

WRITING CONTEST



“Acts of creation are ordinarily reserved for gods and poets, but humbler folk may circumvent this restriction if they know how. To plant a pine, for example, one need be neither god nor poet; one need only own a good shovel.”

– ALDO LEOPOLD –
“Pines Above the Snow”
A Sand County Almanac

As the novel coronavirus spread in 2020, we needed to stay home. We had to turn back to familiar landscapes, acquaint ourselves with our yards and neighborhoods, and look more closely at our own skies and landscapes.

The Leopold Writing Program invites New Mexico students in grades 6-12 to submit original essays in response to this question:

“Using Leopold’s land ethic as a guidepost, think about lessons we can learn from staying home. What acts of creation – be that as poet or as planter – did you unexpectedly find yourself taking up, and how did your creations build on some of New Mexico’s senses of dwelling with the Earth, such as querencia, kinship, acequias, and aridity?”

Cash prizes will be awarded to the winning essayists in each of three grade categories: 6-7, 8-9, and 10-12. Submissions are accepted through **Feb 16, 2021**.

For complete instructions and entry form, please visit www.leopoldwritingprogram.org and follow Writing Contest links.

