



A Natural Choice.

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **NATIVE AMERICAN SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS ANNOUNCED NEW MEXICO GAS COMPANY HONORS 21 STUDENTS**

**ALBUQUERQUE** – New Mexico Gas Company has recognized 21 Native American students, recipients of a unique scholarship program that now has awarded \$464,000 since it was established in 2011.

The program differs from many other scholarships because recipients can be pursuing any kind of post-secondary education. In addition to funding students in traditional bachelor's and graduate degree programs, NASP awards those enrolled in trade school certifications and community college programs.

"The Native American Scholarship Program is different by design, and we're excited to support Native American students who are striving to make a difference in their communities by pursuing post-secondary education," NMGC President Ryan Shell said.

To be eligible, a recipient must be a New Mexico resident and an enrolled member of a New Mexico tribe, pueblo or nation. This includes high school seniors who are expected to graduate or earn a GED as well as Native American students currently enrolled in a college, university, trade school or pursuing technical training.

This year's recipients include students from Acoma Pueblo, Jemez Pueblo, San Ildefonso Pueblo, Santa Clara Pueblo, Tesuque Pueblo, Zuni Pueblo and the Navajo Nation. Students are enrolled at eight universities, two colleges and three community colleges.

The guest speaker at Saturday's recognition banquet was state Rep. Derrick J. Lente.

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### **About New Mexico Gas Company**

As the largest natural gas distribution utility in the state, New Mexico Gas Company ([www.nmgco.com](http://www.nmgco.com)) provides service to more than 540,000 homes and businesses and about 1.3 million people throughout New Mexico. The Company has more than 700 employees in 26 offices, who are responsible for safely and reliably operating more than 12,000 miles of pipelines across the state. New Mexico Gas Company is a subsidiary of Emera Inc., an expert

team of utility and energy services companies serving 2.5 million customers in the U.S., Canada and the Caribbean. Emera is headquartered in Halifax, Nova Scotia.