Arjan Khalsa

Turquoise Trail Charter School

Jonathan Luu

Cleveland Middle School

Sofia Marchiondo

Explore Academy

Amado McWilliams

Santa Fe Prep

Jacob Padilla

New Mexico School for the Arts

Monserrat Rangel

Capital High School

Matthew Salguero

Jackson Middle School

Camila Tapia

Capital High School

Maeve Van Horn

Monte Del Sol

Congrats!



gets
an

A+

Measurable Impact & Sustainable Results

FOR MORE THAN THREE DECADES, NDI NEW MEXICO HAS BEEN A TRANSFORMATIVE FORCE IN THE LIVES OF THOUSANDS OF CHILDREN ACROSS THE STATE.

With an unwavering commitment to excellence, our organization fosters **academic success**, **personal well-being**, and **lifelong healthy habits** through the power of our programs and unique methodology.

By implementing a robust culture of assessment and continuous improvement, NDI New Mexico has established itself as an **impactful** and **results-driven** organization, **demonstrating measurable success year after year.**

OUR IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

90
schools in
29
communities

8,000+
children served
annually across
the state

160,000+
children impacted
since inception

80%
of students served are
children of color

69%
of students qualify
for the federal free
or reduced-cost
meal program

Proven Academic & Behavioral Outcomes

AS NEW MEXICO GRAPPLES WITH POVERTY AND SUB-PAR ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE, NDI NEW MEXICO OFFERS A PROVEN SOLUTION.

Time and again, the findings confirm what we see every day: participation in NDI New Mexico leads to

higher test scores,
stronger GPAs, and
healthier behaviors

that improve physical wellbeing and foster critical life skills.

Over nearly two decades, we have sponsored multiple independent studies—including research conducted by the University of New Mexico (UNM) Center for Education Policy Research—to examine how our programs influence academic achievement, physical health, and social development.

A study by The University of New Mexico's Center for Education Policy Research analyzed data from over 41,000 students in grades three through nine. The findings were striking:

30% to 42% Higher GPAs

NDI New Mexico students consistently had higher GPAs than their peers—30% to 42% higher on average.

6%-17% Higher Assessments

On standardized assessments, NDI New Mexico students outperformed their non-participating peers by 6%-17% in math, reading, writing, and science.

Long-Term Academic Success

NDI New Mexico students demonstrated marked improvements in self-discipline, focus, planning, and prioritization skills, key indicators of long-term academic success.

Further research conducted with The University of New Mexico Prevention Research Center focused on the impact of NDI New Mexico's Advanced Training programs. The results were impressive:

1.5-2.5 Times More Proficient

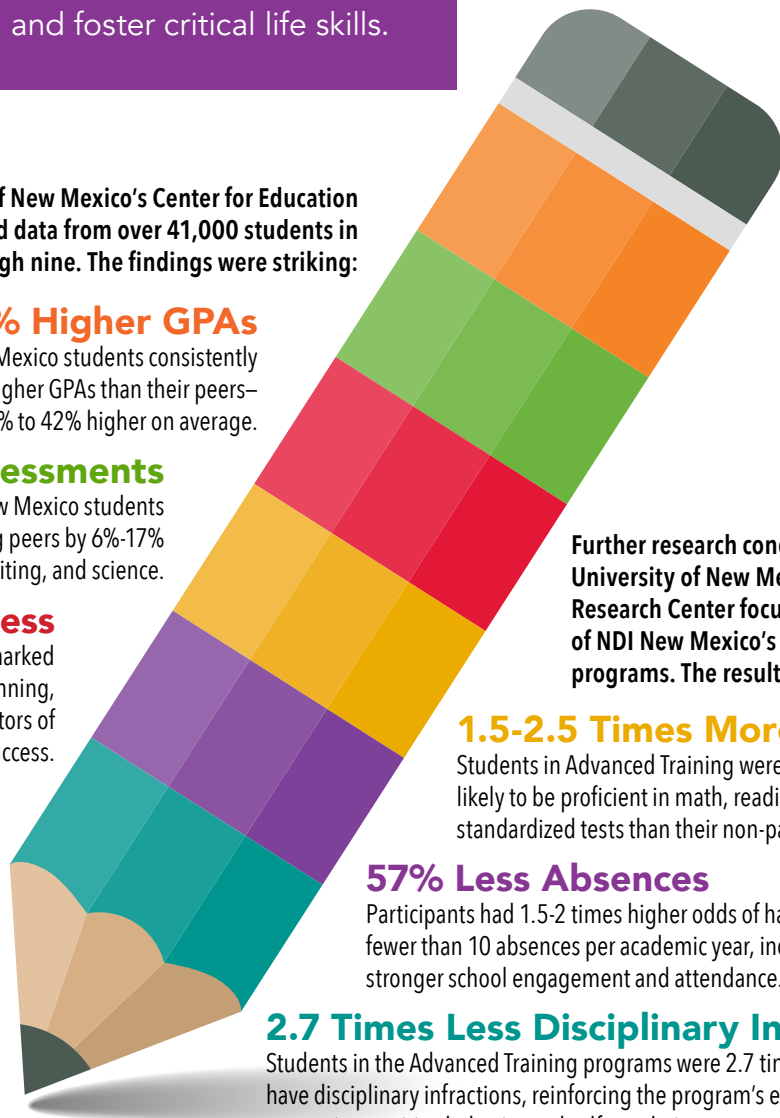
Students in Advanced Training were 1.5-2.5 times more likely to be proficient in math, reading, and science standardized tests than their non-participating peers.

57% Less Absences

Participants had 1.5-2 times higher odds of having fewer than 10 absences per academic year, indicating stronger school engagement and attendance.

2.7 Times Less Disciplinary Infractions

Students in the Advanced Training programs were 2.7 times less likely to have disciplinary infractions, reinforcing the program's effectiveness in promoting positive behavior and self-regulation.



Beyond the Numbers: A Culture of Confidence & Excellence

WHILE STATISTICS AND INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT PAINT A COMPELLING PICTURE OF SUCCESS, THE PERSONAL EXPERIENCES OF STUDENTS ARE EQUALLY TELLING. SURVEY RESULTS HIGHLIGHT THE PROFOUND IMPACT OF NDI NEW MEXICO ON STUDENTS' SELF-ESTEEM AND MOTIVATION.

Through structured programs and mentorship, NDI New Mexico students cultivate key life skills such as **teamwork**, **goal-setting**, and **perseverance**. Using arts education as a catalyst for development has helped thousands of children not only succeed in school but also build resilience, creativity, and leadership skills that serve them well into adulthood.

Classroom teacher surveys paint a similar picture of impact.

STUDENT SURVEY RESULTS

95%
of NDI dancers believe
that **striving for
excellence** is
important

85%
report **increased
confidence** as a
result of their
participation

85%
of in-school dancers
recognize the importance
of **healthy eating
and exercise**

95%
of Advanced Team dancers
place a strong **value on
achieving good
grades**

TEACHER SURVEY RESULTS

99.9%
thought that NDI had a
positive impact on their
students' **perseverance
or tenacity** and their
self-confidence

98%
thought that NDI had a
positive impact on their
students' **ability
to work with
classmates**

94%
thought that NDI had
a positive impact on
their students'
**engagement
in school**

A Model for Lasting Impact

THE LONGER A CHILD PARTICIPATES IN OUR PROGRAMS, THE MORE PROFOUND THE IMPACT. NDI NEW MEXICO'S IMPACT MODEL FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES UNDERSCORES THE ORGANIZATION'S LONG-TERM COMMITMENT TO FOSTERING POSITIVE OUTCOMES.

Short-Term Outcomes (1 year)

Students develop a strong work ethic, confidence, teamwork skills, and a sense of personal identity.

Intermediate Outcomes (1-3 years)

Participants cultivate a growth mindset, embrace responsibility, and develop leadership and resilience.

Long-Term Outcomes (3-5 years)

Advanced students exhibit adaptability, self-efficacy, and a commitment to lifelong learning, preparing them for success in higher education and beyond.

Looking Ahead: A Continued Commitment to Excellence

As NDI New Mexico enters its fourth decade, we remain committed to evaluating and refining our programs to maximize and assess impact. A new program evaluation will soon be launched to further measure the long-term benefits of participation, ensuring that NDI New Mexico continues to be a beacon of excellence for children across the state.

Through dance, discipline, and a dedication to excellence, NDI New Mexico is shaping the future—one student at a time. The results speak for themselves:

**higher academic achievement,
improved well-being,
and the development of confident,
resilient young leaders.**

In the face of the many challenges facing our youth, NDI New Mexico stands as a powerful force for change, proving that with the right support and opportunities, every child can succeed and excel.

OUR PROGRAMS

At NDI New Mexico,
our mission is to

**INSPIRE
EDUCATE
EMPOWER**
the next generation.

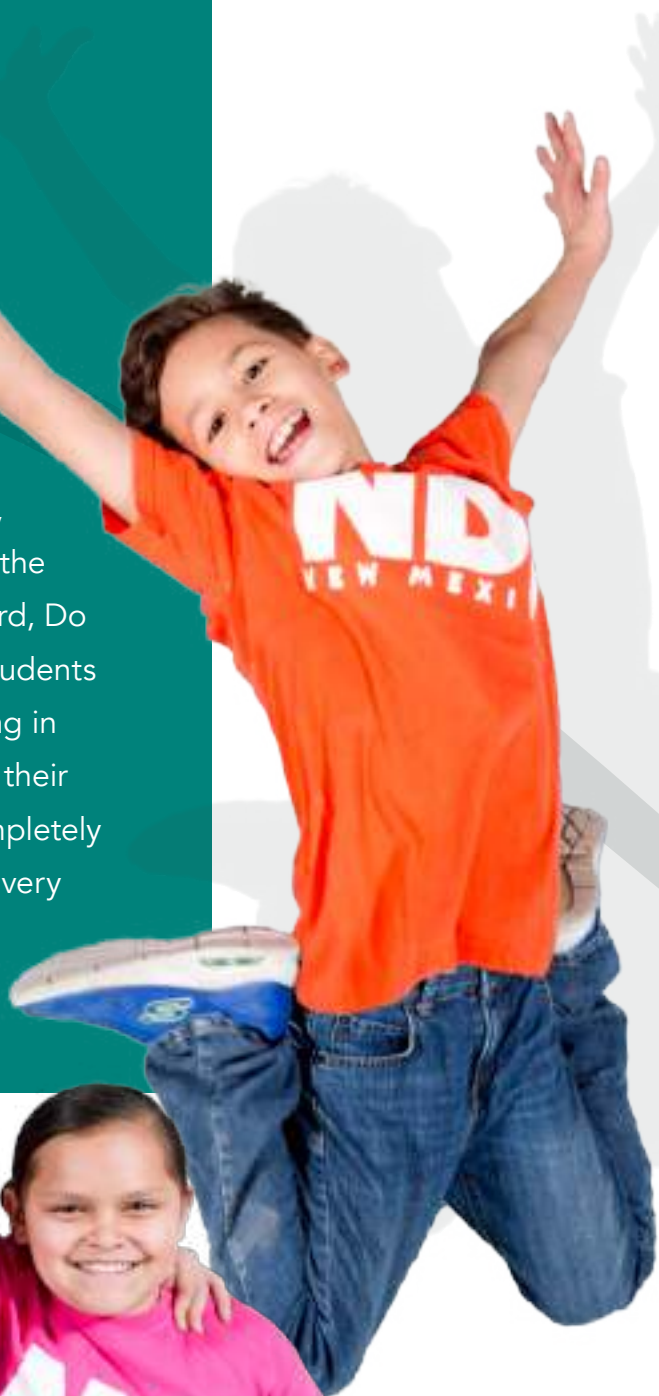
We believe that all children have the capacity to learn to work hard, never give up, do their best, and ultimately experience success. Combining arts education with youth development, our transformative programs instill confidence, discipline, and resilience—creating a lasting impact on students, their families, and their communities.



OUR PROGRAMS

IN-SCHOOL PROGRAM

The NDI New Mexico In-School classes are taught at public elementary schools during the school day as part of their curriculum. Led by expert teaching artists and live pianists, these classes engage 3rd-5th graders, including those with special needs, in Albuquerque, Rio Rancho, Santa Fe, Pecos, Pojoaque, and the Española Valley and instill the values of our Core Four philosophy: Work Hard, Do Your Best, Never Give Up, and Be Healthy! Students receive 15-30 weeks of instruction, culminating in an exciting final performance that showcases their growth. These transformative classes are completely free for children and their families, ensuring every child has access to the fundamentals for success in school and beyond!



SPOTLIGHT

Andrea Romero Gonzales



Public School Teacher, Española, NM

Andrea Romero Gonzales, a teacher at ETS Fairview Elementary and an NDI parent, brings a unique perspective to her students' experiences with NDI New Mexico. "In the classroom, we focus on standards and curriculum," she says, "but NDI allows students to explore their imagination and creativity in ways we can't always provide."

She's consistently amazed at how students learn choreography in small parts, only to see it all come together in a powerful, polished performance. Beyond the dancing, Andrea sees lasting benefits. "The program builds teamwork—students begin to support one another and grow as a community."

Romero appreciates how NDI teaching artists ease her students' nerves with their encouragement and warmth, helping self-esteem blossom throughout the program. Even after the session ends, the impact lingers. "There's a camaraderie among students—those who've participated before often cheer on and encourage the younger ones."

As both a teacher and parent, she recognizes the effort behind the final performance. "Parents see an amazing show, but I see the growth, dedication, and pride. Even though I'm not on stage, I'm filled with pride watching them shine after all their hard work."

"The program builds teamwork—students begin to support one another and grow as a community."

OUR PROGRAMS

RESIDENCY PROGRAM

Our Residency Program brings the transformative power of our In-School programs to rural and urban schools across New Mexico. Over one to three weeks, our traveling team immerses students in daily classes that build confidence and creativity, culminating in thrilling performances that unite schools, families, and communities.





HIP TO BE FIT®

BE HEALTHY is one of our Core Four principles for excellence! Integrated into the In-School curriculum, Hip to Be Fit® encourages children to stay active, make healthy choices, and build stamina. By promoting healthy habits, we empower New Mexico's children and families to embrace lifelong wellness.



OUR PROGRAMS



SUPER WONDERFUL ADVANCED TEAM (SWAT) & CELEBRATION TEAM

For students exposed to NDI New Mexico in their public schools, and eager to build on their skills and fundamentals, our Super Wonderful Advanced Team (SWAT) and Celebration Team provide an exciting next step. Beginning in 4th-6th grade, SWAT dancers train after school or on Saturdays, building strength, confidence, and artistry. As they progress, middle school students continue their journey on the Celebration Team, further developing their technique, discipline, and stage presence.

EARLY CHILDHOOD OUTREACH PROGRAM

In pre-K classrooms, the Dance For Joy curriculum helps young children ages 3-6 embark on a joyful journey of movement and self-expression. Developed in collaboration with Allegra Lillard, this research-backed program nurtures creativity, coordination, and key developmental milestones, fostering confidence and a love of learning.



OUR PROGRAMS





AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM

THE DANCE BARN (SANTA FE) & THE HILAND THEATER (ALBUQUERQUE)

When the school day ends, our After-School Programs provide a safe, structured, and inclusive space where children ages 3-18 can build confidence, explore their potential, and develop essential life skills through dance education. We offer high-quality classes, from ballet to hip-hop, that foster creativity, resilience, and a strong sense of belonging. Sliding-scale tuition ensures that every child has access to an enriching after-school experience—whether they're stepping into their first class or pursuing a future in the performing arts.



OUR PROGRAMS

PRE-PROFESSIONAL COMPANIES

Children and teens who participated in our After-School program and are ready to take their training to the pre-professional track may be invited to audition for our Companies: Junior Company (ages 10-13, intermediate level), Apprentice Company (ages 13-16, intermediate/advanced level), and Company XCel (ages 15-18, advanced level).

Our Company program offers a pre-professional track where students are given additional performance opportunities, work with guest artists, participate in master classes, and receive support for scholarship funds to pursue advanced summer training.

SUMMER PROGRAMS

Dance doesn't stop when the school year ends! Our Summer Programs at The Dance Barns in Santa Fe and The Hiland Theater in Albuquerque offer exciting classes in ballet, jazz, hip-hop, tap, modern, and more! With sliding-scale tuition, high-quality training is accessible to all.



SPOTLIGHT

Reina Medina



NDI New Mexico Alumna

Reina Medina's journey with NDI New Mexico began in third grade at Gonzales Elementary through the In-School program. Her enthusiasm and talent led her to join SWAT in fifth grade, eventually advancing to Senior SWAT and the Celebration Team.

Dance became a gateway to learning for Reina. "There was a SWAT teacher I really liked," she shared. "I had a hard time learning in elementary school, but the way she explained dance helped me understand things differently. That experience showed me I could learn in more than one way."

Reina's time with NDI New Mexico ignited her passion for education and community. She began tutoring at 17, trained as an Educational Assistant, and now coaches girls' basketball. Today, she works behind the scenes at NDI New Mexico as an administrative assistant and supports performances backstage.

Students often ask Reina about her NDI days, and she treasures being a mentor. "It feels good to be there for the kids, to give back what I once received. Watching them carry on backstage traditions brings back great memories."

Now, she's part of the team that makes the magic happen—helping create the same seamless, joyful performances she remembers from her own childhood.

"...the way she explained dance helped me understand things differently. That experience showed me I could learn in more than one way."

THE ART OF TEACHING





**Teaching artists are
the backbone of
NDI New Mexico, and
the key to our impact.**

We invest in robust training to deliver our methodology to children in our Outreach programs, work with high caliber choreographers to create vehicles for students' development in Advanced Training programs, and create opportunities for enrichment and development for teaching artists in every program to continue developing their practice. The example our teaching artists set when they aim for excellence themselves is one of the most inspiring things about NDI New Mexico.

A photograph of three individuals in a workshop setting. On the left, a man in a purple t-shirt and black pants has his arms raised. In the center, a woman in a red t-shirt with a white star graphic and blue jeans has her arms raised. On the right, a woman in a black long-sleeved shirt and black pants is also in a dynamic pose. The background is a bright, modern interior with purple accents.

THE ART OF TEACHING

TEACHING EXCELLENCE®

Our Teaching Excellence® workshop is a critical building block for training teaching artists to develop the skills to conduct fast-paced, engaging classes. During the two-week intensive, participants work with children alongside our own master teachers, immersed in hands-on training in NDI New Mexico's highly interactive, fun, and athletic teaching methodology.

2025 Workshop: Albuquerque - August 18-29

TEACHING EXCELLENCE FOR YOUNG CHILDREN

NDI New Mexico is proud to collaborate with Allegra Lillard to present her Dance For Joy curriculum and teacher training. This curriculum and pedagogy provide solid concepts, activities, and strategies for teaching artists to create a joyful journey for young children to reach key early childhood development milestones, supporting their physical, emotional, social, and cognitive development.

2025 Workshops: Santa Fe - May 19-23 | Albuquerque - June 2-6



SPOTLIGHT

Matthew Jaeger

Associate Outreach Music Director

Matthew Jaeger has been a professional musician for over a decade, playing bass with local bands and teaching privately. He joined NDI New Mexico as a part-time accompanist, quickly advancing to Residency Music Director and now serves as Associate Outreach Music Director.

"In my role, I connect with students through instrumentation and arrange music that helps tell stories through movement," he says. "Music is a bridge across all experiences, and I'm grateful to build those connections daily with NDI."



Matthew thrives on the collaborative energy of the Outreach team. "Their dedication and creativity push me to be a better musician and educator. Together, we bring energy, fun, and compassion to every classroom."

Leading live music for NDI's End-of-Year Events is a highlight for Matthew. "It's a once-in-a-lifetime experience—for both the young performers and the families cheering them on."

He believes live music is essential to NDI's mission. "No matter who you are or where you're from, music has the power to create instant connections. It brings emotion, memory, and meaning to every moment—and that's what we give our students in every class."

"It's a once-in-a-lifetime experience —for both the young performers and the families cheering them on."

THE ART OF TEACHING



TEACHING ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

This program gives students the opportunity to work with a professional choreographer and their team of guest artists. Students are inspired, challenged, and have their horizons expanded as they learn not only about what dance can develop in them as individuals, but also learn about the career opportunities in the field. The NDI New Mexico teaching staff also benefits from enrichment opportunities with the guest artists.

Our 2024–2025 Teaching Artist in Residence is Lillian Barbeito. A Santa Fe native, Lillian studied at The Juilliard School in New York, co-founded BodyTraffic in Los Angeles, and is the Founder and Artistic Director of both the Carmel Dance Festival and Ballare Carmel—a company dedicated to creating educational opportunities and presenting world-class dance in Carmel-by-the-Sea, California. The first phase of Lillian’s residency took place in the fall and winter, when she worked with our Hiland Company dancers in Albuquerque. During her time at The Hiland Theater, she created original choreography for students, led a class for our teaching artists, and brought dancers from her company to perform alongside our students. Lillian will return this summer for the second phase of her residency as part of our Arts in Motion program at The Dance Barns in Santa Fe. She will teach technique and improvisation classes and create a new piece of choreography for our students.

This original work will culminate in a special, site-specific performance in collaboration with Reunity Resources farm on June 6, 2025!



The NDI DREAM Project

STAFF ENRICHMENT & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Annual staff training is vital to the success of NDI New Mexico's programs, equipping our teaching artists to inspire and support every student. In 2024, leading up to the school year, staff focused on our Impact Model for Youth and Families, exploring the ways in which their unique inputs lead to transformational outcomes. Through various creative activities, professional development courses, and collaborative sessions, they deepened their understanding of how their talent, spirit, and commitment shapes student success. Additionally, we partnered with The NDI DREAM Project (Dancers Realize Excellence through Arts and Movement), an inclusive dance program that empowers children of all abilities to perform together. Teaching artists took part in a workshop led by NDI's Artistic Director Kay Garner and Pediatric Physical Therapist Dr. Agnes McConlogue Ferro, learning strategies to create a stronger sense of belonging in their classes. Through hands-on training, shared insights, and professional growth, our staff continue to strengthen the foundation of our mission and expand the impact of our programs.

THE ART OF TEACHING

SPOTLIGHT

Lauren O'Brien



Residency Artistic Director

Lauren O'Brien's passion for dance and community has taken her from pre-professional training in Philadelphia to classrooms across New Mexico. After earning her BFA in Dance Performance from Montclair State University and volunteering with a program for inner-city youth in New Jersey, she moved west, embracing an opportunity that would become her dream job. "When I first moved to New Mexico, it allowed me to explore the state while doing meaningful work," Lauren shares. "Now, I get to build relationships with children in schools and communities across New Mexico—helping them trust me and, more importantly, trust themselves."

As Residency Artistic Director, Lauren travels statewide, leading NDI New Mexico's in-school programs and deepening her connection to the people she serves. She says her perspective of New Mexico continues to expand—learning more about its beauty and the challenges its communities face. "I love wearing my NDI t-shirt when I'm out and about because someone always stops me—a former student, a dancer practicing in the grocery store aisle, or a parent who remembers the joy of seeing their child on stage."

Lauren is especially inspired by the transformation she sees in her students. "I love introducing children to dance and music, especially those who've never had the chance before," she says. "Watching them push through challenges and emerge more confident is incredible." She takes pride in being part of a student's journey—helping them discover a passion for the arts and a belief in their own abilities.

Known for her unwavering encouragement, Lauren reminds students that it takes courage to show up, try something new, and commit to growth. Her positive energy and heartfelt support help shape the experiences of every child she works with. NDI New Mexico is proud to have Lauren O'Brien on our team, bringing inspiration, connection, and joy to classrooms across the state.

"Watching children push through challenges and emerge more confident is incredible."



THE HILAND THEATER

75 Years of Connection, Inspiration, and Community

For 75 years, The Hiland Theater has stood as a beacon of culture, creativity, and community in Albuquerque. From its origins as a bustling movie theater to its transformation into a thriving center for youth empowerment through arts education, the Hiland has stood as a symbol of resilience and inspiration. As we celebrate this milestone, we reflect on its storied past, celebrate its vibrant present, and look ahead to a future brimming with possibility.

A Rich History

When The Hiland Theater's marquee first lit up Route 66 in the spring of 1950, it embodied the energy and optimism of a growing Albuquerque. Built during the post-World War II boom, it quickly became a beloved gathering place where families, students, couples, and film lovers shared in the magic of the silver screen. More than a movie house, the Hiland was a cornerstone of a thriving neighborhood—weekends buzzed with anticipation as residents gathered under the glow of the marquee that symbolized a city on the rise.

By the 1990s, the Hiland had expanded beyond cinema, welcoming live performances that further enriched the community's cultural landscape. Home to the Albuquerque Light Civic Opera (later Musical Theatre Southwest), it became a place where aspiring performers honed their craft and audiences experienced the magic of musical theater and live storytelling.

But as time passed, the future of the Hiland became uncertain. The movie theater closed in 1995, and though live performances continued into the mid-2000s, the building—and the neighborhood itself—stood at a crossroads. The corridor along Route 66 saw increasing challenges and the Hiland needed new purpose.

JOIN US FOR THE HILAND THEATER'S
75TH BIRTHDAY PARTY ON JUNE 28!

Happy 75th
Birthday!





A Rebirth

In 2009, NDI New Mexico, in partnership with Bernalillo County, saw in the Hiland a rare opportunity: a chance to breathe new life into a historic space while transforming it into something even greater. With the support of generous donors, foundations, and public funding, the building underwent a remarkable renovation. When the doors reopened in 2012 the Hiland entered a new era—one where the joy of movement and music would once again fill its halls.

Today, the Hiland is home to NDI New Mexico's Albuquerque public In-School and After-School programs, providing thousands of children with a safe, inspiring, and inclusive environment to grow and thrive. With eight state-of-the-art dance

studios, a stunning 600-seat theater, and a warm and welcoming atmosphere, the Hiland has become a second home to students and their families.

The building has a renewed energy—students leaping and twirling through classes and performances, parents watching with pride, and teachers guiding the next generation. Once again, the Hiland is a thriving center of culture, inspiration, and connection.

A Future of Growth and Impact

As we look ahead, NDI New Mexico envisions The Hiland Theater as more than a home for our programs, but as a cultural heartbeat—a catalyst for neighborhood revitalization, and a space where art, history, and community converge. The Hiland's next chapter will celebrate its rich history while forging new traditions that bring people together in new and meaningful ways.

We see a gathering space alive with energy and excitement—where people of all ages come to be inspired—fostering joy, curiosity, and connection. Evenings and weekends will buzz with live performances, storytelling projects, community events, and film screenings, inviting everyone to share in power of youth development through the arts.

This vision requires collaboration, and we are committed to ensuring the voices of the community shape the future of the Hiland. Through dynamic partnerships with other arts organizations, we hope to create new opportunities for young people and families to explore, learn, and grow. Strengthening relationships with local residents, businesses, and civic leaders, we will help cultivate a safe, vibrant, and connected neighborhood—one where the Hiland stands not just as a landmark, but as a lasting symbol of hope, creativity, and belonging.



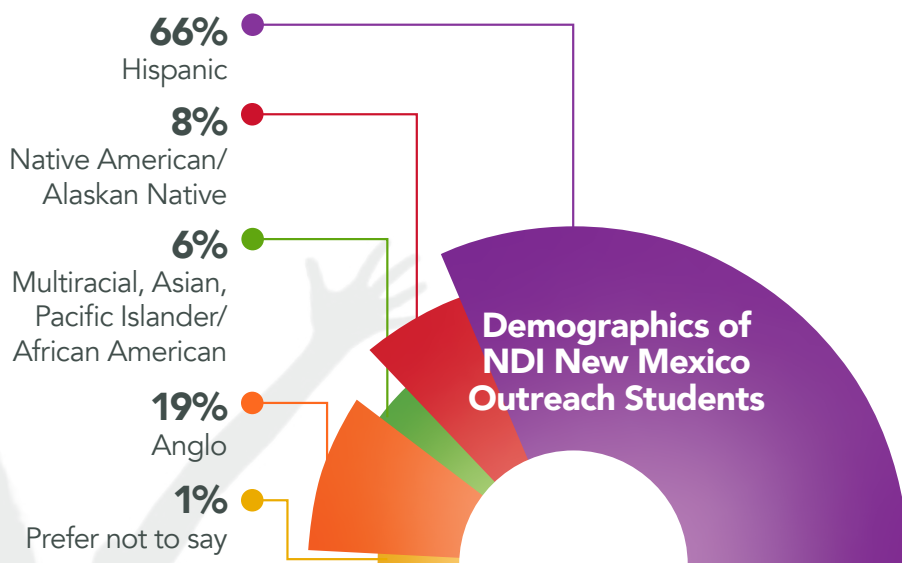


A Legacy That Shines Bright

The Hiland Theater has always been more than walls and a stage—it is a place where creativity flourishes, connections deepen, and young people discover their potential. As we look to the future, we are committed to ensuring that the Hiland remains a space where all who enter feel safe, empowered, and supported.

Today, the Hiland's future shines as brightly as its landmark marquee did when it first opened 75 years ago. Together, we will continue to honor its rich history, celebrate its present, and embark on an exciting new chapter—one where the Hiland continues to be a beacon of connection, inspiration, and transformation for the next 75 years.

NDI New Mexico Students Qualifying for the Federal Free or Reduced Cost Meal Program



OUR PARTNER SCHOOLS

ALBUQUERQUE

21st Century Public Academy
 Adobe Acres Elementary
 Alameda Elementary
 Alamosa Elementary
 Bandelier Elementary
 Bel Air Elementary
 Chamiza Elementary
 Cochiti Elementary
 Comanche Elementary
 Coral Community Charter
 E.G. Ross Elementary
 East San Jose Elementary
 Edward Gonzales Elementary
 Eugene Field Elementary
 Inez Science and Technology Magnet
 Janet Kahn School of Integrated
 Arts Magnet
 La Mesa Elementary
 Lew Wallace Elementary
 Longfellow Dual Language Magnet
 Los Ranchos Elementary
 Monte Vista Elementary
 Montezuma Elementary
 Mountain View Elementary
 North Valley Academy Charter
 Osuna Elementary
 Reginald Chavez Elementary
 Sandia Base Elementary
 Susie Rayos Marmon Elementary
 Whittier Elementary

RIO RANCHO

Colinas del Norte Elementary
 Maggie Cordova Elementary
 Puesta del Sol Elementary
 Sandia Vista Elementary

NORTHERN NM

Alcalde Elementary
 Chimayo Elementary
 E.T. Salazar Elementary
 Hernandez Elementary
 James H. Rodriguez Elementary
 Ohkay Owingeh Community
 Pablo Roybal Elementary
 Tony E. Quintana Elementary

SANTA FE

Acequia Madre Elementary
 Aspen Community
 Atalaya Elementary
 Carlos Gilbert Elementary
 El Camino Real Academy
 Gonzales Community
 Kearny Elementary
 Nina Otero Elementary
 Salazar Elementary
 Sweeney Elementary
 Turquoise Trail Charter

RESIDENCY

ARTESIA

Central Elementary
 Hermosa Elementary

Roselawn Elementary
 Yeso Elementary
 Yucca Elementary
 Grand Heights Early Childhood

CARLSBAD

Cottonwood Elementary

CUBA

Cuba Elementary

DULCE

Dulce Elementary

GALLUP

Red Rock Elementary

HATCH

Rio Grande Elementary

HOBBS

Broadmoor Elementary
 Booker T. Washington Elementary
 College Lane Elementary
 Coronado Elementary
 Edison Elementary
 Jefferson Elementary
 Mills Elementary
 Sanger Elementary
 Southern Heights Elementary
 Stone Elementary
 Taylor Elementary
 Will Rogers Elementary

LAS CRUCES

Hermosa Heights Elementary
 Sonoma Elementary

WHO WE SERVE

This year we will serve more than 8,000 children, partnering with more than 300 public school teachers across 90 schools, in 29 communities around the state. In addition, we will deliver over 250,000 hours of instruction time.

NDI New Mexico programs provide access and opportunity for children across the state; we are committed to equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility.

LAS VEGAS

Mike Mateo Sena Elementary
Sierra Vista Elementary

LOVINGTON

Yarbro Elementary

MAGDALENA

Magdalena Elementary

RATON

Raton Intermediate School

ROSWELL

Nancy Lopez Elementary
Pecos Elementary
Silver City/Bayard
Central Elementary
G.W. Stout Elementary
Harrison Schmitt Elementary
Jose Barrios Elementary
Sixth Street Elementary

SOCORRO

Cottonwood Valley Charter
Midway Elementary
Parkview Elementary
San Antonio Elementary

TAOS

Enos Garcia Elementary

TULAROSA

Tularosa Elementary

WAGON MOUND

Wagon Mound Elementary



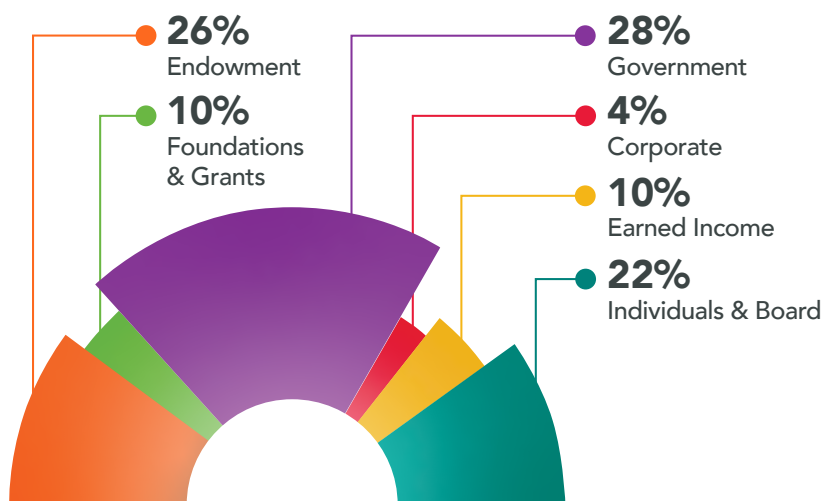
Give the Gift of EXCELLENCE!

**EVERY DONATION MAKES A DIFFERENCE
THAT CAN LAST A LIFETIME FOR A CHILD.**

Your generous investment in NDI New Mexico provides access to excellence for thousands of underserved children and creates opportunities for youth in our state to build better futures. Our work is guided by our belief in children, as well as our commitment to social responsibility, excellence, sustainability, and financial integrity. To ensure program sustainability, we depend on and are grateful to our diverse funders.



HOW OUR FUNDS ARE USED



HOW WE ARE FUNDED

Ways to GIVE

A gift to NDI New Mexico can be made in a number of different ways—as a bequest, as a memorial or tribute to another person, as an online donation, or as a contribution to the NDI New Mexico endowment. All charitable donations help children achieve success and are tax-deductible.

DONATE ONLINE

www.ndi-nm.org/donate

JOIN A GIVING CIRCLE

Circle of Friends: \$1-\$999

Founders' Circle: \$1,000-\$4,999

Circle of Distinction: \$5,000-\$9,999

Circle of Excellence: \$10,000-\$99,999

Pillars of Excellence: \$100,000+

GIFTS OF SECURITIES

Common stocks and mutual funds

PLANNED GIVING

Bequests, charitable gift annuities and trusts, or IRA rollovers

NDI NEW MEXICO ENDOWMENT

Support NDI New Mexico's financial security and initiatives for today and tomorrow

HONOR AND MEMORIAL GIFTS

Make a tribute gift in honor of a joyous occasion or in memory of a loved one

FOUNDATION AND CORPORATE PARTNERS

Grants and sponsorship opportunities support programs and events

DONOR ADVISED FUNDS AND UNITED WAY

Recommend or designate a gift to support NDI New Mexico programs

MATCHING GIFTS

Many employers will match gifts or volunteer hours donated

MONTHLY GIVING

Sustain NDI New Mexico programs with year-round impact



"If you see a class or a performance, you'll understand.

NDI is transforming lives

—and that's worth your investment.

John Berndt, NDI New Mexico Board Member

SPOTLIGHT

Linda DiPaolo Love



A LEGACY OF DEDICATION AND HEART

For over two decades, Linda DiPaolo Love has been a passionate advocate for NDI New Mexico, fully embracing the organization's mission to transform young lives through arts education. After moving to Santa Fe in 1994, Linda quickly immersed herself in the community and was introduced to NDI through her involvement in local volunteer work. She was soon invited by Founding Artistic Director Catherine Oppenheimer to join the Gala Committee, where she quickly took on a leadership role as Chair. Her commitment to NDI deepened, eventually leading her to a vital position on the Board of Directors.

Linda's infectious New York energy and unwavering belief in youth development have left a lasting impact on NDI New Mexico. "I've always believed that investing in the children of New Mexico helps New Mexico," she reflects. Over the years, Linda's influence has been felt in many ways—from raising funds for galas and guiding board governance to inspiring major gifts. But it's the small, meaningful moments that have resonated with her most: interacting with families proudly wearing NDI t-shirts around town and hearing their stories of how much the program means to them, following alumni's successful careers, and watching children in rural communities light up through dance. "It's not just about what we do—it's about how it touches people and how it touches New Mexico," Linda says.

Whether cheering on young dancers in schools, assisting at performances, or bringing her beloved therapy dog, Papaya, to visit students, Linda has always shown up with warmth, energy, and an open heart.

As a Silver Sneakers legacy donor, Linda continues her support by ensuring NDI's future through planned giving. Her commitment reflects a deep belief in the organization's potential to create generational change. "It's about promising something further on," she explains, highlighting her dedication to NDI's ongoing mission. While stepping back from active board service, Linda's legacy remains vibrant—a testament to the power of passionate, long-term community investment in our young people's potential.

It's not just about what we do—it's about how it touches people and how it touches New Mexico.

Silver SNEAKERS

**YOUR LEGACY. THEIR FUTURE.
YOUR DANCING FOOTSTEPS LAST FOREVER.**

Thanks to the commitment and planning of our generous Silver Sneakers Legacy Society members today, children in New Mexico will continue to be inspired to work hard, do their best, never give up, and be healthy for many generations to come.

Ann N. Aceves
Charmay Allred*
Anonymous
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Nancy A. Baker
Russell Baker
Holly Barnett-Sanchez & David Foster
Beth Beloff & Marc Geller
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Susann & Paul* Weaver
Eileen Wells
Helen Wertheim
Gretchen K. Williams
May & Charlie Wilson

🦶 Founding Member
* Deceased

Thank You
SILVER SNEAKERS MEMBERS!

SILVER SNEAKERS

Thank You!

ENDOWMENT

Endowment funds are essential to the long-term sustainability of NDI New Mexico's programming. Gifts to our Children's Future Fund support the financial health of the organization and help keep our programs thriving in perpetuity. We are deeply grateful to the following friends for their foresight, generosity, and care:

Anonymous
Ann Aceves, Aceves - London Family Fund
Charmay Allred*
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The Three Sisters of the Southwest
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United Way of Central New Mexico
Marietta Leis & David Vogel
Helen Wertheim, The Robert &
Elizabeth Wertheim Foundation Fund
Nancy Zeckendorf

* Deceased

When you visit an NDI New Mexico classroom and see the focus and excitement on the kids' faces, you know—
THIS is making a difference.

Supporting NDI is investing in a child's confidence, future, and happiness.

Tami Boaz, NDI New Mexico Director of Advancement

SPOTLIGHT

John Bernt



INVESTING IN THE FUTURE OF NEW MEXICO'S CHILDREN

When John and Jean Bernt moved to Santa Fe in 2000, they could not have anticipated that a simple visit with their new neighbors would spark a decades-long commitment to youth development through the arts. They noticed a photo of legendary dancer and NDI Co-Founder Jacques d'Amboise on the wall, which reminded them of a youth dance performance they had seen him stage in New York. That moment of connection led them to attend their first NDI New Mexico Gala—and they were immediately hooked.

For John and Jean, NDI New Mexico became more than an organization—it became a passion. Over the years, John has served as Board Vice Chair, Board Chair, Board Treasurer,

and Chair of the Governance and Finance Committees. But the heart of his commitment has always been the same: “The highlight of my NDI experience is the children,” he says. “This is all about the children.”

Recognizing the need for long-term sustainability, John has been a long-time investor in NDI's endowment. “A gift to the endowment is a statement of deep trust in the mission and stewardship of this organization,” he says. Through the Berndts' generosity and leadership, they've helped ensure that thousands of children across New Mexico will continue to experience the joy, discipline, and empowerment that NDI brings.

John puts it simply: “If you see a class or a performance, you'll understand. NDI is transforming lives—and that's worth your investment.”

The Berndts' legacy is one of vision, commitment, and heart—an enduring gift to New Mexico's children.

“ The highlight of my NDI experience is the children.
This is all about the children. ”

THANK YOU!

TO OUR SUPPORTERS

NDI New Mexico is grateful for every gift we receive! Contributions to our various funds—annual giving and event support, and capital and endowment gifts—are recognized from the time period March 15, 2024 to March 14, 2025. Please know that every effort has been made to present a complete and accurate list of our supporters. We apologize for any errors or omissions and appreciate your corrections.

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Connie and Paul Cassidy
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- Foundation
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SPOTLIGHT

The Delle Foundation



For more than a decade, NDI New Mexico has been honored to count the Delle Foundation as a dedicated supporter and partner. Founded in the early 2000s by George and Helen “Satch” Cowan, the foundation reflects their enduring commitment to community, equity, opportunity, and the belief in giving generously to create lasting change.

Though the foundation will sunset in 2028 or 2029, its impact on New Mexico is lasting. With a focus on early childhood education, women’s

and family health, the environment, and the vitality of Northern New Mexico, the Delle Foundation has been a long-time champion of organizations that align with its holistic vision for healthy, resilient communities.

Grants from the foundation have helped sustain and grow NDI New Mexico’s North In-School programs in Pojoaque and the Española Valley—bringing joyful, transformational arts education and life skills to children in rural communities.

“The values of NDI New Mexico align completely with what we believe is right thinking and good for New Mexico,” says Jeffrey Howell, President of the Delle Foundation. “Inclusivity, diversity, hope—those are values we deeply care about.”

What stands out most to Jeffrey is the joy NDI New Mexico brings to communities across the state. “It’s inspiring to see all those kids working together so beautifully,” she says. “The joy of attending those performances is just unimaginable.”

The Cowans’ legacy lives on—in the institutions they built, and in the lives of the children, families, and communities they’ve helped uplift.

NDI New Mexico is proud to be a part of that legacy.

*“Inclusivity,
diversity,
hope,
—those are the values
we deeply care about.”*

DONOR *Appreciation*

Thank you for your belief in us and for joining us in celebrating our children's success! Your gift is a statement of support of children's futures.







“Because of my time at NDI, I am more extroverted,
happy, and less nervous to speak up for myself.”

I love this community!

Monse, NDI New Mexico Graduate

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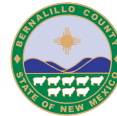
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SPOTLIGHT

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PRESBYTERIAN & JESSICA SANCHEZ

When Jessica Sanchez first attended an NDI New Mexico gala eight years ago, she was captivated. The image of hundreds of children from across the state radiating joy and confidence on stage stayed with her—and ultimately inspired her to become one of NDI's most passionate corporate champions through her current role at Presbyterian.

As a leader and advocate, Jessica has redefined what it means to be a corporate partner. Under her guidance, Presbyterian has moved beyond financial support to launch innovative, hands-on initiatives that reflect our shared core values. From underwriting dance shoes for NDI students to hosting Sewing with a Purpose—a weekly sewing circle where seniors from Presbyterian's Health Plan Place, a

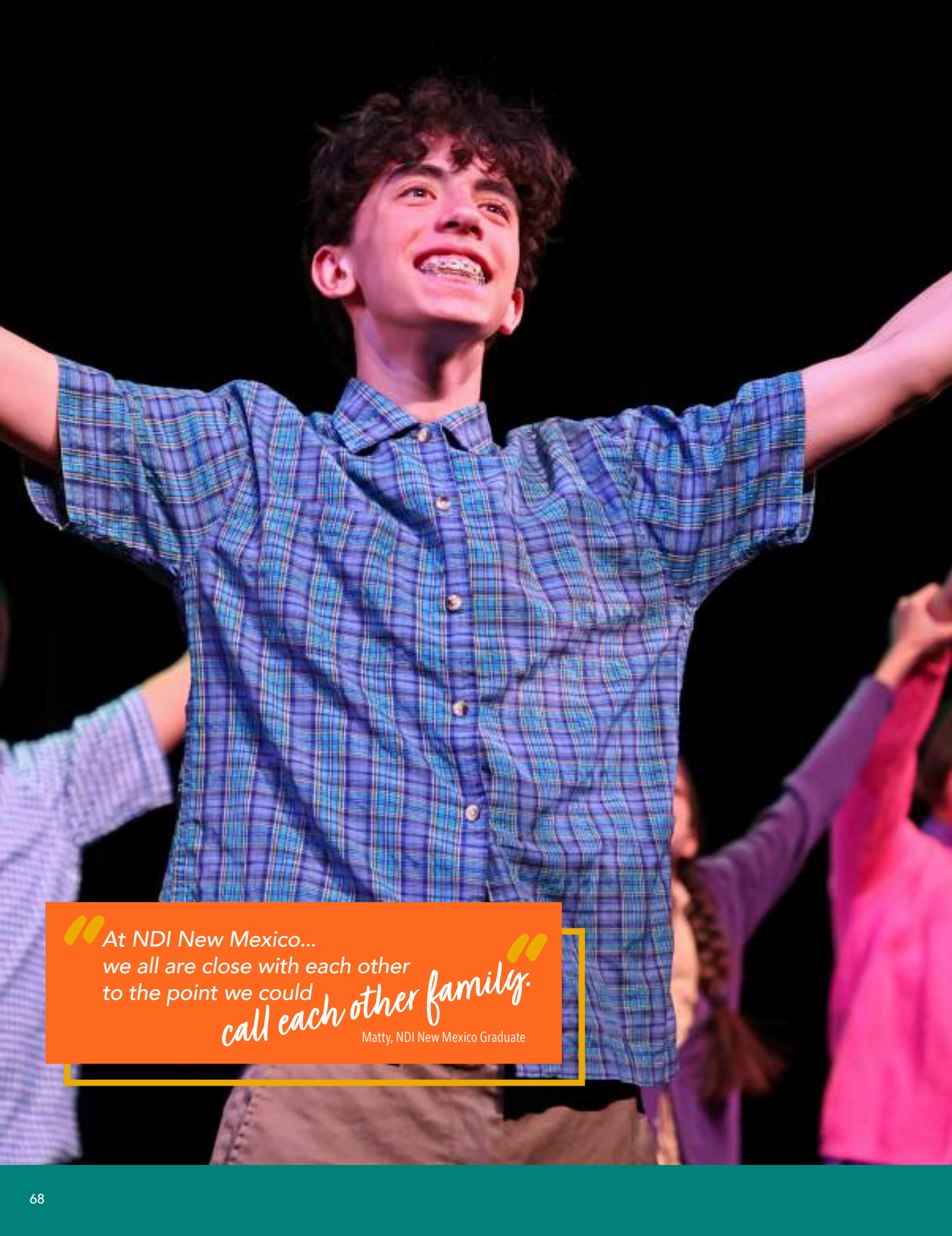
Medicare Advantage Center offering free health care resources, help craft costumes for student performers—Presbyterian's involvement has fostered meaningful connections and deepened community impact.

"NDI isn't just arts education," Sanchez says. "It's youth development. It's workforce development. It's health and wellness." She sees the partnership as a strategic response to New Mexico's challenges—supporting graduation rates, boosting self-confidence in youth, and inspiring healthier, more connected families.

As a long-serving member of NDI's Corporate Council, Jessica brings heart, vision, and action to the table. She's a powerful example of how local business can fuel lasting change in our schools and communities.

Presbyterian's model of deep, intentional partnership shows just how transformative corporate collaboration can be.

*“NDI isn't just arts education;
It's youth development.
It's workforce development.
It's health and wellness.”*



“At NDI New Mexico...

we all are close with each other
to the point we could

call each other family.”

Matty, NDI New Mexico Graduate

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SPOTLIGHT

Gerald Landgraf



Jerry Landgraf is a true champion of community-driven philanthropy, with a deep commitment to New Mexico's youth that has spanned decades. He first discovered NDI New Mexico while working in development along Central Avenue in Albuquerque. Inspired by the organization's mission and impact, Jerry played a key role in the renovation of The Hiland Theatre. From there, his involvement grew, evolving into 15+ years of transformative support that has positively impacted the lives of countless young people.

A seasoned business leader with a sharp eye for community potential, Jerry joined NDI's board

in 2009, bringing both financial expertise and a deep belief in the power of youth development. Throughout his tenure, his commitment was fueled not only by the organization's impact but also by his admiration for NDI's Executive Director Russell Baker, the Board, and the NDI staff. He was consistently inspired by their dedication, vision, and extraordinary commitment to shaping the next generation of young leaders.

Along with his wife Barbara, Jerry's commitment extends far beyond traditional philanthropy. Together, they've witnessed NDI's remarkable ability to transform students' lives, turning hesitant participants into confident, ambitious young leaders. From his integral role in spearheading the remarkable Hiland Theater renovation to championing NDI's expansion into new communities, their support has been instrumental in creating opportunities for students across New Mexico.

Jerry's dedication stems from his holistic vision. He understands that investing in youth means investing in the state's future—creating pathways for talented young people to become innovative leaders who will drive New Mexico's economic and social progress. Together the Landgrafs' generosity is more than a donation; it's a profound commitment to possibility, potential, and the extraordinary promise of New Mexico's young people.

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SPECIAL FRIENDS

NDI New Mexico extends our heartfelt gratitude to the many individuals and organizations who helped make this year unforgettable. Your partnership, creativity, and generosity continue to enrich the lives of our dancers and strengthen our community.

A special thank you to our incredible guest artists who joined us this year to enrich the experiences of our dancers and collaborate with our staff! Thank you to **Lillian Barbeito, JaMoon Jones, Babatunji Johnson, and Nicole Bui** for your teaching and beautiful performances with our Hiland dancers for Moving Stories; thank you to **Francisco Gella, Margrit Paul, and Craig Byrd**, whose creativity and dedication were instrumental in shaping Spring into Motion; we're grateful to **Breakin' Hearts, Ria Thundercloud, Aaron Howe, and the New Mexico Gay Men's Chorus, Wise Fool, Duke City Swing, and Rulan Tangen** for your collaborations with our programs in Albuquerque; Thank you to **Emi Grimm and the dancers of Emi Arte Flamenco Academy** for joining us on stage in Santa Fe, and to **Daniel Archuleta and the Tewa Dancers from Ohkay Owingeh Community School** for dancing with us in Española.

We appreciate the enthusiastic support from the **Sabra Romero, Santa Fe Public Schools, and to Principal Christopher Lopez and Gonzales Community School**—thank you for providing us with vital rehearsal space for our Santa Fe Advanced Teams!

Thank you to all our friends at **Española Valley High School** for so generously hosting the North End-of-Year Event.

We extend our thanks to **Victoria Bruneni and what The truck**, as well as **Dion's on Central and Monroe**, for feeding our dancers and guests at special events.

A sincere thank you to **Chanelle Delgado** with Santa Fe County, **Mary Hendrix, Zita Mercure, and Andrea Vigil** from PMS, **Allison Gabaldon**, and the many principals and early childhood educators whose passion fuels our Early Childhood Outreach.

Thank you to those who made our In-School events possible, including: **Pojoaque Valley School District Superintendent Amy Suman, Pojoaque Valley School District Associate Superintendent Mario Vigil, In School Coordinator Angela Martinez, Pablo Roybal Elementary School (PRES) Principal Lynda Lujan-Trujillo, Vice Principal Elizabeth Pacheco, and Coach Juan Ortiz, as well as EL Camino Real Academy (ECRA) Principal Evan Gourd** for hosting us and the dedicated PRES and ECRA teachers for participating and dancing in their respective events.

We're also grateful to the **Santa Fe Fire Department and Santa Fe Police Department** for bringing joy and excitement to our End-of-Year Events.

THANK YOU!

To our partners in government—the **New Mexico Legislature** and the **Office of Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham**—thank you for your continued support and belief in our mission.

Special thanks to **Richard Tarango & Friends** for supporting student matinee transportation in Albuquerque.

Our Residency Department thanks **NM Tech's Macey Center in Socorro, RN Tydings Auditorium in Hobbs, Estelle Yates Auditorium in Artesia, Principal Victoria Franks (Hermosa Heights Elementary), and Joseph Flores (Las Cruces Public Schools)** for hosting performances and trainings.

We're grateful for the invaluable pro-bono support of **Katherine Treadwell** of Salesforce and dedicated volunteer, **Teena Buice**, for their help enhancing our database systems.

Thank you to **Garcia Automotive Group** for underwriting our VIP Gala Sponsor Parties and to **Vladem Contemporary** for hosting our Santa Fe event and the **National Hispanic Cultural Center** for hosting our Albuquerque event.

Thank you **Deborah Peacock and Lenny Katz** for legal expertise and advice.

We are so grateful to **Ted Kreifels** for serving on the Santa Fe Development Committee; **John Burnham, Susan Dubin, Peter Frank, Maria "Meb" Gordon, and Joni Pierce** for serving on the Investment Committee; **Peter Frank** for serving on the Audit Committee; **Helen Wertheim** for your service on the Strategic Planning Committee; **Rathi Casey, Joe Farr, David Foster, Jerry Landgraf, Julie Morgas Baca, and Helen Wertheim** for serving on the Activating Hiland Committee; **Jason Biehler** (Steady Networks) and **Chris Steinmetz** (Steady Networks) for serving on the IT Committee.

Thank you to **Presbyterian** for partnering with us for Sewing with a Purpose and to the volunteers from their Health Plan Place who helped make costumes for our dancers!

Thank you to all the **public-school teachers, principals, education assistants, secretaries, custodians, and all the staff at our participating public schools**, your partnership makes our outreach program possible!

And finally, to our amazing **parents and community volunteers**: your time, energy, and heart make everything we do possible. We truly couldn't do it without you.



“Students who progress into SWAT and Celebration teams create a deeper bond with one another and it’s a great stepping stone to

help children further their dreams.”

Andrea Romero Gonzales, Public School Teacher, Española, NM

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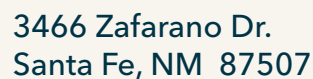
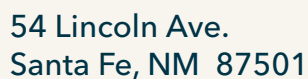
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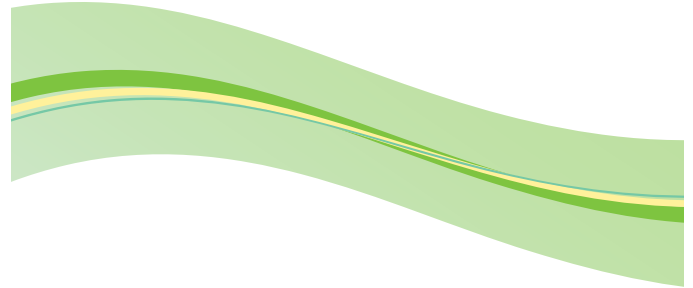
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-Eileen Wells

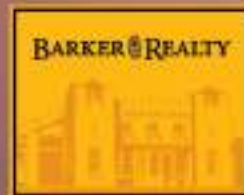




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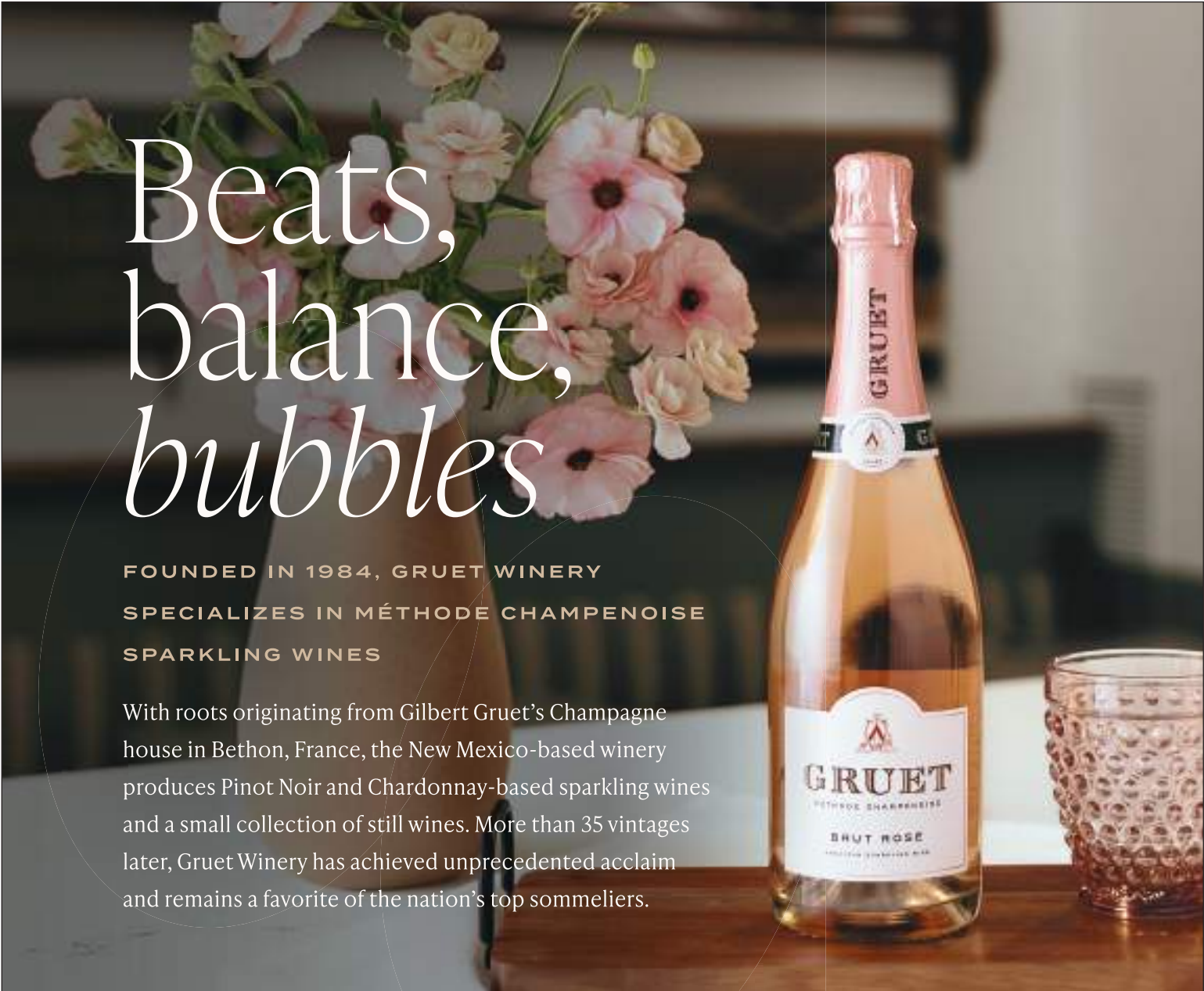
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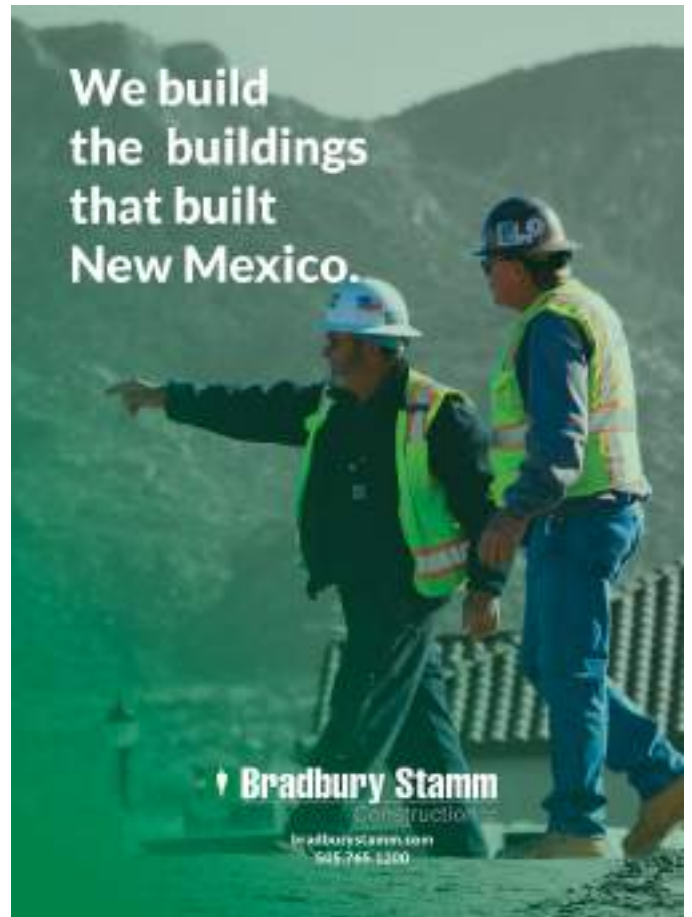
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