An inspiring retreat for environmental writers and thinkers interested in reshaping the cultural story about the relationship between humans and Nature. The Residency, an initiative of The Leopold Writing Program since 2012, includes a one-month stay at the Leopolds' historic Mi Casita in northern New Mexico, a stipend, and a community presentation in Taos.

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR EXPRESSION
Each year the Residency steering committee invites two residents, selected from a pool of applicants, for a stay of up to one month at Mi Casita during the months of May through October. Each receives a stipend of $750 to help defray travel and living expenses. In exchange, each resident commits to offering a public presentation in nearby Taos sometime during or immediately after their Mi Casita stay.

HOW TO APPLY
Interested applicants may submit a maximum two-page resume along with a maximum 500-word statement of interest describing how their work at Mi Casita will extend the legacy of Aldo and Estella Leopold. College students, graduate students, post-graduate students, and other emerging and mid-career professional writers from around the country and abroad are invited to apply. The deadline for the May – October 2022 season is February 25, with decisions made by March 25. Please send application materials to Jeff Pappas (LWP Board Member and Residency Coordinator) at jeff_pappas@hotmail.com. An application processing fee of $20 is required to qualify for review. Please submit fee via PayPal or by check (instructions on our website.)

For more information, please visit www.leopoldwritingprogram.org

A Creative Setting
Tres Piedras sits on the high west side of the wide basin of the Upper Rio Grande, about eighty miles north of Santa Fe. To the east, one looks out across the Rio Grande Gorge to the culturally diverse artistic community of Taos (thirty miles away) and the alpine peaks of northern New Mexico’s Sangre de Cristo Mountains. To the west lies the expansive backcountry of the Carson’s Tres Piedras Ranger District. Just outside Mi Casita’s door, one can hike the ponderosa forests, scramble among the granite towers, and wander the long ridges rising to the San Juan Mountains that Leopold himself patrolled as a young ranger with the U.S. Forest Service.

Although intricately blending Southwestern and rustic cabin aesthetics that reflect Estella and Aldo’s complementary backgrounds, Mi Casita itself is as simple as it was when Leopold built it. Downstairs, Mi Casita offers a hand-built fireplace under exposed vigas, an historically restored kitchen and claw-foot bathtub, a main bedroom that looks out to the tall rocks hugging the cabin, and an open dining room that doubles as a seminar-style discussion space. The U.S. Forest Service restored the Leopold house in 2007 and has generously joined with the Leopold Writing Program to make it available for the Aldo and Estella Leopold Residency.