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pursuing an M.B.A.in Business Administration at University of New Mexico.

## Aug. 13, 2019

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) has awarded one of its 2019–20 fellowships and grants to a scholar from New Mexico. Recipients will pursue academic work and lead innovative community projects to empower women and girls. Olga Palacios is the recipient of a Career Development Grant. She is currently pursuing an M.B.A.in Business Administration at University of New Mexico.

AAUW is one of the world's oldest leading supporters of graduate women's education. Since 1888, it has awarded more than \$115 million in fellowships, grants and awards to 13,000 recipients from more than 145 countries. For the 2019–20 academic year, AAUW awarded a total of \$4.3 million through seven fellowships and grants programs to 270 scholars, research projects and programs promoting education and equity for women and girls.

"In the 130 years that AAUW has been providing funding, our fellows and grantees have contributed so much to their schools, their communities and to society at large," said Kim Churches, chief executive officer of AAUW. "We know that this year's recipients will continue in that esteemed tradition, and we are honored to provide the resources they need to excel in their academic work – and to ultimately make a difference in the world."

Educational funding is especially important given that women are disproportionately burdened by student debt. And their ability to pay off that debt is hampered by a lifelong pay gap that affects women in nearly every profession. The pay gap widens over time and has consequences on all aspect of a woman's financial life, from paying for an education to saving for a comfortable retirement. AAUW's awards help to alleviate the burden of student debt so women can focus on

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