

## Graduates honored at WNMU–Gallup ceremony

Written by Rachael Merilatt Sun Correspondent  
Friday, 08 May 2015 01:00

---



Western New Mexico University Gallup honored 26 graduates at their spring 2015 commencement ceremony May 2. The event was held at 10 am in the Kenneth Holloway Auditorium at Gallup High School. Dr. Linda Hoy, Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs, presented 23 students with bachelor and master degrees in a variety of subjects, including Early Childhood Education, Social Work, Criminal Justice and Counseling. The remaining three students received alternative licensure certifications in Education.

Graduates Jolene Yazzie, David Palenschat, and Eli Johnson spoke at the ceremony on behalf of each program. Professor Curtis Hayes, Dr. Beth Walker, and Assistant Professors Jeanine Jones and Roberta Marquez presented the 18th Annual Distinguished Graduate awards, which honors exceptional students who excel in academic excellence. The Desert Community School of Arts String Group Orchestra performed several times, including a rendition of the national anthem.