



In other news

January 3, 2017

LANL Foundation accepting scholarship applications

Northern New Mexico area students have until January 17, 2017 to apply for a [Los Alamos Employees' Scholarship Fund](#) scholarship. Students in Los Alamos, Mora, Rio Arriba, San Miguel, Sandoval, Santa Fe, and Taos counties pursuing higher education in all fields of study are eligible to submit an application.

The scholarships support Northern New Mexico students pursuing undergraduate degrees in fields that will serve the region. Awards are based on academic performance (academic rigor, G.P.A., and standardized test scores), leadership potential (extracurricular and community service activities), critical thinking skills, and career goals (relevant to LANL or local community needs). Financial need, diversity, and regional representation are integral components of the selection process.

The scholarship program is managed for the Laboratory by the Los Alamos National Laboratory Foundation and funded through donations by Lab employees and retirees and Los Alamos National Security, LLC. Since 1999, the Los Alamos Employees' Scholarship Fund has awarded \$5.5 million to more than 1,100 students.

Math and Science Annual Report now available

The [Mathematics and Science Advisory Council](#) (MSAC) is a group of key STEM stakeholders who represent New Mexico's diverse demographics. The members represent public schools; colleges and universities; the private sector, including the national laboratories, museums, and science-and engineering-based businesses; and one member who represents the New Mexico Partnership for Mathematics and Science Education. Since 2013, Zachary Leonard, an education specialist with the Laboratory's Math and Science Academy has held the position of co-chair.

The MSAC was created to support and advise the PED Math and Science Bureau, as it seeks to implement policy and programs, pursuant to the Mathematics and Science Education Act. As part of its charge, MSAC produces an annual report on public elementary and secondary mathematics and science student achievement.

In addition to providing concrete recommendations for improving math and science education in New Mexico, the report describes the activities of the Math and Science Bureau, describes the activities of the MSAC, provides an overview of student math and science data, and presents the STEM Strategic Framework for New Mexico. [Read the entire report online here.](#)

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First Lego League state-qualifier takes place at ProjectY

On Saturday, December 10, First Team 4153—ProjectY hosted [a First Lego League state-qualifying tournament](#). Teams researched a challenge and then designed, built, and programmed Lego Mindstorms-based robots to perform autonomous “missions” on a playing field. This year’s challenge required teams to develop innovative solutions for some of the real-world challenges facing animals in both in their natural habitats and in man-made environments.

The tournament had 15 teams from Albuquerque, northern New Mexico, and Bloomfield competing with their Lego-based robots and presenting their projects. Five teams earned bids from the competition to compete in the New Mexico state First Lego League championship. Local sponsorship for the tournament was provided by Los Alamos National Laboratory and Los Alamos National Security, LLC.

Fifteen teams competed in the recent Lego League tournament.

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