

NMMI ALUMNI RELATIONS | ALUMNIOFFICE@NMMI.EDU

WELCOME TO OUR Monthly E-Newsletter

From the Director's Desk

ATTENTION IN THE AREA, ATTENTION OFF POST

The 2025 academic year has come to a close with cadets completing finals before Thanksgiving and graduation on 22 November. As we approach the end of 2025 we want to take a moment and thank each and every one of you for the continued support. NMMI has always had a unique ability to stay relevant, evolve with society and maintain the traditions that have made this place special since 1891. As we transition into 2026 we are excited to start promoting and planning for our 135th Anniversary starting in July. This is a milestone that will not only be recognized but celebrated throughout the year.

As we move forward with a new strategic plan and invigorated mindset we will need our alumni, parents, families and friends as much if not more than ever. Providing financial support, proactive stewardship, engaging and attending events and doing what each of us can has an impact that is felt globally. We will not only be celebrating 135 years but also our 15th Annual Generals Cup, the 50th year since the approval passed that would allow female cadets on post and hope to raise \$1.35 million dollars for scholarships, cadet activities and renovations around post that impact cadet life daily.

I can't begin to thank each of you enough for the support you all have shown throughout the years and look forward to providing you all with the information, customer service, transparency and everything else you need in 2026. All our best to each and everyone of you and we hope you have an amazing Holiday Season.

Kris Ward

Director of Alumni Relations and Institutional Advancement



Kris Ward

Executive Director of
Alumni Relations and
Institutional Advancement



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Meet the Team



Kris Ward

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ALUMNI RELATIONS
& INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT



Janice Weed '93 HS

DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI RELATIONS



Natalie Perez

ANNUAL FUND OFFICER



Destini Gonzales

GIFT PROCESSOR/FINANCIAL LIAISON



Leslie Palombi

SPECIAL EVENTS COORDINATOR

Greetings from the NMMI Alumni Relations Office! As your bridge to the NMMI community, we're committed to fostering lifelong connections and supporting your post-graduation journey. Join us for networking, mentorship, and opportunities to stay engaged with your alma mater.

Alumni Relations Office
Monday – Friday 0730–1630
Alumnioffice@nmmi.edu
101 West College Blvd,
Daniels Leadership Center,
Roswell, NM 88201

A Season of Thanks, Tradition, and Just a Little Sparkle



Hello, wonderful NMMI Alumni!

November has officially arrived—cue the cozy sweaters, golden leaves swirling across the Quad, and the magical shift on campus when everything feels a bit more nostalgic and full of heart. As the Special Events Coordinator, this time of year always gives me a boost of energy (and maybe a few extra cups of coffee) as we wrap up fall festivities and prepare for what's ahead.

But more than anything, November reminds me of you—our incredible alumni who continue to be the heartbeat of the Institute. Your stories, your support, your loyalty, and your way of showing up for NMMI year after year are what make this place so special. Whether you graduated five years ago or fifty, you continue to shape the traditions we celebrate and the events we create. As we breathe for a moment between Homecoming and the holiday rush, this month becomes a beautiful pause—a chance to appreciate the laughter shared, the memories revived, and the legacies honored. I find myself smiling as I plan for upcoming gatherings, knowing each event is really just another opportunity to bring our NMMI family together.

November is also when gratitude takes center stage, and trust me, we feel it here every day. From honoring our veterans to preparing for year-end celebrations, the spirit of thankfulness weaves itself into every meeting, every email, every event setup, and every brainstorming session about how to make your next visit to campus unforgettable.



As you enjoy the season—whether you're baking pies, tackling early holiday shopping, or refusing to take down your Homecoming decorations (no judgment!)—I hope you feel the pride and appreciation we have for you. You are forever part of NMMI's legacy, and your impact echoes through our cadets, our campus, and our community.

Wishing you a November full of warmth, gratitude, family, and a sprinkle of fun.

With appreciation and a touch of sparkle,

Leslie Palombi
Special Events Coordinator
New Mexico Military Institute



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By Natalie Perez

Fall Appeal 2025: Why I Give

Our 2025 Fall Appeal is underway, and this year we're highlighting the voices of alumni who share why they give back to NMMI. From scholarships and cadet leadership programs to campus improvements and mentorship, alumni support continues to shape the NMMI experience. In FY 2024-2025, alumni gave over 1,000 individual gifts, helping us launch three new scholarship endowments and expand opportunities for cadets from all backgrounds.

"[NMMI staff and faculty] saw something in me that I didn't see in myself and they took the time to personally make sure I eventually saw it in myself, even if I didn't realize it at the time." – LTC Erin Rundberget, USAF, 2001 HS and 2003 JC.

Your contributions have an immediate and lasting impact:

- 92% of cadets receive scholarship support
- 329 alumni donors gave last fiscal year
- 27 employees, including 7 alumni, also chose to give



Your gifts to the Annual Fund support cadet scholarships, leadership development, academic excellence, and the traditions that define the NMMI experience. These unrestricted funds are vital to the everyday strength of the Corps and NMMI.

We're proud of what your support makes possible. As the year draws to a close, we invite you to continue supporting this legacy, whether it's your first gift or one of many.

Give to the Annual Fund – Scan the QR Code or visit alumni.nmmi.edu/give-now/



Thank you for being part of the NMMI legacy and for helping cadets write the next chapter.
Your Support Powers Cadet Success



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NMMI ALUMNI



Baby Announcement

We are delighted to share that Dennis Garcia '95 HS and his wife Mary proudly welcomed their daughter, Josie Lyn, into the world! Baby Josie was born on October 17, 2025, weighing 5 lbs 12 oz and measuring 18 inches long.

Congratulations to the Garcia family on their beautiful new addition!

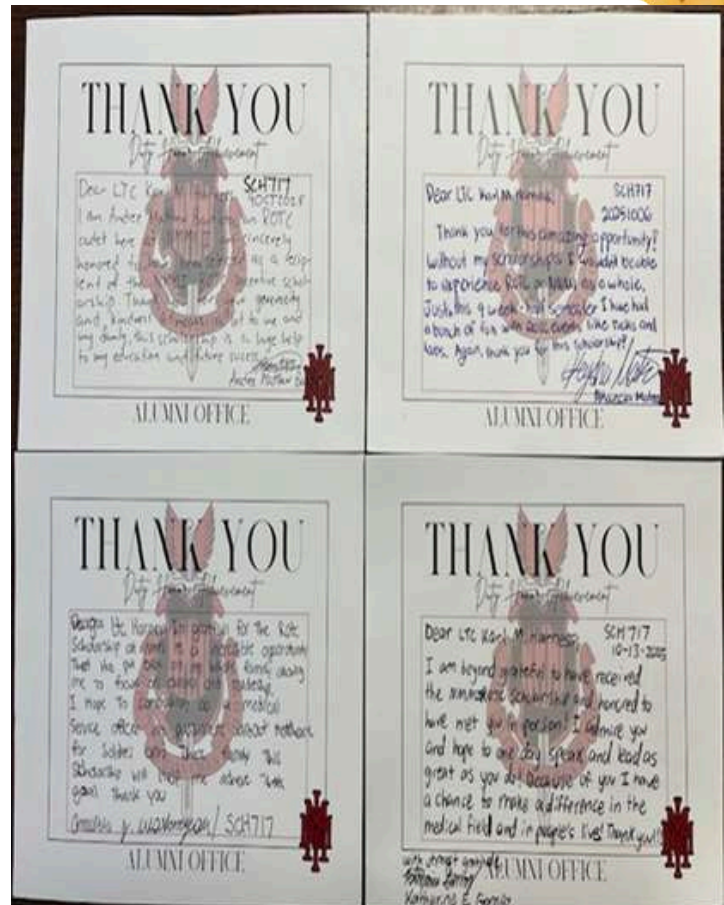




CADET THANK YOU LETTERS FROM KARL M. HARNESS ('00 JC)

LTC Karl M. Harness ('00 JC), AR, Professor of Military Science at New Mexico Military Institute, sent us some of his favorite cadet thank-you letters from this semester.

We are so proud of these cadets! They make time between classes to bring their letters to the Alumni Office, where we ensure each letter is sent to the donors of the scholarships or the individuals in charge of each scholarship. These letters, filled with heartfelt gratitude, are a wonderful way for cadets to show how thankful they are for the support that makes their NMMI education possible.





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2026 NMMI ALUMNI PRESENTS



BATAAN DEATH MARCH TEAM

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2026



As an NMMI alum, you, your friends and family are invited to JOIN the NMMI ALUMNI TEAM to honor those of Bataan on Saturday, March 21, 2026 at White Sands Missile Range, NM. As in recent years, you also have the option of marching (virtual) in your hometown.

JOIN THE TEAM!www.nmmialumniteam.com

Step 1 - Sign Up to join the NMMI Alumni Team



Step 2 - Register with Bataan



Step 3 - Order Team Shirt



Step 4 - Prepare for the March

CONTACT

Steve Duran '83HS '87JC at
(575) 621-1631



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AROUND POST



NOVEMBER
14, 2025

Cadets filled the halls with music and dedication during fall concert rehearsals — preparing to deliver a performance that showcases talent, teamwork, and tradition.
-NMMI FACEBOOK

#WEARENMMI
#CADETLIFE
#MUSICATNMMI
#TRADITIONINTUNE
#LEADERSHIPTHROUGHARTS



2025 EAC TRUNK OR TREAT





TAPS

MR.	DOYLE	J. BORCHERS	1962	JC	10/5/2025
LT. GEN	ROBERT	D. BECKEL	HONORARY	ALUM	11/8/2025
JUDGE	ROBERT	JUNELL	1962	JC	11/12/2025
CHAPLAIN	DARREL	P. MASON	1978	JC	10/31/2025
	PHILLIP	C. SAUCEDO	1991	JC	4/8/2025
	JAMES	M. RAYMOND	1955	JC	11/25/2025
LTC.	JUNSO	OGAWA	STAFF		11/20/2025



Alumni Reported Deceased
December 1, 2025



A quote from the 1933
Bronco about cadet,
George O. Speer 1933
JC, who was killed in a
Polo Game-

**"BUT IF THEY ARE
GONE FROM OUR
RANKS, WE KEEP THEM
ON OUR ROSTER AS
VALUES ONCE
INTIMATELY KNOWN
AND AVAILABLE IN
OUR RECOLLECTIONS,
AND IN OUR HEARTS.
THEY WILL REMAIN
FOREVER YOUNG."**