

Dante Olivas (he/him)

Contact

danteolivas@unm.edu

Education

University of New Mexico

Chicanx Studies, Master of Arts
Expected Graduation: **2025**

University of New Mexico

*Sociology and Chicanx Studies,
Bachelor of Arts*
Graduated: **December 2022**

Central New Mexico Community College

*Sociology and Criminology,
Associate of Arts*
Graduated: **May 2018**

Publications

Olivas, D. (2021, May/June). Searching for Querencia. *Green Fire Times: News & Views from the Sustainable Southwest*, Vol. 13, No. 3., 8-9.

olivas, d. (2018). coyote. *Leonardo: Student Fine Arts and Literary Journal*, through Central New Mexico Community College, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 10.

Performances

Son Jarocho Demonstration of Traditional Folk Music
LULAC National Convention
Albuquerque, NM
August 2, 2023

Summary

I'm a community-serving professional with experience in advocacy, education, project management, and direct service to various marginalized communities and their families. I have social media experience with direct outreach through various platforms. My internal and external organizational skills are in planning as well as digital and physical.

Career Experience

July 2023 – Present

Program Coordinator • CNM/UNM Transfer Collaborative, Extending NM Humanities NOW! • Albuquerque, NM
Dr. Irene Vasquez

I assist with all aspects of the program funded by the Mellon Foundation, including grant planning and administration, internal and external liaison for UNM and branch campus partners, fiscal and budgetary transactions and reporting, as well as the creation of and editing of program correspondence, documents, and other publications.

June 2023

Graduate and Teaching Assistant • Mellon Summer Academy • Albuquerque, NM
Dr. Irene Vasquez

I served as a graduate and teaching assistant alongside Dr. Irene Vasquez in the Southwest Studies in Film class. I helped undergraduate transfer students navigate the workload and content of upper-level classes by developing study and time management skills. In addition, I offered office hours to Mellon Summer Academy Fellows every day after class.

January 2023 – May 2023

Graduate Assistant • NM Humanities NOW! Extending Humanities Pathways, University of New Mexico • Albuquerque, NM
Dr. Irene Vasquez

I worked on ongoing projects, including building a website for the NM Humanities Now! Extending Humanities Pathways website, creating flyers for the Mellon Summer Academy, and networking with both Mellon graduate students and Mellon faculty to coordinate events promoting engaging mentorships between undergraduate and graduate students with professors in the Humanities.

June 2021 – Present

Consultant • Move Mountains Youth Project • San Luis, CO
Shirley Romero Otero

I planned workshops with youth conducting oral histories and participated in hands-on experiences with their food sovereignty program.

May 2021 – December 2021

Organized by Dr. Irene Vasquez
I was invited to play jarana in a
display of cultural patrimony for the
New Mexico Night Celebration.

Service Coordinator and Project Manager • Transgender Resource
Center of New Mexico

Nickole Garcia

I provided youth and their families with available resources in greater New Mexico. Everything from provider referrals, explaining and interpreting legal documents for updating identity documents, providing introductory education about gender and pronouns, advocating for students by working with Albuquerque Public Schools to offer inclusive policies for transgender youth, and tangible goods and services provided in the drop-in center.

January 2020 – December 2020

Census Coordinator • Transgender Resource Center of New Mexico

Zane Stephens

I served as the point of contact for Census 2020 efforts in the Albuquerque International District, reaching both our transgender population and our Harm Reduction participants.

June 2017 – August 2022

Cashier • Smith's Food and Drug

Tony Roybal

I handled customer point-of-sale transactions using cash, credit/debit, EBT, and WIC. My current server certificate expires on 02/05/2025.

Education Experience

May 2023

Keynote Speaker for the University of New Mexico's Chicana Studies Department Graduation • Albuquerque, NM

I was asked to give the keynote speech at the department graduation, speaking on my continued positive experiences in the department where I earned my BA and where I chose to do my MA.

Spring 2023

Mellon Fellow • University of New Mexico

I accepted a fully funded assistantship as a Mellon Fellow in Chicana Studies.

Fall 2022

ASSURE Program • University of New Mexico

I am currently working on a research grant for the Manito Community Memory Project alongside the director of the project to build their digital archive.

Summer 2022

Mellon Summer Academy • Humanities NOW Transfer Fellow,
University of New Mexico

I was accepted into an intensive eight-week, two-class summer program that ended with a presentation of my work at a public student symposium.

March 2022

Spring Teaching Conference: "Hearing from our students: what kind of teaching matters to them?" • Undergraduate Panelist, University of New Mexico

I was asked to speak on my negative and positive experiences as a student first generation, non-traditional, queer Chicano in the classroom and meaningful ways educators can make an impact on students who have similar backgrounds.

Fall 2021- Spring 2022

Chicana/o Studies Undergraduate Transfer Research Program •
Mellon Grant Fellow, University of New Mexico

I attended various workshops that encouraged my growth as a student pursuing academia, including applying for scholarships and research programs, as well as life after graduating including graduate and professional school, and careers. I worked with a faculty mentor to improve my narrative writing skills.

Key Skills

Project Management. Social Media. Networking. Educator. Direct Service. Resource Allocation. Conversational Spanish. Workshop Leader.

Communication

Working in a small, but expanding, non-profit organizations involve working with community members, both personally and professionally, to better understand overall community needs as well as individual needs.

Volunteer

June 2023 – October 2023

Shorts Programmer • Way Out West Film Festival

I solicited and reviewed films to build my program, [Transgender]. My final program included transgender and gender fabulous shorts, running [90] minutes during the festival.

April 2023

Panelist for the Chicax Studies Department Graduate Studies Open House • Chicax Studies Department at the University of New Mexico
I spoke to prospective students about my experiences as a student who earned my BA in the department as well as a student who chose to pursue my MA in the same department. I also talked about our connections with the community and how our events are often open and free to the public.

April 2023 – Present

Community Engagement Chair • Chicax Studies Graduate Student Association

I am a liaison between CSGSA, community partners, student organization, and global networks, acting as a bridge to provide updates on community gatherings.

March 2023

Conference Volunteer • Latinx Visions: Speculative Worlds in Latinx Art, Literature, and Performance

I volunteered at the registration desk and helped to prepare for some performances throughout the conference.

October 2019 – December 2019, January 2021 – May 2021

Drop-In Volunteer • Transgender Resource Center of New Mexico

I worked in different capacities from checking people in at the front desk to managing drop-in space with participants in person, as well as handling phone calls about services offered. Various behind the scenes positions included organizing and inventory of various programs (food pantry, food preparation, hygiene supplies, clothing donations, and custodial work), preparing harm reduction works kits, and facilitating groups.

September 2019 – December 2019

Workshop Lead • Swimming with Elephants Publications

I hosted several writing workshops for writers of all levels.

June 2016 – June 2019

Volunteer Facilitator • Move Mountains Youth Project

I helped facilitate on-going workshops and programming by offering emotional and educational support to youth in the program.

References

Provided upon request