

# El Grito de Las Mercedes

## Newsletter of the New Mexico Land Grant-Merced Movement

### 2023 Interim Land Grant Committee session comes to a close

The Interim Land Grant Committee closed its 2023 interim session, holding its final meeting in Santa Fe on November 9th. The New Mexico Land Grant-Merced Consejo provided lunch for legislators and the audience. The Committee visited Las Vegas and toured the Lower Gallinas and Los Vigiles Land Grants, held a meeting in Peñasco and toured the Las Trampas and Santa Bárbara Land Grants, and met in Carnuel and toured the Cañón de Carnué and Manzano Land Grants. Land grants discussed how property values have made land recovery efforts difficult and their communities are continuing to be priced out of their own patrimony as their communities face gentrification and displacement. The Committee did not endorse any legislation, but Chairwoman Rep. Kristina Ortez, Sen. Linda López, Speaker Javier Martinez and other members of the committee pledged their support for legislation creating a land acquisition revolving loan fund.



### *Important Reminders*

- Capital outlay requests for the 2024 New Mexico Legislative Session are available now through **January 11, 2024** at <https://www.nmlegis.gov/CapitalOutlayWeb/Default>. Be sure to discuss your capital outlay priorities as a board and revisit your ICIPs. Also be sure to contact your legislators to discuss your plans and receive their support. If you need assistance in submitting a request, please contact Anissa Baca.
- The New Mexico Land Grant-Merced Consejo will hold its next meeting on **March 16, 2023**, hosted by the **Cebolleta Land Grant**.
- The next Land Grant Council meeting will be held on **January 12, 2024 at 10:00 am** in **Albuquerque**. Visit [lgc.unm.edu](http://lgc.unm.edu) for location information and how to participate virtually or in person.
- Financial reporting for fiscal year 2023 (July 2022 – June 2023) was due to the Office of the State Auditor (through [osa-app.org](http://osa-app.org)) on December 15, 2023. Land grants that received a distribution from the Land Grant Merced Assistance Fund in October 2022 will have to engage in an Agreed Upon Procedures (AUP) contract. If you have questions, or need any assistance with the process, please contact Anissa Baca.



## San Joaquín del Río de Chama hosts Thanksgiving luncheon

The San Joaquín del Río de Chama Land Grant hosted its annual Thanksgiving lunch for its heirs and community members on November 18 at their headquarters in Capulín. Heirs and members, including past and present board members, gathered with their families to celebrate and share a meal provided by the Land Grant.

## Cristóbal de la Serna Land Grant hosts matanza

La Merced de Cristobal de la Serna hosted their first matanza on November 11 at the Juan I. Gonzales Community Center in Taos. The meal was prepared by the land grant's board of trustees and other volunteers. The pork was traditionally prepared underground and served alongside potatoes, red and green chile and sopa. The Land Grant also provided entertainment with a mariachi band, a raffle, dancers and other musicians. The event was well attended by hundreds of heirs and community members from Ranchos de Taos and surrounding communities. The board of trustees from the Cristóbal de la Serna Land Grant hopes to continue this new tradition in upcoming years.



## Tomé Land Grant hosts last Consejo meeting of the year

The Town of Tomé Land Grant hosted the New Mexico Land Grant Merced Consejo's December quarterly meeting on December 2 in Tomé. The Consejo planned for the 2024 annual commemoration of Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, endorsing youth art and essay contests, selecting a commemorative pin, and distributing applications for the 2024 lifetime achievement award. Members discussed tax exemption, the Department of Transportation hardship auction, and issues with county assessors recognizing land grant patents. The Consejo endorsed legislation creating the land acquisition revolving loan fund. It also drew winners in its biannual raffle and wished to thank all of those who purchased tickets and donated prizes.

# TREATY OF GUADALUPE HIDALGO DAY 2024

## Art/Essay/Coloring Contest for NM Land Grant Youth!



Land Grant Youth, help us celebrate Treaty Day by writing an essay, drawing a picture of your land grant or coloring a page!



**\$300 Prize - 500 word essay (ages 13-21)**

Interview an elder in your community and write an essay about your land grant community's history.



**One-\$50 Prize (ages 6-10) / One-\$50 prize (ages 11-18)**

What do you think your land grant looked like in the past?

**One-\$25 Prize (ages 2-5) coloring page (attached)**

**Essays, drawings and coloring pages due by January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

Call or text Anissa or Jacobo at 505-692-7033 / 505-400-9426 or e-mail the Consejo at [nmlgconsejo@gmail.com](mailto:nmlgconsejo@gmail.com) for submission instructions.

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**SAN JOAQUÍN DEL RÍO DE CHAMA**

**LAND GRANT**



**EST. 1806**