

**Valerie J. Chavez**  
**Albuquerque, NM**  
**vchavez17@unm.edu**

## **Education**

M.A. University of New Mexico 2021- Present

*Department of Chicana/o Studies*

*Thesis Project: The Contributions of Nuevo Mexicanas to the Albuquerque Lowrider*

*Community: How do young Chicana Cholas express their Cultural Identity through the Albuquerque Lowrider Community?*

B.A. University of New Mexico, Cum Laude with Honors 2019

*Double-Major: Intercultural Communication and Chicana/o Studies*

*Capstone Project: Dérive and Photography of Albuquerque Neighborhoods: How*

*Chicanx Culture and Intersectionality is Communicated in Historical Burque*

*Neighborhoods*

*Dean's list 6 semesters*

2015, 2018, 2019

High school diploma, Public Academy for Performing Arts, with Honors 2015

Albuquerque, NM

## **Employment History**

Lead Graduate Project Assistant, Project for New Mexico Graduates of Color, UNM 2021- Present

*PNMGC is a student program that is working to build community among historically underrepresented students at the University of New Mexico. As the lead graduate project assistant, I am in charge of all programmatic efforts including writing the Student Fee Review Board funding application and presentation, undergraduate outreach initiatives,*

*planning leadership/professional/academic workshops and social gatherings, digital presence, flyer and communication material creation, listserv communication, and planning annual Faculty of Color Awards.*

Resource Development Assistant, Supportive Housing Coalition of New Mexico 2019 – 2021

*Nonprofit seeking to end homelessness in New Mexico. As a resource development assistant, I am in charge of social media, media production including photography and videography, internal and external communication, fundraising and event coordination, general staff support.*

Program Assistant, City of Albuquerque, Department of Senior Affairs 2018 – 2019

*Worked at multi-generational center to assist senior citizens with daily activities; designed monthly newsletter communication, event fliers, information packets; coordinated holiday assistance drive for families; served as a public face of the organization in order to direct assistance to those in need; general office assistance.*

### **Internship**

District Attorney's Office, Albuquerque New Mexico August-December 2017

*Communication director for DA—fielded communication inquiries from media, judicial offices, and public; coordinated press conferences. Worked to update DA website and social media by attending court cases and crafting stories for public interest and knowledge. Filmed DA speech addressing policies to protect New Mexico families through poverty reduction as part of public information campaign.*

### **Rewards and Recognition**

Joanne D. Dowler Scholarship for Excellence in Intercultural Communication 2017

University of New Mexico, Department of Communication and Journalism

New Mexico Legislative Lottery Scholarship 2015-2019

University of New Mexico

Daily Lobo Photo Contest

Spring 2022

First Place

<https://www.dailylobo.com/article/2022/03/spring-2022-photo-contest-winners>

Graduate & Professional Student Association

Distinguished Leader of the Year

2023