

## CLASS OF 2025

# *Outstanding Graduate*



### **BRITNEY OTERO**

College of Health, Education and  
Social Transformation

Britney Otero is graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. She chose nursing as a career because of a desire to serve: "It's an honor and a gift to help people in their most vulnerable moments."

At NMSU, she served her fellow students as a pathophysiology and pharmacology tutor and with classroom innovation. Asst. Professor Celina Shannon piloted Britney's suggestion on a new way of updating medical records: "This improvement has become a part of how I teach clinical documentation, leaving a lasting legacy that will benefit future students."

**"NMSU inspired  
and fostered  
my academic  
and personal  
growth through  
collaboration,  
community  
engagement,  
and mentorship."**

Britney volunteered as the Community Service Co-chair for the Student Nurse Association — but volunteering abroad is her passion. In 2024, she taught English, cared for the elderly, and engaged in play therapy with street children in Ecuador, and in 2025 she spent three weeks in Costa Rica helping build houses for single mothers. She says, "I want to dedicate my life to working in other countries. The world is big, with much to see and learn."

Britney gained practical experience during a year-long externship at Memorial Medical Center and plans to gain expertise in emergency medicine and critical care. She also hopes to strengthen nursing's spirit of collaboration "by having compassion and being kind to others the way others were kind to me." She adds, "I am so grateful for my professors and peers. If not for them, I would not be where I am."

Asst. Professor Lidia Monarrez says, "Britney consistently demonstrated a high level of maturity, integrity, and critical thinking. She approaches nursing not only at the bedside but also through the lens of larger systemic and societal challenges, exemplifying the kind of forward-thinking leadership our profession so deeply needs. Her ability to analyze and apply complex concepts to real-world issues sets her apart as a truly exceptional graduate."

After graduation, Britney heads to South Carolina to join her family and seek a position at one of the local hospitals. ▲