



NEW MEXICO FARM & LIVESTOCK BUREAU

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Mexico Farm & Livestock Bureau Announces 2024-2025 Scholarship Recipients

Nadya Neparko, Ty Kinman, Natalie Smith, Belita Martinez

May 8, 2025 | LAS CRUCES, N.M. — The New Mexico Farm & Livestock Bureau (NMF&LB) is proud to announce the recipients of its 2024-2025 Scholarship Program, awarded annually to exceptional students from member families who are pursuing academic and leadership excellence. This year's winners—Nadya Neparko, Ty Kinman, Natalie Smith, and Belita Martinez—embody the spirit of service, innovation, and agricultural advocacy that defines the Farm Bureau mission.

Nadya Neparko has distinguished herself through active involvement in 4-H, the Homeschool Co-op Program, and her work with New Mexico State University's STEAM summer programs. A published contributor in the *Journals of Materials Science* and a 2023 UTEP intern, Nadya also serves as a New Mexico State STEAM Ambassador and has held many leadership positions in her 4-H club. Her family has proudly been Farm Bureau members for 14 years.

Ty Kinman represents four generations of Farm Bureau membership. A student leader in Elida, Ty is Vice President of the National Honor Society, Student Council, and his Senior Class. He's also the editor of the school's Publications Team, a varsity Academic Team member, and an active participant in the Kenna Community Church. His academic and civic contributions make him a strong voice for rural youth.

Natalie Smith, a student from Harding County, leads with enthusiasm and heart. She leads the county's 4-H Livestock Judging and Skillathon teams, which secured first place at the 2024 New Mexico 4-H State Conference. A dedicated member of both 4-H and FFA, Natalie also balances her time with athletics—volleyball, track, and cross-country—and serves on her student council. Her ranching family has been involved with Farm Bureau for 14 years.

Belita Martinez, from Rio Arriba County, brings more than a decade of 4-H involvement to her



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name, including leadership roles as President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary of the County 4-H Council. She's a decorated competitor at state and national levels and was recently named the 2024 Northern New Mexico Fair and Rodeo Queen. Her family has been Farm Bureau members for 20 years.

"These young leaders are a powerful reminder of the talent and commitment that exists in New Mexico's agricultural communities," said Larry Reagan, President of the New Mexico Farm & Livestock Bureau. "We're proud to support their educational journeys and look forward to the impact they'll make in the future."

The NMF&LB Scholarship Program is open annually to students who are members or whose families are members of the organization. The program supports those who demonstrate academic excellence, leadership in agriculture, and a commitment to rural values.

For more information about the NMF&LB Scholarship Program winners, please visit www.nmflb.org/Get-Involved/Scholarship.

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The New Mexico Farm & Livestock Bureau (NMF&LB) is a nonprofit, membership-based organization dedicated to promoting and protecting the interests of farmers, ranchers, and rural communities across the state of New Mexico.