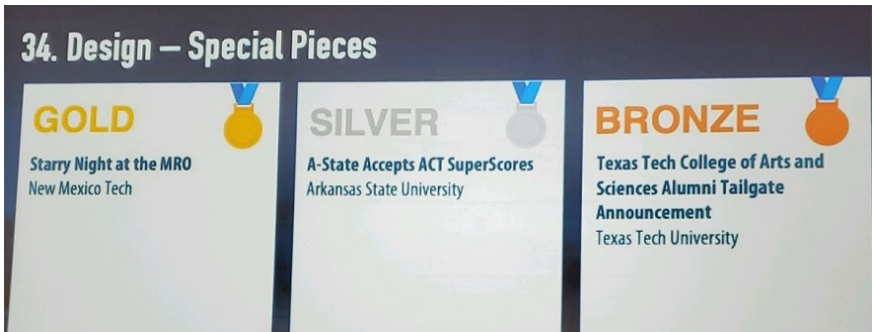


NMT Advancement and Alumni Relations Office Wins Gold!

NMT was awarded the Gold prize in the Design - Special Pieces category at the 2019 Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) Region IV Accolades program. (Arkansas State University won Silver, and Texas Tech University was awarded Bronze.)



Rachel Montoya, Alumni Relations Manager (*shown accepting the award, left*), and Sandi Lucero, Events Coordinator, were awarded first place for their **2018 NMT Founder's Club Dinner invitation**.

The Founder's Club Dinner, started in 2017, is New Mexico Tech's most prestigious annual event for high-level donors; it provides us an opportunity to thank our supporters for being an ongoing and important part of the NMT family. NMT President Stephen Wells awards his President's Medal to an outstanding alumnus/alumna at the dinner.

The 2018 event was designed to highlight the Magdalena Ridge Observatory (MRO), an NMT research partner institution. The theme of "Starry Night at the MRO" was chosen to feature the alliance between science and art; it also celebrated the fact that Vincent Van Gogh's *Starry Night* was painted the same year NMT was founded – 1889.

The MRO is not located on campus (4200' elevation), but 30 miles to the west and at 10,800' elevation. The last twelve miles are a steep, curvy, dirt road winding up the mountain; it takes an hour to drive to MRO from campus. Access is usually restricted to its employees and affiliated researchers; only on certain days, or for special events, (such as the Founder's Club Dinner), are the facilities open to others.

The video invitation, a "Video SmartBook" (*open view, right*) with a 5-minute slideshow on the history and importance of MRO written and narrated by Dr. Van Romero (NMT Vice President of Research and Professor of Physics), was designed and produced by Rachel Montoya.

Kudos, Rachel and Sandi!

