

ALDO LEOPOLD SOUTHWEST LEGACY



THE ALDO LEOPOLD WRITING CONTEST

Aldo Leopold is most widely known as the author of *A Sand County Almanac*. Published in 1949, the book is a classic in Western literature. Leopold believed our idea of “community” should be enlarged to include non-human elements such as soils, waters, plants, animals, “or collectively: the land”. Leopold believed our economic wellbeing could not be separated from the wellbeing of our environment. His land ethic asserted: “A thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability and beauty of the biotic community. It is wrong when it tends otherwise.”

Leopold wrote, “There are two things that interest me: the relation of people to each other, and the relation of people to the land.”

How is the way people treat each other related to the way people treat the land?

Your answer should reflect an understanding of Aldo Leopold’s land ethic. We encourage you to read “The Land Ethic” or other essays by Aldo Leopold as part of your preparation. These can be found in *A Sand County Almanac*, available at local libraries and bookstores, as well as on the internet. More information is also available at www.aldoleopold.org.

ELIGIBILITY All students enrolled in grades 6-12 in public, private and home schools in the state of New Mexico. Students must submit original work and have a sponsoring teacher sign the contest entry form. One entry per person.

FORMAT AND AWARDS The length of the letter varies by category as follows.

Grades 6-7: <i>no longer than 300 words</i>	\$500 First Place
Grades 8-9: <i>no longer than 400 words</i>	\$500 First Place
Grades 10-12: <i>no longer than 500 words</i>	\$500 First Place
Bonus Prize:	\$250 in books for the school of the overall best entry

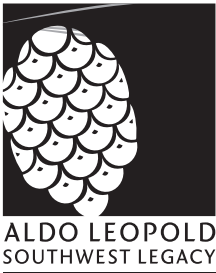
A total of \$1750 in cash and books will be awarded. The Awards Ceremony will be part of the **First Annual Leopold Lecture** on Sunday 23 April 2017 at the National Hispanic Cultural Center in Albuquerque featuring nationally distinguished writer **Barry Lopez**. All winners and their families will receive a complimentary entry.

Entries may be typed or handwritten. The entry must not identify the author, sponsor or school so judging can be anonymous. Completed entries must be scanned into a pdf file. The completed entry form (attached) must be scanned into a separate pdf file. Both files must be emailed to brian@goldenapplenm.org. Please include “Aldo Leopold Writing Contest” in the subject line of the email submission.

In rare cases, submission guidelines may be altered to overcome technological barriers. Please call Golden Apple Foundation of New Mexico at (505) 268-5337 if an alternative strategy is required. Alternative submissions will only be accepted with prior approval from Golden Apple Foundation of New Mexico.

DEADLINE All entries must be emailed by 11:59 pm on Tuesday, February 7, 2017

The Leopold Writing Program, a New Mexico Nonprofit Corporation, is the sponsor of this contest.



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ENTRY FORM

EMAIL TO: brian@goldenapplem.org

EMAIL DEADLINE: 11:59 pm on Tuesday, February 7, 2017

Complete submissions will include two separate pdf files: the answer and the entry form.

AUTHOR'S NAME _____ GRADE _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN'S NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____ EMAIL _____

SPONSORING TEACHER'S NAME _____

SCHOOL _____

SCHOOL ADDRESS _____

SPONSORING TEACHER'S PHONE NUMBER _____ EMAIL _____

To the best of my knowledge the writing is original work produced by the author.

SPONSORING TEACHER'S SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____