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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**UNM-LA Summer Bridge offers students a great deal and a head start on college**

By participating in UNM-LA's eight-week Summer Bridge Program 2011 high school graduates and GED Recipients can get a tuition-free head start on college.

"Students enroll with a cohort of other first-time college students and receive personalized attention from the UNM-LA staff and faculty, said Student Advisor Jackie La New. "The students will take classes together, participate in focused study sessions with faculty, learn to navigate college, and build a support network of other students, faculty and staff," she said.

Katelyn Narum participated in Summer Bridge in 2010 and is currently a freshman at UNM-LA. "I really liked how the program gave me a head start on my credits," she said. "It's a good introduction to being in college. College classes are different from high school. Students are expected to be much more independent"

This summer, students will take a math or English course and have the option to take a one credit course of Introduction to Opera, T'ai Chi Chu'un, Yoga, or Aquatic Aerobics. Narum liked the mix of a more rigorous academic class and a more fun enrichment class.

Summer Bridge scholarships are extremely competitive. For best consideration return applications by the April 15<sup>th</sup> priority deadline. If space remains after the priority deadline, UNM-LA will continue to accept applications until the program is filled.

Applications are available at [www.la.unm.edu](http://www.la.unm.edu) (on the future students page), from UNM-LA Student Services or from your high school counselor. Although preference is given to students planning to attend UNM-LA in the fall, students planning to attend other colleges and universities may apply and credits are transferrable.

To learn more about the Summer Bridge Program, contact Jackie LaNew (663-3402, [jqq@unm.edu](mailto:jqq@unm.edu)) or Elizabeth Rademacher (661-4690, [eradema@unm.edu](mailto:eradema@unm.edu))