

UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN COLORADO

HONORED ALUMNI



UNIVERSITY OF
NORTHERN COLORADO

Alumni Association

HONORED ALUMNI

UNC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The University of Northern Colorado Alumni Association is a growing, global network of more than 130,000 UNC Bears. Founded in 1965, we are graduates of all generations, continuing students, parents and friends. We proclaim our UNC ties with pride, and we believe in the power of giving back. We may come from different class years, different cities, and different careers, but together we believe — Once a Bear, Always a Bear.

THE HONORED ALUMNI AWARDS

The Honored Alumni Awards highlight some of the most distinguished alumni and friends of the University of Northern Colorado. For more than 70 years the university has honored Bears whose achievements, contributions and involvement advance our university and make the UNC degree more valuable.

The honorees are examples of what it means to have a UNC education, and their personal and professional achievement give us a reason to celebrate our whole community.

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE DESERVING OF AN HONORED ALUMNI AWARD?

To nominate alumni and friends for future selection, please visit unco.edu/alumni or contact the UNC Alumni Association. Nominations open in the fall.

HONORED ALUMNI

Thousands of alumni call the University of Northern Colorado home. Their support for and ongoing involvement in the university are a point of pride for the UNC Alumni Association. Among this global network, a distinguished group of graduates exemplify the standards and qualities to which all Bears aspire.

They are UNC's Honored Alumni.

Each year a class of graduates are inducted as Honored Alumni during a ceremony that pays tribute to their personal and professional accomplishments and dedication to the university.

While the 2020 class of Honored Alumni stand tall among our honorees, their ceremony was canceled due to the 2019-2020 coronavirus pandemic.

Yet, it is through adversity that the inspiration of the 2020 honorees can shine. A nurse, educators, philanthropist, and community developer, the honorees are admirable examples of what it means to be a UNC Bear.

BILL BENSON '76

Every spring, **Bill Benson** treks across the Colorado plains to return to UNC and attend the annual History Department Awards Ceremony. He has worked in Sidney, Nebraska, as a financial advisor for the past 26 years, and he attends the ceremony so he can award the Benson Scholarships to the recipients in person.



Benson is a loyal and significant supporter of UNC's History department, and he has been devoted to UNC for decades. His love of history and interest in supporting UNC students led Benson to establish the William H. Benson History Scholarship in 2004 and to establish the William H. Benson Endowment in 2014 to continue the scholarship into the future. Through these funds, Benson has funded 105 scholarships for UNC students to date.

The Benson Scholarship has become a prestigious and coveted award for undergraduates studying history at UNC. The fund has grown to provide healthy support to six undergraduate majors each year.

Because of his love of history and his belief that a deep understanding of it provides an important pathway to future success, Benson has insisted on rewarding excellence with his namesake scholarship. Over the years, the History department has awarded the "Bensons" to top students. These students have gone on to successful careers in a variety of fields, including as foreign service officers, teachers and professors. Benson's love of history and dedication to UNC has supported students who developed a deep understanding of their role as citizens and leaders in Colorado while studying at UNC.

ANISSA GUZMAN '93, '01

Anissa Guzman has had a successful career in nursing education while always remembering her alma mater and supporting current students. After teaching at community colleges in northern Colorado, Guzman returned to her alma mater as an assistant professor in the Nursing program. From there, she has been the Director of Nursing Education for Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center and is now the Division Manager of Clinical Education for Catholic Health Initiatives in the Nebraska and Iowa region.



Guzman has shared her story to show that a pathway is possible for students with similar identities to follow in her footsteps. During her first week on campus as a nursing professor, Guzman visited the César Chávez Cultural Center (CCCC) to offer support to Nursing-seeking students and set up meetings to offer advice and support. She also served on a Success Looks Like ME career panel about Sports and Health Professions. The career panel series brings successful alumni back to campus to provide current students with insights into working in specific industries and professional networking opportunities.

Upon finding that many students struggled with food insecurity, she arranged delivery of groceries to the CCCC and ordered pizza for students during finals. Although her career has taken Guzman away from Colorado and her alma mater, she remains committed to UNC's students. Guzman continues to provide nourishment for struggling students, and she also offers words of love and support. When the CCCC has celebrated milestones, Guzman has returned to share the center's joy. Her support has sparked interest from other alumni to provide in a similar fashion for current students.

GARY O. LOO '64

The professional accomplishments and philanthropic dedication of **Gary Loo** have exemplified UNC's tradition of excellence. Upon graduation, Loo went to work with his brother Dusty, managing the daily operations of his family's growing business—known today as Current. The direct mail order business sold everything from checks and greeting cards to cookbooks and gifts.



Under the guidance of the Loo brothers, the company dramatically grew to employ more than 2,000 people and fill more than three million orders per year. With annual sales at \$115 million, Current became the largest direct mail marketer of greeting cards, stationery, gifts and related products. Having amassed more than \$100 million in sales, the Loo family decided to sell the business to American Can in late 1986.

After the sale, the Loo brothers formed High Valley Group Inc., which invests in real estate and other business ventures. Since then the High Valley Group has financed the prospering Briargate subdivision on Colorado Spring's north side, helped build the Sky Sox Stadium and invested in the popular Izze Beverage Company of Boulder.

Throughout his prosperous career, Loo has remained an active supporter of UNC. He volunteered to serve as a member of the Alumni Association Board in the late 1980s, and in 2001 he established the Gary Loo Athletic Scholarship Endowment, which has funded scholarships for UNC student athletes for 18 consecutive years. Additionally, Loo has consistently supported the Kenneth W. Monfort College of Business Dean's Discretionary Fund, providing for additional student scholarships, student travel, faculty support and program support that otherwise may not have been possible.

JOSE MARTINEZ III '07

Jose Martinez III has a deep understanding of what is required to create a well-rounded, inclusive educational environment that addresses the needs of its diverse student population. After six years of teaching at Bear Creek High School in Lakewood, Colo., Martinez was nominated by his peers and won the prestigious Milken Educator Award in 2013. This annual award is given to a select group of teachers around the country who have established themselves as exceptional educators early in their careers.



Martinez has a tireless dedication to student success and community enrichment. In addition to his duties as a teacher and assistant principal, Martinez is known for his ability to engage students in beneficial group activities. Martinez coaches junior varsity tennis, advises the student senate, assists students in the production of educational videos, serves on the school's technology committee, and even acts as a DJ for student gatherings to provide students with a safe, drug-free social environment. This gift for connecting with young learners provides support and engagement for even the most at-risk students in the school.

Martinez is a 2015 recipient of the UNC 10 Under 10 young alumni awards, has given of his time as an ambassador for UNC and has participated in various on-campus volunteer events. In 2018, he was the keynote speaker for the National Field Experience Conference in Greeley, and in 2019 was the keynote speaker for the Cumbres Graduation Reception.

Martinez has shown an extraordinary connection to the founding values of UNC through excellence in the field of education, and he's carried those values forward into a new and ever-changing educational environment.

RICO WINT '09

Through his nonprofit Young Men of Purpose, **Rico Wint** motivates young men around the Denver metro area. “Mr. Rico,” as he is affectionately known by his students, is known for his powerful and riveting lectures.



A product of Denver and Aurora public schools, he understands the challenges that many inner-city young men face daily. Wint endured hardship at an early age, burying his father at the age of 15. These experiences inform his passion and enthusiasm for inspiring young men to be their best selves through practical, applicable social and leadership training.

Wint has been running YMOP for more than a decade, since founding the program in 2009. This platform has allowed him to support and influence more than 3,000 young men across the Denver and Aurora metro area. Wint has received various awards and honors for his work, but he is most proud of Aurora Central’s “Legend Award” for excellence in community service, an award he received due to his work with YMOP.

Wint has always encouraged scholarship and higher education attainment for the young men he serves. From the affectionate life-changing college illustrations he shares with the YMOP students, to his undying endorsement for UNC in every setting, Wint is undeniably passionate about his alma mater. He has also hosted “YMOP at UNC Day” where he coordinated a day to take students from different districts and schools to visit UNC together. Over the past decade, he has watched more than 25 YMOP students choose to attend UNC. Some have directly credited Wint as the reason they chose to enroll at the university.

HONORED ALUMNI *Past Honorees*

2019

Kathleen Dunemn '71
Darlene LeDoux '78
Jim & Janet Liston
Matt Schuman '86
Julie Zalikowski '75

2018

CJ Archibeque '93, '02
Trish Escobar '07, '11
Paula F. Sherlock '71
Tony Tolbert '97, '08
Monika Vischer '89
David L. Wood & Carol B. Wood

2017

Jim Alexander '69
Timothy K. Bradley '80
Fritz J. Erickson '84, '87
Bob Heiny
Bruce Pearson '69

2016

Minseok An '93
Daniel J. Carey '72, '75
Robert A. Clark '60
Pia Dounglomchunt '74, '75, '81
Bob & Bonnie Phelps

2015

Brad Inhulsen '12
Mike & Marilyn Loustalet
Dick Monfort '76
Dennis Morimoto '65, '66
Jong Shyong Shyu '84, '88

2013

Steve Baker '86
Hank & Nan Brown
Richard Kilmer '60
James Kawika Riley '05
Ronna L. Sanchez '80, '82, '88, '00

2012

Fernie Baca Hayes '61
Theo Holland '61
Autumn Hurlbert '02
Wayne Melanson '75
Bob & Betty Tointon

2011

David Pierce Beaver '72
Andrew Boian '94
Steve Eastin '70
Michael Hutchinson '79
Joseph Martin '82

2010

Laura Adams '78
S. Cato Crews '97
Kenneth Evans '55, '56
Dana Landry '94
Mark Nuccio '85

Masoud Shirazi '74, '75
Sumate Yamnoon '81, '84

2009

Allan "Gene" Aiken
Brian M. Davidson '99
Tim Jorstad '75
Frank and Betty Ottesen
Sharon Lee Parker '77
Randy Watkins '99
Aléna Watters '03
Randy Zila '80, '96

2008

Edwin "Buddy" Baker
John Beel
Tom and Nona Gordon
John L. Mendoza '61, '69
Rhoda Rogers '88
Michael Shonka '69
Patrick Varney '99

2007

Kathleen Bickford Berzock '87
Cynthia Evans '73
Glenn McDonald
Joe Tennesen
James Valdez '69
Mark Wallace '79

2006

Rodger Bybee '66, '69
Kenneth Cook '80, '84
Cheryl DeConde Johnson '76, '82
Steve Forness '63, '64
Miles Ishigaki '78
David Newton '64
Gerald Shadwick

2005

Dr. Alton Barbour '56
Bruce Broderius '66
Delores (Lori) Daniel '72
Greg Germann '78
Joe Glenn
April-Joy Gutierrez '88
Larry Roots '74
David Warble '73

2004

Gregory J. Anton '87
Duane Banks '65
Jon Crane '71
William Hairston '73
Henrietta Holsman Fore '75
Marlene Politzer '52

2003

Linda S. Akers '86
W. Keith Christy '63, '67
Jay K. Hackett '72
Noreen Heer Nicol '77

Sam Schauerman '51, '52
C. Daniel Sprick '78

2002

Robert Ackerman '75
David L. Hartenbach '81
James Lyke '68
John A. Mosbo '69
Stanley Shimada '61, '63
George E. Swafford '59

2001

Scott Fredrickson '89
John W. Haefeli '86
Thomas M. Howerton '64, '71
Chen-ku Hwang '82
Jerry V. Krause '65, '67
Alice C. Leal '68, '76
Carlos Leal '64, '71
Charles R. McNerney '61, '62
Jack A. Murphy '67, '94
L. Wayne Wells '49

2000

Donald Bailey '76
James Cantrell '65
Jongrak Krainam '75, '80
John G. Newman '81
Ann O'Brien-Gonzales '97
George Sage '55, '57
Norma Saiter '69, '70
Jean Schober Morrell '94
Donald Waldrip '61
Cheryl Wenzinger '72

1999

Marti Alter '74
David Deforest-Stalls '78
Lowell Graham '70, '71
Karel King Hill '67
Freddie Litton '73
Jack Magruder '66
Sue McCarroll '75
Michael McGovern '83
Lorraine "Lori" Garcia Sadler '67
Joseph Velardo '48

1998

Paul D. Beal '52
Ellen Brilliant '94
Walter Katnich '50
Frank Lakin '55, '57
Peter Lemon '81
Harold Love '63
Frances Omori '71, '72
Charles Putnik '72

1997

Alex F. Chappell '77
Sugree Charoensook '81, '85
Larry D. Dunkle '65
Marie Louise Anderson Greenwood '35

Vicki Heisler '74
William (Michael) Kleine '70
James E. Loehr '66, '68
Wesley Howard Sargent '69

1996

Judith Knecht Babbitt '62
David E. Carter '76
Steven John Dietz '80
Joan Bailey Morley '52
Lydia Miller Ruyle '72
Peter William Zehna '50, '51

1995

Bernice Bass de Martinez '70, '72
Elena J. Batman '87
Barbara Coloroso '70, '72
Walter M. Francis '71, '73
Robert Heinich '48, '49
Jerry Kiefer '70
Michael C. Tormey '72, '77
Neil Westergaard '75
Lloyd M. Yonemura '72

1994

Neil D. Argo Jr. '79
Robert L. Blasi '56
Lucile Maxfield Bogue '34
Daniel A. Frantz '79
Kent W. Glassman '87
Raymond J. Kruse '41
Ronald J. Newton '61
John D. Pacheco '74, '79

1993

Thomas Hernandez '59
Reuben Al Isberg '35
Scott Manley '69, '70, '77
Mary Golda Ross '39
Michael Weiker '62, '65
William "Bill" H. Welsh, Jr. '35

1992

James Shigeo Alegre '59
Maw-Fa Chien '73
Ralph Willis Levy '48, '49
Christine Louise Lucero '81
Carol Schneider Mutter '67
Barbara Ennis Pigford '53

1991

Betty Twist Aylin '39
James R. Burress '76
Alan D. Clark '64
Norman Heimgartner '68
Louise Johnson '71
Richard D. Olson '76
William E. Rapp '64
Charles L. Rutherford '49, '55, '67
George Umberson '67

1990

Henry Amicarella '37, '38
Tamra Hayden-Rice '85

Charles A. Lindly '57, '61
Don Meyer '67, '68
Janelle Haworth Munn '48
Sherry Ann Ramsey '82, '82
Anthony M. Rossi '49
John H. Schrant '44
Patricia Bennett Taylor '69
Lawrence Von Bamford '80

1988

LaMar Steen '51
George E. Ayers '63, '65
Janet Brooks-Gerloff '72
Ying-Hau Chen '73, '75
Leslie S. Franklin '62
Gordon T. Maddux '53
Jon R. Runge '76
Marian Stoskopf '59
Marjorie Wilson West '62
James E. Miller '55

1987

Anan Attachoo '75
Andrea Slack Doray '77
Martha Epp '40, '43
Pete Mirich '50, '61
Patricia Ward Rubano '74, '80
Roland M. Smith '69
Gloria Velasquez Trevino '78
Philip Wilson '68
Catherine Yoder '74

1986

Sylvia Adams '83
Idris K. Boltz '36
Alice Amen Heinz '59
Ruby Miller
Dorothy J. Porter '67
Don Robinson '58
J. Joseph Stevens '65
David P. Wacker '75

1985

Glen Alps '40
Barbara Sue Davis '74
Patrick Haggerty '51, '53
Mildred Hansen '27
Maureen Hogg '77
Larry T. Schultz '55, '65
Sharon Seery '70
Knutte Skinner '51
Maynard Stamper '34, '38
Virginia Anderson Webb '56

1984

John C. Duran '73
Rupert M. Goodbrod
Walter O. Green '55, '56
Richard H. Jones '34, '37
William P. Kenney '78
Lian-Wen Mao '70
Greg L. Riddoch '68

1983

J. Michael Barrett '68
Robert Benton '56
Mary Camblin Reed '60
Donald S. Groves '67, '70, '82
Louis Ingelhart '42, '47
Gaylord Morrison
Dorothy Strubel '34
Mildred Ying '50

1982

Mildred "Mim" Tesdahl Ballou '60
Harold M. Browning '36, '43
Lonis C. "Pete" Butler '31, '35
Hollis F. Fait '46, '48
Michael Homyak '60
Courtlyn Hotchkiss '46, '54
James M. Kadlecik '85
Betty J. Kolstoe '57, '69
Donald C. Roush '59
Joseph L. Shoemaker '42, '51

1981

Irv Brown '57
Margaret Anne Campbell '38
Julianne F. Haefeli '54
Stephen J. Havill '69
LeRoy Kerns '48
Samuel Martinez '57, '61
Martha Spann Poole '60
Margaret Bottinelli Troxel '39, '41

1980

Gerry Flanigan '66
Clara Funderburk '63
Jacqueline I. Haines '55
William H. Hill '52, '53, '55
Charles F. Howard Jr. '54, '58
Dean Krakel '50
Victor R. Nottingham '52

1979

Martin Candelaria
Glenna Dannels '47
Gilbert J. Hause '52
John U. Michaelis '36
Lily Rosqueta-Rosales '57
J.C. Tim Scates '66
Andra Schmidt Bookman '70
Poonsang Sutabutra '65

1978

Said Atiah Abo Ali '75
R. Rix Blakey '47
John E. Bothell '26, '36
George A. Cavender '28, '33
Richard B. Feaster '51, '54
Julianne F. Haefeli '54
A. Dallas Martin Jr. '65, '69, '71
B. Corlee Munson '48
Arthur L. Ohanian '48, '67
Virginia L. Sears '28

Christine A. Tanner '69

Joseph C. Weber '66

1977

Raymond V. Biondo '60

Irene Pixler Dunstan '32, '37

Kun-Huei Huang '71

Arno H. Luker '49

Robert W. Noffsinger '43

Stephanie Mueller Riley '61

Gerald D. Schmidt '60

Elva Stealy Steinmark '32

Robert L. Wendel '59, '60, '67

Wellington Webb '64, '71

1976

Tilman M. Bishop '55, '56

Spurgeon Q. Bryant Sr. '54

Chunghoon Choy '69

Donald L. Garrity '50

Carl E. Hansen '63, '65, '68

Edward Kelly '66

Samuel Martinez '57, '61

Frank A. Slack '39

Donnis Thompson '67

1975

Fritz S. Brennecke '36

Frederick Haehnlen '65

Helen Fung Khoo '57

Ralph King '39, '40

Jack J. Meakins '51, '55

James E. Perdue '41

Roland Rautenstrauss '43

Ruth Rich '49

Ernest B. Scott '50

1974

Charles O. Douglas '59, '65

Richard G. Hause '54, '55, '66

Jeanette Lacey '39

John J. Mirich '58, '61

Edwin J. Pittock '65

Eleanor M. Wagoner '60

Wayman Walker '41

1973

Ernest Andrade '62, '71, '82

A. Irene Armitstead '45

Carl H. Gustafson '51

Donald Blaine Herdman '51

Dorothy Clayton McKenzie '32

Tedde Kast Scharf '73, '74

1972

Edwin G. Alexander '47

William E. Davis '58

Audrey V. Dempsey '29, '32, '50

Hal W. Hamm '28, '30

Charles J. Mackey '35

James A. Michener '37

1971

Samuel G. Gates '45, '47

Hazel L. Munson '32, '60

Hazel E. Petrocco '48

James Wailes '41, '49

1970

Earl Lester Cole '43

Guy Davis '41

M. Frances Dougherty '35, '40

Lafayette W. Green '34, '36

Fred Harclerod '39, '42

Eugene Herrington '26

Ubol Reangsuwan '56, '59

1969

Eldon E. Baker '59

William F. Hartman '38, '52

J. Osborne Johnson '28, '38

John C. Johnson '28, '38

Charles Romine '54

Wilma Scott '42

1968

Dorothy Jean Corsberg '46, '52

Warren Monfort

Robert Timothy '41

Carl Wilkerson '51, '57

1967

Laurene Edmundson '40

Ted Long '24, '27

Charles Lott Jr. '42

Clyde Morganti '41

1966

Ervin French '42, '46

John A. Rosales '75

Helen Jo Shaeffer '54

1965

Marvin Foote '40

Henry Lujan '54

Phyllis Roop '54

Warren W. Wiggins

1964

Lucy P. Blaisdell '26

Eugene R. Gullette '38

Mildred E. Jobe '29

William L. McDivitt '56

Anna C. Petteys '43

1963

Edward J. Flint '29, '38, '54

Jack Pollock '49, '57

Margaret Wood '69

1962

Thomas B. Doherty '38, '42

John Taylor Eastlick '39

Mary Louise Flood '17, '27

Edward John Getsch '40

1961

Lloyd E. Gaskill '35

Walter Humphrey '31

Emma Lou Purvis '38

Ewald Turner '49

1960

Harold Ferguson '35, '42

Chester O'Hanlon '35, '41

Altha Stogsdill '46

Bill Welsh '34

1959

Myron Willett '30, '39

Elbie L. Gann '43

Mary Hinds '50

Frederick H. Good '33

1958

Wilford Woody '26, '27

Gilbert Funk '41

Louise Cronbaugh '38, '39

Elmer F. Bennett '38

1957

Harry W. Charlesworth '26, '28

Ann P. Oleson '57, '61

Robert H. Johnson

1956

George Irvin '35, '39

Geneva Keirnes '35

Thomas J. Murphy '36, '46

1955

Elmer Burkhard '36, '44, '70

Julia Braun '25, '31

1954

John T. Roberts '29, '30

Hazel Dalbey

1953

Harold Threlkeld

Janet Grauberger '37

1952

Margaret McGroarty '22, '27

Robert James

1951

Lloyd A. Garrison '26, '32

Grace Finley '17, '27

1950

Jean Hunt Goudy '36, '39

Leo Butler '67

1949

Jennie Tyler '14

James Reiva

1948

Irene Conboy '16

Louis H. Braun '30, '31

1947

Marguerite Jucham '31, '32

Philip Kirton

THANK YOU

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The University of Northern Colorado extends special recognition to the volunteer leaders of the University of Northern Colorado Alumni Association advisory board of directors. These volunteers represent a diversity of class years, academic programs, professions and geography and provide their experience and expertise to support the university.

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Mary Jo Drew '79

Brad Inhulsen '12

Jasmine Jones '17

Ray Mondragon '15

Ronna Sanchez '80, '82, '88, '00

Rob Thorne '92

Jill Trotter '87 (Chair)

Nancy Wendirad '05

2020 HONORED ALUMNI SELECTION COMMITTEE

A committee of alumni volunteers reads each nomination and examines nominees qualifications against the award criteria to select each class of honorees.