



Dr. Veronica C. García
Secretary of Education

New Mexico
Public Education Department
300 Don Gaspar
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501-2786
www.ped.state.nm.us

Andy Lenderman
Public Information Officer
505.476.0393 - 505.795.0182
Andrew.Lenderman@state.nm.us

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: November 7, 2008

Two New Mexico Students Receive Advanced Placement Scholar Awards

Santa Fe – New Mexico Education Secretary Veronica C. García announced today that two New Mexico high school students received the College Board State AP® Scholar Awards based on their outstanding performance on the Advanced Placement® Exams.

Megan Johnson, Rio Rancho High School, and Benjamin E. Dozier, Los Alamos High School, are among 106 students nationwide to receive this honor. Ms. Johnson is attending Rice University in Houston, Texas, while Mr. Dozier is attending Harvard University in Cambridge, Mass.

“These two students took advantage of a program that provides challenging college-level courses while still in high school,” said Secretary García. “They are to be congratulated for their dedication to their education. I encourage all New Mexico students to consider the AP courses available at their local high schools in their education plans.”

The two scholars will receive their State AP Scholar Award certificates from Secretary García and will be honored by the Public Education Commission (PEC) at the PEC meeting on December 11, 2008 in Santa Fe.

This is the eighteenth annual granting of State AP Scholar Awards. The College Board awards this distinction to the one male and one female student in each U.S. state and the District of Columbia with grades of 3 or higher on the greatest number of AP exams, and then the highest average grade (at least 3.5) on all AP exams taken.

The College Board’s Advanced Placement Program® (AP®) provides motivated and academically prepared students with the opportunity to take rigorous college-level courses while still in high school, and to earn college credit, advanced placement, or both for successful performance on the AP Exams.

In 2008, more than 1.5 million high school students in approximately 17,000 secondary schools worldwide took more than 2.7 million AP exams. On almost two-thirds of these exams, students received grades of 3 or higher on a five-point scale, which potentially qualifies them for credit, advanced placement or both at colleges and universities worldwide.

For more information on the College Board’s Advanced Placement program, go to <http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/ap/about.html>

###