

# New Mexico Office of Archaeological Studies

## Teacher and Educational Offerings

With more than three decades of programming experience, the New Mexico Office of Archaeological Studies (OAS) Education Outreach Program has developed an outreach philosophy that involves a multi-sensory approach, a human ecological perspective, and face-to-face interaction where possible. The guiding principle is that understanding human histories in terms of ecological, social, and economics principles is the best preparation for future generations, who will be faced with adapting to circumstances that are outside of our past experience or imagination. Our several offerings are collectively themed under the title “Surviving and Thriving: A History of Adaptation in New Mexico”.

<b>Travelling “touch and feel” table-top exhibit</b>	<u>All ages:</u> Best suited for large events and exhibitions, this table-top exhibit can be adapted for classroom settings. Includes archaeological artifacts and artifact replicas that span the cultures of New Mexico across more than 22,000 years. Items included replica pottery, lithics and stone-tools, textiles, and weapons, plus glasses, metal, toys, and pottery from the Spanish and American periods. Often combined with other offerings, listed below.
<b>Traditional technologies &amp; skills: Demonstrations by OAS educators</b>	<u>All ages:</u> Observe the production of yucca cordage, yucca sandals, sumac basketry, flint knapping, traditional arrow making, coil-based ceramics, OR turkey feather and rabbit fur blankets
<b>Traditional technologies &amp; skills: Activities led by OAS educators</b>  *We bring the supplies	<p><u>Best suited for 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and up:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Practice shooting handmade replica bows-and-arrows at outside at 3D targets. *Requires a safe outdoor range (e.g. an unused field).</li> <li>Weave a reed mat using the historical technique modified to be made from paper, since sourcing reeds is seasonally limited.</li> <li>Native string games (aka similar to Cats Cradle) and storytelling. Out of respect for local cultures, this program is only available during fall and winter season. (usually Nov to Apr).</li> </ul> <p><u>Best suited for 4<sup>th</sup> grade and up:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Practice shooting handmade replica bows-and-arrows plus atlatls-and-spears at outside at 3D targets. *Requires a safe outdoor range (e.g. an unused field).</li> <li>Prepare and spin yucca fiber into cordage.</li> <li>Make a traditional arrow using modern technique and supplies.</li> <li>Make coil and pinch pottery in the ancestral way. Limited availability, due to staffing and equipment constraints. *Max of 14 students</li> </ul> <p><u>Best suited for 7<sup>th</sup> grade and up:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sumac basketry</li> <li>Woven yucca sandals</li> </ul>
<b>Meet-and-greets or presentations</b>	Get to know a member of the OAS staff through in-person, or on zoom (or another platform). OAS has educators, archaeologists, and scientists that can speak to and answer questions on many topics.
<b>Take home student kits</b>	Meant to be student led within a multigenerational setting, these kits range in topic from archaeology, to geology, to biology. The worksheets have guided hands-on-activities. Offerings vary, contact us for most up to date packet descriptions. Available for most ages and in Spanish.
<b>Project Archaeology</b> <a href="http://www.projectarchaeology.org">www.projectarchaeology.org</a>  *OAS has NM specific extensions	A BLM sponsored educational curriculum intended to strengthen student’s critical thinking skills through hands-on archaeologically based themes. The OAS educators regularly provide training and support to teachers and facilitators. Traveling teaching material kits are also available. Best suited for upper elementary to middle school classes, but teachers have also used the curriculum in high school classes. Contact us for the next upcoming training.
<b>Internships for ages 16-24 year olds</b>	Currently only available for Native American Students, these paid internships give students the opportunity to learn ancestral technologies from elders and OAS educators. Future internships for all students are in the works (fundraising is underway) and will be announced when available on the Friends of Archaeology Facebook page. Feel free to contact us as well for up-to-date information.
<b>Visit the OAS at the Center for New Mexico Archaeology in Santa Fe</b> <b>OR</b> <b>Visit a local archaeological site with an archaeologist from the OAS</b>	Dependent on limited time and funds (classes must provide transportation), but please ask!  *OAS has world class research laboratories, including 1) Stone tool analysis, 2) Ceramic and Historic analysis, 3) Bioarchaeology, 4) Ethnobotany, 5) Radiocarbon sampling for carbon-14 dating, and 6) Archaeomagnetism, plus a soil analysis laboratory in collaboration with the National Park Service.
<b>International Archaeology month</b>	October is International Archaeology month. Each year the OAS works to do something special to celebrate, details will be posted on the Friends of Archaeology Facebook page and the OAS website.

Friends of Archaeology Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfArchaeologyNM>

Center for New Mexico Archaeology Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CenterforNewMexicoArchaeology>

Friends of Archaeology YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@FriendsOfArchaeologyNM>

OAS YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/c/TheNewMexicoOfficeofArchaeologicalStudiesSantaFe>

### Contact us:

[www.nmarchaeology.org](http://www.nmarchaeology.org) | [FriendsOfArchaeologyNM@gmail.com](mailto:FriendsOfArchaeologyNM@gmail.com) | Educators: Shelby (lead), Mary, Isaac, Caitlin, and Eric