



# Summer session arrives

### Classes fully online; registration open through June 12

Luna Community College is pleased to welcome students for the Summer 2020 semester that started Monday, June 8.

This summer session serves up more than 50 classes, all to be offered online or via distance education. Five of the college's seven academic departments have classes available in which students may enroll.

Registration for Summer 2020 will continue through the end of the business day Friday, June 12.

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted colleges and universities across the nation and beyond since the first cases were reported this past winter. Luna has fared well in transitioning many of its classes and services to remote delivery since midway through the Spring 2020 semester, when the campus and satellites were closed to the public.

Ongoing restrictions and precautions have impacted this summer session. A limited number of employees has returned to campus, continuing to follow social distancing protocols. Registration is being conducted via telephone, with



**Luna Community College began its summer semester on Monday, June 8, with telephone registration continuing through Friday, June 12. The college's effort to inform the community has included print, broadcast, internet and social media advertising, radio shows and banners.**

advisors assisting students in each department. Course delivery will continue online, and most student services will be available remotely as well. The number of courses offered has been streamlined for the time being.

Should restrictions be relaxed in the weeks ahead, the college hopes to assist students in completing face-to-face classes that were cut short and unable to transition to online delivery this past spring semester.

Luna is prepared to continue remote operations if need be through Fall 2020, although ideally the campus would be fully reopened by

then. Much will depend on how well New Mexico is mitigating the spread of COVID-19. Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham and other state officials have allowed for partial, conditional reopenings of a number of businesses and state facilities in recent weeks, and there is cautious optimism that the state has passed the peak of virus infections.

Administrators presented a proposed three-phase reopening plan to the LCC Board of Trustees at its June 9 meeting. The implementation and timing of each phase would depend in part on the state's directives and guidelines.

# Graduates recognized

## Class of 2020 praised for rising to challenge

Luna Community College is proud to recognize its graduating class of 2020, which had to overcome unusual adversity to reach the finish line.

No physical graduation ceremony was held this spring due to the COVID-19 pandemic and resultant measures that cancelled large public gatherings and

introduced social distancing protocols across New Mexico and the nation. Luna's commencement ceremony was originally scheduled for Saturday, May 9.

Thanks to a cohesive effort from students, faculty and staff, with the support of the LCC Board of Trustees, the college has maintained its operations since the campus joined others across the state in at least partial closures in March. All courses that were able to transition to online or distance education

delivery did so, and other college services were also moved online. Luna devoted resources to beefing up its online tutoring, even embedding tutors in online classes to make them readily available to students.

The college has developed a three-phase plan for potential reopening of the campus and its satellites, a plan that will closely adhere to state government orders

**MORE: See Page 3**



*You're Invited!*

## NM FOOD ACCESS AND SECURITY SURVEY

Residents of New Mexico 18 and older! Take our 20 minute survey for the chance to win a \$25 gift card to a grocery store.

NMSU and UNM researchers want to understand food needs of New Mexicans during COVID-19 to help guide policy efforts.

Join the survey using the link or QR code below.

<https://foodaccessandsecurityenglish.questionpro.com>



Contact Stephanie Rogus at [srogus@nmsu.edu](mailto:srogus@nmsu.edu) or 817-253-9624 with questions.



*¡Estas invitado!*

## ENCUESTA DE ACCESO A LOS ALIMENTOS Y LA SEGURIDAD ALIMENTARIA DE NM

¡Residentes del estado de Nuevo México mayores de 18 años! Tomen nuestra encuesta de 20 minutos para la oportunidad de ganar una tarjeta de regalo de \$25 para una tienda de comestibles.

Investigadores de NMSU y UNM quieren comprender las necesidades alimenticias de los residentes del estado durante COVID-19 para ayudar guiar esfuerzos de política.

Completa la encuesta usando el enlace o el código QR.

[https://acesnmsu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_87VroW6YXbFqqyx](https://acesnmsu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_87VroW6YXbFqqyx)



Para más información o preguntas contacte a Stephanie Rogus, [srogus@nmsu.edu](mailto:srogus@nmsu.edu) o 817-253-9624

## Graduates

Continued from Page 2

and guidelines. Luna officials said the goal is to protect and ensure the health and safety of all in the campus community while providing the same level of educational and career preparation opportunities for which it is known.

While the majority of Luna's classes successfully transitioned online this past spring semester, others – including many in the Vocational Studies department and others requiring traditional hands-on classwork with face-to-face

instruction – did not. The disruption caused by the global pandemic led to incomplete grades for students in those classes. The college hopes to work with all students affected to help them complete course (and program) requirements this summer if possible; thus, additional graduates may be recognized at a later date.

As of June 10, the following is the partial list of Luna Community College's Class of 2020 graduates:

Sandra Garcia, Lalane Wiley, Jennifer LaFebre, Madison Keller, Samantha Padilla, Katrina Roybal, Cassidy Guana, Tyler Trujillo,

Shyan Maddux, Abby Lujan, Rayven Gonzales, Sarah Sanchez, Kristen Rogers, Gabriela Pina, Lorencito Martinez, Ashley Lovato, Lucia Lopez, Rosendo Gonzales, Julie Gonzales, Trent O'Dewyer, Alec Vigil, Jerilynn Martinez, Taylor Sandoval, Delaine Trujillo, Mariah Duran, Pauline Medina, Kyrstian Rodriguez, Latricia Sanchez, Heather Santillanes, Allysa Salas, Cynthia Campos, Isaiah Sandoval, Charles Torrez, Stephanie Madrid, Roxanne Garcia, Mason Peek, Daniella Garcia. An additional graduate declined to have her name published.

## College Scorecard:

The U.S. Department of Education's College Scorecard has the most reliable data on college costs, graduation and post-college earnings. Visit [collegescorecard.ed.gov](http://collegescorecard.ed.gov)

Calling all Middle Schoolers!  
You are invited to our

100% FREE

Virtual 100M in

REGISTER for a FREE backpack full of Science SWAG (free stuff we all get!)

Science and Health Career Camp

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Tell your parents to SIGN YOU up for a FUN filled week!

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June 15-19

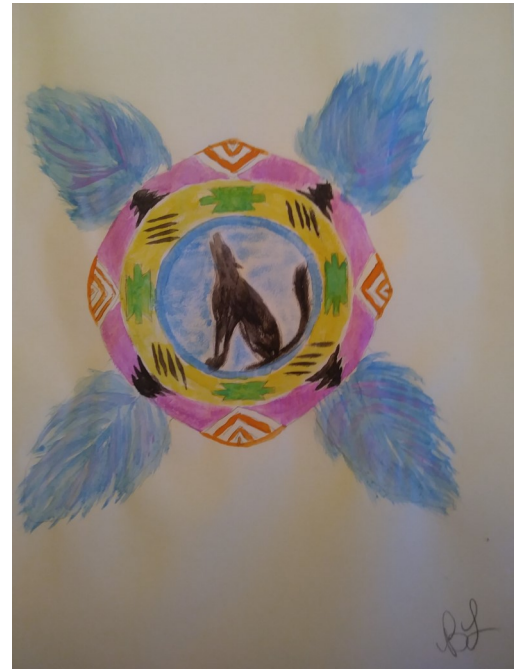
11am- 12pm

Accepting 25 students!

# Art students showcase work



**Spirit Animal by Roxanne Garcia**



**Spirit Animal by Bethany Lessee**



**Spirit Animal by Jamie Lee Chavez**



**Mixed Media by Adia Salas**

Students in the Art 1120 class taught by Lisa O'Loughlin recently completed artwork to share with Luna Light readers.

The student creations include: Roxanne Garcia, Spirit Animal; Bethany Lessee, Spirit Animal; Jamie Lee Chavez, Spirit Animal; Adia Salas, Mixed Media; Melanie Soto Ramos, Mixed Media; Alcía Garcia, Mixed Media; Viana Chung, Mixed Media; Sharon Tiernan, Self Portrait; David Lopez Amaya, Self Portrait; and Dennis Maloney II, Self Portrait.

For more information on this and other Humanities classes at Luna, please visit [luna.edu](http://luna.edu).



Mixed Media by Melanie Soto Ramos



Mixed Media by Viana Chung



Self Portrait by Sharon Tiernan



**Mixed Media by Alcia Garcia**



**Self Portrait by David Lopez Amaya**



**Self Portrait by Dennis Maloney II**

# BOOK ORDERING PROCEDURE

## Welcome to MBS Direct

MBS Direct has partnered with your school to provide a customized online bookstore. This bookstore is built around a course-driven system that ensures you order and receive the right book, right on time. Your textbooks and course materials are shipped from a state-of-the-art warehouse that is fully operational 24 hours a day, 5 days a week.

As you purchase your course materials, keep your eyes open for Guaranteed Buyback titles. When you select these in-demand items, you will see the minimum amount you can expect when you sell your books back to MBS Direct\*. This lets you take into account the actual cost of ownership for each GBB title.

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## Ordering From MBS Direct

- Visit your school's Online Bookstore  
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- View your course materials and select your preferred format
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- Select Guaranteed Buyback titles and save up to 70% off your course materials.

Our customer contact center is open 24/7, ready to take your order or answer your questions. Call them at **1-800-325-3252** or email them at [customerservice@mbsdirect.net](mailto:customerservice@mbsdirect.net).

Please visit your online bookstore for your school's customized return policy and customer service help.

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Know how much you will receive when you sell your book back



# On campus or off, it's easy to shape your future.

Every 10 years, the United States counts everyone living in the country, including college students like you. Your response to the 2020 Census will help make sure communities across the nation are accurately funded and represented for the next decade.

## Responding is easy.

- › If you live in off-campus housing that is not owned, leased, or managed by your college or university, such as a private house that you share with other students or a privately owned apartment, you can respond online, by phone, or by mail beginning in mid-March 2020. You should count yourself at your off-campus address, even if you spend time somewhere else during school breaks.
- › If you live in on-campus student housing like residence halls, off-campus residence halls, or other student housing facilities that are owned, leased, or managed by your college or university, U.S. Census Bureau employees will work with representatives from your building to ensure that you are counted. You may be asked to complete an individual census form.
- › If you are an international student, the same rules apply.

For more information, visit:

**2020CENSUS.GOV**

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Shape  
your future  
START HERE >

United States®  
Census  
2020





### **Responding is important.**

The 2020 Census will influence community funding and congressional representation. Information collected in the census will inform the allocation of more than \$675 billion in federal funds for states and communities each year. That includes money for things like:

- › Federal Pell Grants
- › Adult education grants
- › Agriculture, science, and engineering education
- › Student wellness programs
- › The Medical Assistance Program
- › Community mental health services

### **Responding is safe.**

Your personal information is kept confidential by law, and your responses can only be used to produce statistics.

For more information, visit:

**2020CENSUS.GOV**

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**Shape  
your future  
START HERE >**

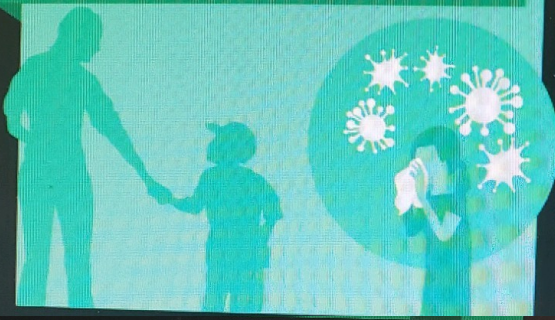
United States<sup>®</sup>  
**Census  
2020**

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CORONAVIRUS  
DISEASE **19**

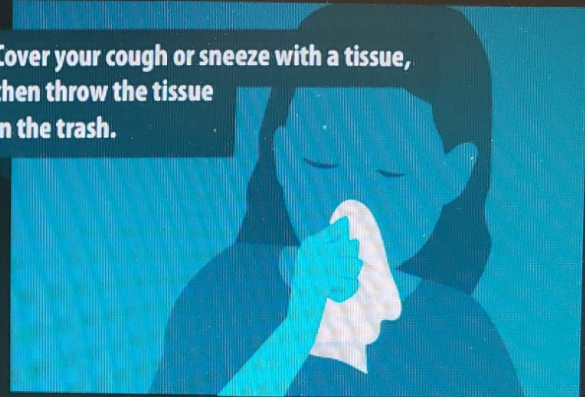
# STOP THE SPREAD OF GERMS

Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19.

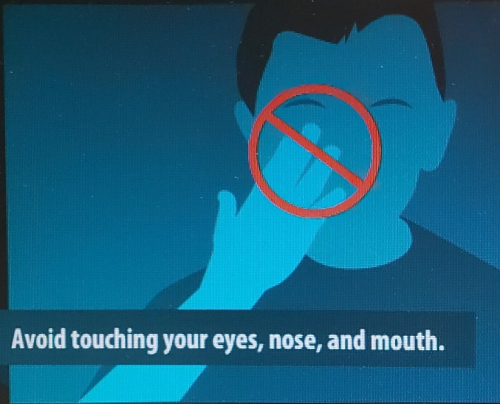
Avoid close contact with people who are sick.



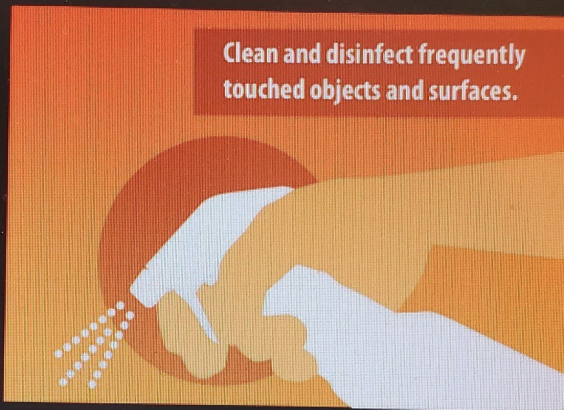
Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.



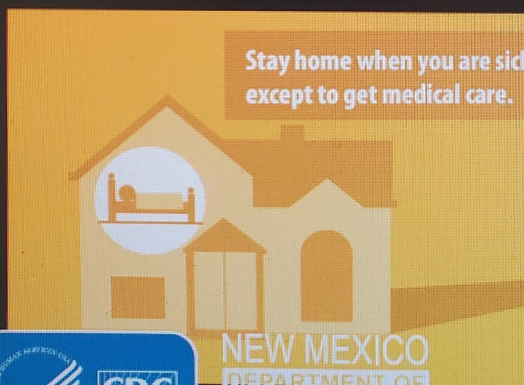
Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.



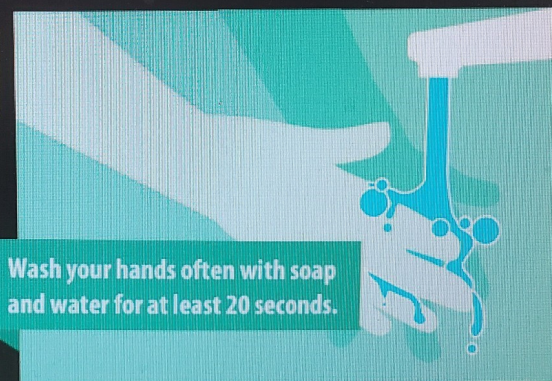
Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.



Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.



Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.



NEW MEXICO  
DEPARTMENT OF  
**HEALTH**

For more information: [cv.nmhealth.org](http://cv.nmhealth.org)

CS314915-A

# Does this sound familiar?

*Editor's note: The following is a guest column submitted by Paul Grala, who teaches in the Humanities department at Luna Community College. Opinions expressed in guest columns are not necessarily those of Luna or its employees. Submissions are welcome and may be edited for length, content, clarity, etc.*

Since 1922, Article 124 of the Soviet Communist Constitution says, "In order to (ensure) to citizens freedom of conscience, the church in the U.S.S.R. is separated from the state, and the school from the church."

Madalyn Murray O'Hair, a politically active atheist of 1963, was denied a request for Soviet Union citizenship but was kept in communication with Communist leadership who used her to achieve their goal to "get prayer removed from public schools." In 1963, in the Supreme Court case of Murray vs. Curlett, the Supreme Court did just that.

President Thomas Jefferson in his now famous 1802 letter to the Danbury (CT) Baptist Association wrote: "I contemplate with sovereign reverence that act of the whole American people which declared that the legislature of Connecticut should 'make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof,' thus building a wall of separation between church

*By Father Paul Grala*  
**Guest Column**

and state."

However, the phrase "a wall of separation between church and state" does not appear in the First Amendment, and Jefferson's letter was not an executive order. The phrase "separation between church and state" can unfortunately confuse the distinction between the doctrinal religion of Christianity and a denominational religion, which Jefferson tried to make clear.

This means that the doctrinal religion of our founding fathers (90 to 95 percent of them being Christians) got put in the same basket as an organized denominational religion with the potential to become a state religion. This is what Jefferson wanted to avoid, and what we also want to avoid today! Consequently, our founding fathers feared a state religion, not the doctrinal religion of Christianity.

In 1892, the Supreme Court gave what is known as the Trinity Decision. In that key decision it was declared "this is a Christian nation." For example, John Quincy Adams, a Unitarian, said, "the highest glory of the American Revolution was, it connected in one indissoluble bond, the principles of civil government

with the principles of Christianity."

Some examples of how Christianity is employed in the U.S. today: 1. In 1956 President Eisenhower signed into law that the national motto of the U.S. is "In God We Trust." 2. In the U.S. Capitol the words over the Speaker of the House are "In God We Trust." 3. The Supreme Court building, built in the 1930s, has carvings of Moses and the 10 Commandments. 4. Our national anthem mentions God. 5. The Liberty Bell has Leviticus 25:10 on it.

The governors of the states of Louisiana and South Dakota this past year signed into law that all public schools needed to display the words "In God We Trust" in a prominent place. Both Democrats and Republicans worked to pass these bills. One of the high school principals in Louisiana said, "It's not hidden. It's nothing swept under the rug, but it's nothing forced upon anyone." So why can't New Mexico be the next state that passes a law for all public schools to display the words "In God We Trust"?

*Father Paul Grala, Society of Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity, is parochial vicar at St. Gertrude Catholic Church in Mora. An adjunct faculty member at Luna, he marked 25 years as a priest on June 3.*

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*The Luna Light* is a publication of the Luna Community College Office of Public Relations. To submit story ideas or items for consideration, please e-mail Jesse Gallegos, [jgallegos@luna.edu](mailto:jgallegos@luna.edu), and Dave Kavanaugh, [dkavanaugh@luna.edu](mailto:dkavanaugh@luna.edu).

# Patterson takes helm

Luna Community College will conduct a search for a new president this summer.

The LCC Board of Trustees on Tuesday night (June 9) voted against renewing the contract of current President Dr. Rolando Rael. Rael's current contract was due to expire June 30.

The board also voted to appoint

Dr. Kenneth Patterson as interim president; terms of the appointment were not immediately disclosed.

Patterson, who has served as the college's vice president of instruction and student services since September, will take over duties while Rael will be on administrative leave through the end of the contract.

Rael began his time as president in February 2019. Prior to that he served as a department director for Allied Health Sciences.

In announcing Patterson's appointment, trustees praised his leadership qualities and "abilities in operational management and expertise in accreditation issues and processes."

The summer semester is here, and the Academic Center for Excellence (ACE) is still available to help in all classes. All Luna classes remain online, and the ACE is as well. Tutors will be continuing with online services throughout the summer semester.

Contact Ray Varela, ACE Coordinator, at 505-454-5306 or [rvarela@luna.edu](mailto:rvarela@luna.edu), or one of our tutors for setting up an appointment or any other information.

# SUMMER

# Semester



Tutor	Subject	Email
Jonathan	Humanities	<a href="mailto:jolujan@luna.edu">jolujan@luna.edu</a>
Sergio	Humanities	<a href="mailto:shartshorne@luna.edu">shartshorne@luna.edu</a>
Auritha	Math	<a href="mailto:aroybal@luna.edu">aroybal@luna.edu</a>
Adan	Math & Science	<a href="mailto:admartinez@luna.edu">admartinez@luna.edu</a>