

# December 2021

## NEWSLETTER



### Inside this Issue

CEC Profile .....	2
Value of Membership.....	3-5
Membership Milestones .....	6
Training Calendar .....	7
Albuquerque Chapter CEC .....	8

### Chapter Address

AGA Albuquerque Chapter  
PO Box 26651  
Albuquerque, NM 87101

### Visit Us Online

Chapter website  
[www.agaabq.org](http://www.agaabq.org)

Chapter Facebook page  
[www.facebook.com/agaabq](http://www.facebook.com/agaabq)

Twitter  
<https://twitter.com/agaalbuquerque>

LinkedIn  
<https://linkedin.com/groups/1049477/>

All photographs used in this newsletter are from the cameras of the respective authors or have otherwise been provided with license and permission to use in our chapter newsletter.

# CEC Profile

Krista Giances-Chavez



My name is Krista Giances-Chavez and I am currently serving as the Membership Chair, which I have fulfilled for the past 3 program years. As the membership Chair, I am responsible for welcoming new members, membership renewal reminders and assistance in renewals as well as membership recruitment and retention.

A little background about me, I work for the NM Judicial Standards Commission, and have been with the State for over 19 years. I am the Chief Financial Officer for our agency and love what I do. I joined the AGA Albuquerque Chapter in 2010. Prior to serving as the Membership Chair, I served as the Chapter Historian for 2 years and the Chapter President for one year. I am grateful for the many friendships and professional relationships that I have developed from my involvement in the AGA by attending trainings and serving on the Board.

I've included some information on AGA membership in the following pages and the value of being a member in our Chapter. Please reach out to me if you would like more information on becoming a member or recruiting other members and taking advantage of the great incentives offered by AGA for recruiting others.

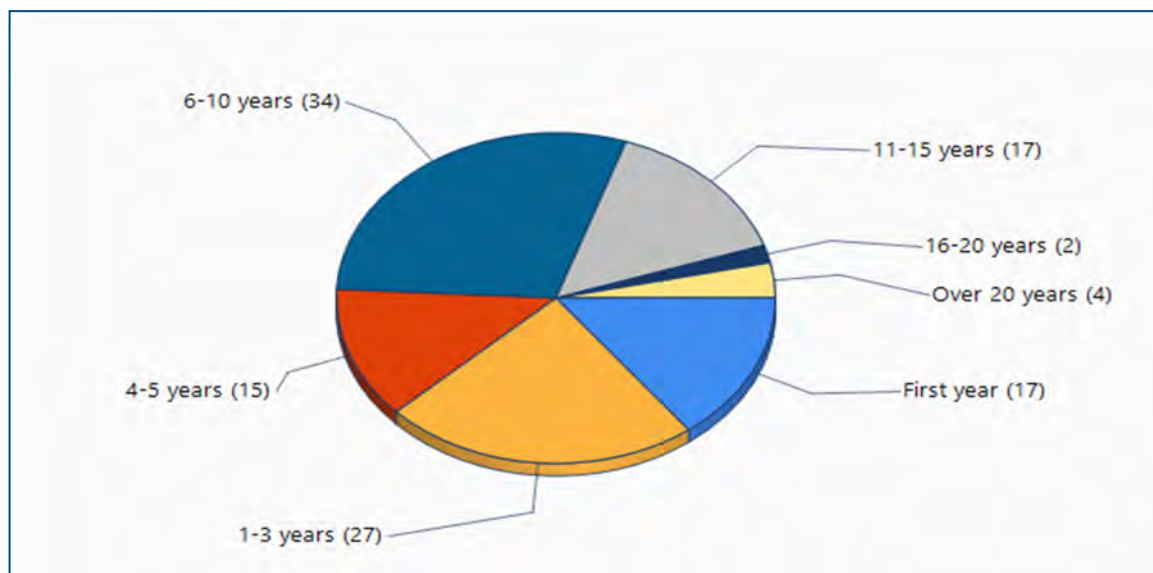
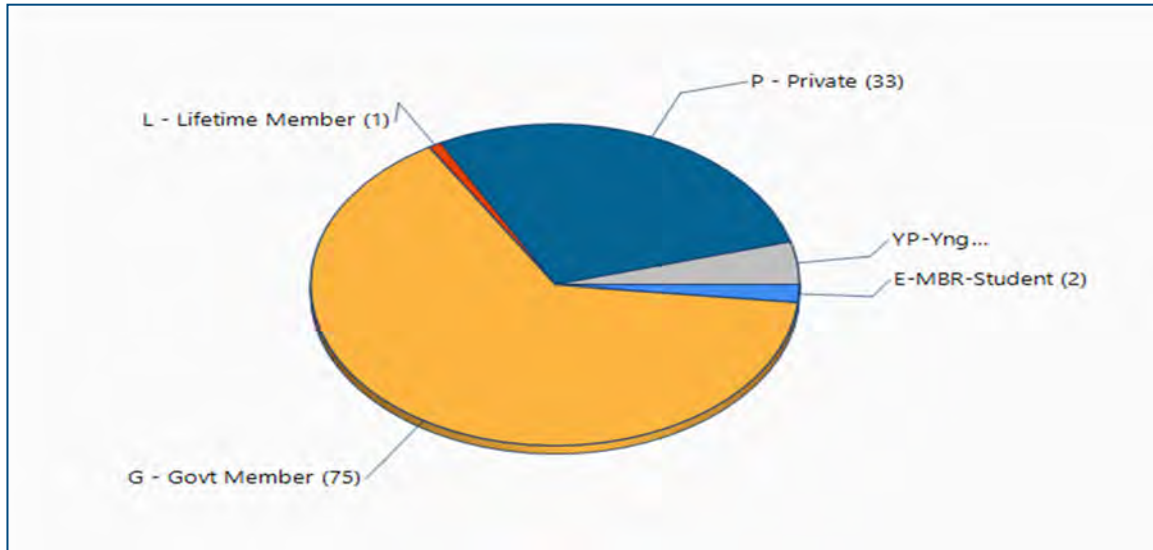
Krista Giances-Chavez

[kgiances@nmjsc.org](mailto:kgiances@nmjsc.org)

# Chapter Membership Information

Currently the Albuquerque Chapter has 116 members with lots of room to grow. Our members are why we do what we do on the CEC, to provide everyone with educational benefits, community service events, student outreach and much more. Without you all of this would not be possible.

To give you an idea of our membership tenure and type, I have included the charts below.



AGA National has challenged all chapters to participate in the “Everyone Get One Campaign”, which will grow our national numbers by 2,022 this year. When you participate in this event, and for every member you recruit, you will get entered into a monthly drawing for gift cards and at the end of the year there will be a drawing for a FREE National PDT registration. You and your new member will also receive recognition in our Albuquerque Chapter monthly newsletter so make you’re your recruit fills out the recruiter information when they send in their membership application. There are many ways we can reach this goal, but

word of mouth is the most effective so reach out to your peers, students, or young professionals you may know and encourage them to join by going to <https://www.agacgfm.org/Membership/Learn-About-AGA/Join-or-Renew.aspx>. Membership costs vary from FREE for students, \$45.00 for young professionals, \$100.00 for Govt, and \$160.00 for private sector.

So, if you see a non-member at any one of our events or webcasts that you know, encourage them to be part of our Albuquerque chapter and remember that members receive discounts or even free educational events. These savings will often offset the cost of membership itself.

Please help us spread the word and go out and get one. I look forward to new growth and challenge the Albuquerque Chapter to grow. We will keep tally of our recruits to date and keep you informed in the newsletter. The opportunity is knocking, and I look forward to us meeting the challenge.

# AGA is Here for You (Even Virtually!)

After a year of change and unrest, one thing remains constant: AGA's unwavering support of the government financial and resource management community. We are providing our members with state-of-the-art resources, tools and solutions for today's problems. In 2020, AGA pivoted to a "new normal-remote everything," from operations and membership to training, education and certification examinations.

There is so much change happening in the profession, brought on by advances in technology. Committing to upskilling and lifelong learning is now mandatory. We accomplished a lot in 2020, and in 2021 we will continue to enhance all of our service areas to help prepare you for the future. Here are just a few of the many changes we embraced in 2020 and will continue to improve on in 2021:

- Created an AGA COVID-19 Resource Exchange webpage featuring thought leadership, training, tools, events and more.
- Transformed major in-person events into 100% digital events with significantly discounted registration fees.
- Added free, members-only webinars to address the impacts of COVID-19 and the CARES Act on our profession.
- Implemented on-line proctoring for the Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) exams.
- Provided live, virtual CGFM training for individuals and groups.
- Launched online, self-paced CGFM courses.
- Added new content to our on-demand Self-Learning Program.
- Produced additional episodes of our Accountability Talks podcasts.

**For 2021 and beyond, the key to the future of work will be "continuous learning."**

We need to keep learning to keep up! To remain current, productive, and influential, we must all keep our skills fresh and demonstrate a willingness and ability to evolve, because the future of work will be different! **AGA is here to support you.** We will continue to provide the tools, resources, and support community to assist you in your work and advance your organization. Together we can make our profession stronger, more effective, and more rewarding!

LinkedIn is great, but *only* AGA membership gives me a network of passionate professionals dedicated to local, state, and federal government accountability.

*Lal Harter*  
Managing Consultant  
Guidehouse

AGA bolsters the accountability profession by supporting its committed members through skills training, exposure to new ideas, networking, and leadership development.

*Suzanne Bump*  
State Auditor  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## Join Today!

Explore all the benefits of AGA membership at [www.agacgfm.org](http://www.agacgfm.org)



@agacgfm



@agacgfm



Association of  
Government  
Accountants



# Invest in Yourself

## The Future of Work is Continuous Learning

The growth of automation and computer-based processes will mean an increased need for technical skills and ongoing learning. The top skills needed by 2025 include critical thinking and analysis, problem-solving, active learning, resilience, stress tolerance and flexibility. AGA is here to provide you with the training and education needed to adapt and thrive. **Every year, members receive at least 14 hours of training on a variety of topics for FREE. At a value of \$361, this benefit easily covers the cost of your AGA membership investment!**

Plus, in 2020, we added two more FREE webinars related to COVID-19 and are sure to offer additional webinars again in 2021.

### Keep Learning!

- Save money with registration discounts on national and chapter training events.
- Sign up for four (4) complimentary members-only webinars.
- Attend the Transformation & Technology Summit for FREE!
- Register for training courses — we bring education to you.
- Leverage discounts on CGFM renewal and application fees.

### Connect, Collaborate & Network!

- Expand your network — we have 90+ chapters nationwide, and you can join in multiple locations.
- Participate in our NEW online mentoring program. Be a mentor and/or seek a mentor!
- Volunteer to serve on AGA committees or boards.
- Find a position or look for qualified candidates on AGA's Job Bank.
- Engage in the conversation on LinkedIn, Twitter, and Facebook.

### Stay Informed & Find Solutions!

- Access our online tools to help prevent fraud, reduce improper payments, improve outcomes, mitigate risk, and enhance collaboration.
- Keep up to date with your subscription to the quarterly *Journal of Government Financial Management*.
- Learn about and share best practices described in AGA research and executive reports.
- Hear about innovations in government by tuning into AGA's Accountability Talks podcasts.



As a lifetime member and government financial professional, AGA represents an investment in myself. And that investment continues to pay substantial dividends.

**Harry Heflin, Jr., CGFM, CPA, CGMA**  
Senior Auditor  
Johnson County, KS



AGA provides the tools to grow both professionally and personally. It broadens my thinking and connects me with others who can help solve complex problems, because they have experience that I can leverage.

**Michael Pearson**  
Financial Executive Officer  
State of Idaho Department of Fish & Game



AGA is a community that brings Federal, private and local sectors together in a way that enables us to grow and learn from each other. The value that brings to me as a senior advisor in my organization is immeasurable!

**Lynn Mooney**  
Deputy CFO  
USDA

### Join Today!

Explore all the benefits of AGA membership at [www.agacgfm.org](http://www.agacgfm.org)



# Membership Milestones

*Congratulations to our fellow Chapter members who achieved membership milestones this month. We appreciate your loyalty and participation in the Chapter!*

## 15 Years

**Javier Machuca**

## 10 Years

**Jeff Brown**

## 5 Years

**Sara Brownstein**

**Ed Ellison**

## Welcome NEW MEMBERS

We are so glad to have you in our Chapter!

- ◆ Jonathan Montoya, Taos County
- ◆ William Dean Russell, US Forest Service

# UPCOMING CHAPTER TRAINING

## SAVE THE DATE

December 16, 2021 via Zoom

Introducing the return of the  
**AGA Winter Series**

**Accounting Foundations: Internal Controls and  
IT General Controls**

Presented by Carr, Riggs & Ingram

**Single Audit & ARPA Update**

Presented by CliftonLarsonAllen

3 hours of technical yellowbook CPE will be provided to attendees.  
The CEC will be donating \$10 of each registration fee to support the  
holiday community service drive. Registration information to follow.

\$20 for members

\$40 for non-members



## AGA National Training Opportunities

*all events are virtual*  
Register at [agacgfm.org](http://agacgfm.org)

**December 8, 2021 12:00-1:50 MT**

AGA CPAG SBC Webinar

**2 CPEs**

Free for members!

**December 15, 2021 12:00-1:50  
MT**

Performance Management

**2 CPEs**

\$59 for members

\$99 for non-members

**January 12, 2022 12:00-1:50 MT**

Uniform Guidance

**2 CPEs**

\$59 for members

\$99 for non-members

**February 2, 2022 12:00-1:50 MT**

GASB Update

**2 CPEs**

\$59 for members

\$99 for non-members

In addition, there are always a variety of Chapter training events with exciting topics listed from chapters across the country who would welcome your participation. Visit [agacgfm.org](http://agacgfm.org) to fit one of these events into your training calendar.

## CGFM Corner

Interested in taking the CGFM examination? The Albuquerque Chapter has current study guides (hard copy and digital) available for checkout on a first come first served basis. For more information contact our CGFM Chair Jennifer Baca at [jennifern.baca@outlook.com](mailto:jennifern.baca@outlook.com).

# AGA ALBUQUERQUE CHAPTER

## *2021-2022 CEC Roster*

Below is the listing of your AGA Albuquerque Chapter Executive Committee. CEC meetings are held virtually the first Tuesday of every month beginning at 5:30 pm. If you'd like to attend, please email one of the officers below.

Title	Name	Email Address
President	Alan D. "AJ" Bowers, Jr., CPA, CITP	<a href="mailto:abowers@CRIcpa.com">abowers@CRIcpa.com</a>
Past President	Elizabeth Nunez, CPA	<a href="mailto:elizabeth.nunez@claconnect.com">elizabeth.nunez@claconnect.com</a>
Accountability	Donna Sandoval, CGFM, CISA, CISM	<a href="mailto:donnasandoval@cabq.gov">donnasandoval@cabq.gov</a>
CGFM Chair	Jennifer Baca, CGFM	<a href="mailto:JenniferN.Baca@state.nm.us">JenniferN.Baca@state.nm.us</a>
Membership	Krista Ganes-Chavez	<a href="mailto:kgianes@nmjsc.org">kgianes@nmjsc.org</a>
Secretary	Benjamin Martinez, CPA	<a href="mailto:benjamin.martinez@claconnect.com">benjamin.martinez@claconnect.com</a>
Education Co-chair	Matt Bone, CPA, CGMA, CGFM	<a href="mailto:Matthew.Bone@claconnect.com">Matthew.Bone@claconnect.com</a>
Education Co-chair	Emily Wilson, CPA, CFE	<a href="mailto:Emily.Wilson@claconnect.com">Emily.Wilson@claconnect.com</a>
Webmaster	Heather Prudhomme, CPA, CGFM	<a href="mailto:hjprudh@sandia.gov">hjprudh@sandia.gov</a>
Treasurer	Pamela Fanelli, CMA, CGFM	<a href="mailto:pfanelli@mrgcd.us">pfanelli@mrgcd.us</a>
Historian	Sara Specht, CFE, CGFM	<a href="mailto:sspecht@cricpa.com">sspecht@cricpa.com</a>
Newsletter	Kory Hoggan, CPA, CIA	<a href="mailto:Kory.Hoggan@mossadams.com">Kory.Hoggan@mossadams.com</a>
Student Member	Marisa Maestas	<a href="mailto:mmaestas3@unm.edu">mmaestas3@unm.edu</a>
Community Service	Elizabeth Nunez, CPA	<a href="mailto:elizabeth.nunez@claconnect.com">elizabeth.nunez@claconnect.com</a>
President Elect	Mari Hughes, CGFM, Macc	<a href="mailto:mhughes@cabq.gov">mhughes@cabq.gov</a>
Awards	Bryan Maestas, CGFM	<a href="mailto:bryan.maestas@nnmc.edu">bryan.maestas@nnmc.edu</a>
Member at Large	Robi Gonzales	<a href="mailto:robscarts3@yahoo.com">robscarts3@yahoo.com</a>
NCC Representative	Jennifer Baca, CGFM	<a href="mailto:jennifern.baca@outlook.com">jennifern.baca@outlook.com</a>