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**NMSU Men of Color**

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*"Inclusion is not a matter of political correctness. It is the key to growth" - Jesse Jackson*

## Men of Color Solidarity: Why Unity Matters Now More Than Ever

In a time of political uncertainty and growing attacks on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) efforts, Men of Color solidarity is more critical than ever. Across the U.S., policies targeting race-conscious education, voting rights, and economic opportunities disproportionately impact communities of color. While systemic racism affects each group differently, the shared struggle for equity, justice, and representation calls for stronger alliances between Black, Latino, Indigenous, and other marginalized communities. The question is no longer whether we should unite—but how we can make that unity stronger and more impactful.

Historically, movements for racial justice have thrived when communities of color stand together. From the Civil Rights Movement to present-day fights for immigration rights and police reform, unity has always been the key to progress. Yet, division—often fueled by political rhetoric and media narratives—can weaken this power. Efforts to pit minority communities against each other ignore the reality that systemic barriers, from underfunded schools to discriminatory policing, affect us all. Recognizing these shared challenges is the first step in building lasting solidarity.

For Men of Color in higher education, solidarity must extend beyond political discussions and into everyday actions. Supporting student organizations, advocating for inclusive policies on campus, and standing against racial injustices—whether they affect one group or both—are ways to cultivate a culture of mutual support.

Now is the time to recognize that our collective strength lies in our unity. By uplifting one another, men of color communities can push back against policies designed to silence and marginalize us.





Students from the NMSU Dance Ensemble entertaining the audience at the Cultural Mosaic: Voices and Rhythm of Diversity event.

### Upcoming Events

**03/01/2025**

Western KY vs NMSU Aggies | 4PM | Pan American Center

**03/14/2025**

NMSU Aggies vs Jackson State | 6 PM | NM State Softball Complex



## NMSU As an R1 Institution: What it means for Men of Color

New Mexico State University has officially achieved R1 status, the highest classification for research institutions in the U.S — placing NMSU among the nation’s top-tier institutions. But beyond the prestige, what does this mean for Men of Color ?

As NMSU expands its research footprint, men of color; students and faculty must position themselves to leverage the opportunities that comes with it—whether through scholarships, mentorship, and representation in research initiatives.

## NMSU Men of Color Celebrates Black History In Style

New Mexico State University’s Men of Color Initiative wrapped up a powerful **Black History Month** celebration, bringing students, faculty, and community members together to honor Black culture, history, and identity. The series of events, held throughout February, provided a platform for creative expression, thought-provoking discussions, and a vibrant showcase of diversity.

The festivities began on February 7 with **Creative Expression**, an immersive experience exploring music, art, dance, and the African American cultural legacy at Rentrow Hall. Attendees engaged with dynamic performances and artistic presentations that highlighted the depth and influence of Black creativity. On February 12, **Black Voices at NMSU** sparked crucial conversations about identity, belonging, and success at a Hispanic-Serving Institution. Held at the Corbett Center, the discussion provided a safe space for students and faculty to share their experiences and reflect on their journeys in higher education.

The grand finale on February 22, **Cultural Mosaic: Voices and Rhythms of Diversity**, brought together the Men of Color Project, Black Programs and Latin American Programs for a captivating variety show at the Corbett Center Auditorium. The evening featured performances that celebrated the interconnectedness of diverse cultural traditions, reinforcing the importance of unity and representation.

