



For Immediate Release:  
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## Winners of 2019 New Mexico Excellence in STEM Awards Announced

**ALBUQUERQUE**-The Air Force Research Lab Tech Engagement Office is pleased to announce the winners of the 2019 Excellence in STEM Awards, aka the STEMYS. The awards honor those students, teachers, volunteers and other New Mexicans doing remarkable things in science, technology, engineering and math education.

“This is the second year of the event, and we were blown away by the number and quality of nominations we received,” said Matt Fetrow, Director of the AFRL Tech Engagement Office. “It is inspiring to see how many people and organizations are dedicated to making STEM learning a priority for our state. We hope that by highlighting their good work, others will be encouraged to get involved and more young people will choose STEM related education and career paths.”

STEMY winners will be honored at a ceremony on Friday, Feb. 22 at the Albuquerque Convention Center. Individual winners will receive monetary awards. This year’s winners come from all across New Mexico.

### 2019 STEMY Winners:

Category	Finalist (s)	District/Location
Student K-8	Isabella Lundhal(Desert Ridge M.S.) tie Grant Staten (Desert Ridge M.S.) tie	ABQ ABQ
Student 9-12	Sky Harper (Navajo Prep)	Farmington
Elementary Teacher	Cecilia Lujan-Pincomb (Monte Vista Elem.)	Las Cruces
Middle School Teacher	Ashley Stroud (Berrendo M.S.)	Roswell
High School Teacher	Alan Daugherty (Melrose H.S.)	Melrose
Advisor/Coach	Dr. Shelly Gruenig	Statewide
School K-8	St Mary’s Catholic School	Belen



School 9-12	Los Alamos High School	Los Alamos
Higher Education Program	Northern NM College	Espanola
Non-Profit	AAUW Tech Trek NM	Statewide
Business	Navajo Transitional Energy Company	Farmington
Lifetime Achievement	Len Duda	Albuquerque

Tickets are now on sale for the ceremony at [www.afrlnewmexico.com/stemys](http://www.afrlnewmexico.com/stemys). The keynote speaker will be nationally known mathmagician Arthur Benjamin.

The STEM fun continues the next day with Super STEM Saturday, a hands-on science experiment and demonstration fair that is free and open to the public. It will take place from 9:00am-3:00pm at the Albuquerque Convention Center.

**About the AFRL Tech Engagement Office:**

The AFRL Tech Engagement Office handles tech transfer/commercialization and STEM education outreach programs for Air Force Research Lab New Mexico. These programs are administered through agreements with various partners, including New Mexico Tech University and the University of New Mexico.

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