



# **Los Luceros Historic Property**

## **A Pivotal Place for Preserving and Presenting New Mexico's History**

Legislative Finance Committee Meeting  
Taos, New Mexico  
August 23, 2018



NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF  
**CULTURAL AFFAIRS**





## **NM Historic Sites Division Mission**

New Mexico Historic Sites' mission is to preserve historic resources and to provide public access, programming, and exhibits for communicating historical significance

### **Role of Los Luceros within Historic Sites Division**

Standing at a crossroads in Northern New Mexico, Los Luceros is central to this mission as:

- The terminus of historic El Camino Real that directly connects to most every northern New Mexico community
- A territorial seat under both Mexico and United States
- A focal point for indigenous Puebloan peoples
- A nexus for Northern New Mexican art, culture, and agriculture throughout the 20th Century





## Property Resources

- 148 Acres of mix historic and agricultural resources
- Primary Crops include 1300 apple trees, alfalfa, and demonstration gardens with local products
- Livestock include heritage Navajo Churro sheep, goats, chickens, donkey
- All water rights are protected and being actively used
- Historic Structures include 1600s Casa Grande, Capella, Ranch buildings, Victorian era Lucero House, adobe out structures
- Guest operational buildings include visitor center, community meeting room, bath house, screened event porch, commercial kitchen, gallery/exhibit space, and River House.





## Current Partnerships

- Amigos del Rancho Los Luceros (Independent 501(c)(3))
- Farm and Ranch Advisory Committee (DCA Created)
- Rio Arriba County and Santa Fe County NMSU Extension Offices
- New Mexico Acequia Association
- Pajarito Environmental Education Center
- Espanola Valley Fiber Arts Council
- Boy Scouts of America





## Current Community Engagement

- Community Agricultural Programs and Meetings
- Agricultural Grain Trials (Rocky Mountain Farmers Union)
- Demonstration and Training Gardens (New Mexico Acequia Association)
- Seasonal migration bird count programs
- Bi-Annual sheep shearing programs
- Youth nature and outreach programs for Rio Arriba and Los Alamos County Schools
- 2018 Historic Sites Culture and Nature Series
  - April 15th – Textile Arts
  - May 16th – Ecology of the Rio Grande
  - June 17th – Healing on the Rio Grande
  - July 15th – Water Brings Life
  - August 19th – Spanish Colonial Life
  - September 16th – Apple Harvest Festival





## **The Future of Los Luceros**

DCA will retain property and is moving ahead on the following:

- Providing regular public access to property and its historic and natural resources
- Actively partnering with local and state entities to develop use plans and to provide community engagement programming
- Developing public agricultural education and production programs
- Legal counsel is researching legal structures for public/private partnership and investments
- Seeking recurring, base operating budget state funding, essential for core operations, and to support minimal levels of staffing
- Seeking capital outlay funds for preservation and maintenance of structures and site, and agricultural equipment