# Nomination for Natalia Hinojo to the El Paso Athletes Hall of Fame

A Tribute to an Outstanding Wrestler and Coach

The Hinojo family proudly nominates Natalia Hinojo for induction into the El Paso Athletes Hall of Fame. Natalia's wrestling career began at Montwood High School and Oklahoma City University, showcasing her extraordinary talent and dedication to the sport.

## Early Career and High School Achievements

Natalia embarked on her wrestling journey in September 2011. By 2012, she had emerged as one of the most dominant female wrestlers in the nation, claiming the Texas state title and finishing the season with a flawless record of 35-0. Her outstanding performance earned her the title of 2012 El Paso Times' All-City Girls Wrestler of the Year. That same summer, Natalia made history as the first El Pasoan to win a Fargo Free Style National Title, rounding off the year with two All American Honors.

#### Collegiate Career and National Championships

Upon graduating high school, Natalia received a full Academic/Athletic scholarship to wrestle at Oklahoma City University. In 2016, she won the WCWA 130lb National Championship, becoming the first El Pasoan to achieve a national title in the Women's Collegiate Wrestling Association. Her collegiate career was marked by two-time All American University Honors. Moreover, Natalia qualified for a spot at the 2016 Olympic Trials in Iowa, held at the Hawk Eye Arena, another first for an El Pasoan.

#### Post-Wrestling Career and Contributions

Natalia has continuously given back to the wrestling community. She served as the assistant coach for the Team Texas High School National Team and has organized and conducted camps for high school students in El Paso, Texas; Oklahoma City, OK; and Phoenix, Arizona. Her mentorship extended to her sister Victoria, whom she coached to numerous accolades including a 3-time

State 3rd place podium finish, 2-time High School All American, 2-time Fargo podium placer, and an Oklahoma City Academic/Athletic Scholarship. Victoria's achievements culminated in becoming a 2-time University All American, making Natalia and Victoria the only siblings in University Wrestling History to both attain All American status.

Natalia Hinojo's remarkable wrestling career and her unwavering commitment to promoting and mentoring young athletes make her a truly deserving candidate for the El Paso Athletes Hall of Fame. Her accomplishments have not only set new records but also inspired many to pursue greatness in the sport of wrestling.

# Natalia Hinojo's Achievements

- 2011 Regional Qualifier: 3rd Place
- 2011 Fargo podium placer
- 2012 Texas UIL District, Regional, State Champion
- 2012 1st Team All District, All Region, All State
- 2012 35-0 Texas UIL Undefeated record
- 2012 El Paso Times' All-City Girls Wrestler of The Year
- 2012 Folkstyle National Runner-Up
- 2012 Fargo Free Style National Champion First El Pasoan to win a Fargo Freestyle National Title
- 2013 Folk Style National Runner-Up
- 2-time High School All American
- 2016 WCWA 130lb National Champion First El Pasoan to win a national title in Women's Collegiate Wrestling Association
- 2-time University All American
- 2016 Olympic Qualifier First El Pasoan to qualify for an Olympic Qualifier Spot

## **Giving Back**

- Assistant Junior Girls Coach for Team Texas High School National Team
- Assistant Women's Coach at University of Oklahoma
- High School Coaching Camps in Oklahoma City, OK
- Coaching Camps in El Paso, Texas
- Coaching Camps in Phoenix, AZ