

**New Mexico Wilderness Alliance
National Wilderness50 Conference Youth Scholarship
Applications due August 15, 2014**

New Mexico Wilderness Alliance is committed to leadership development for wilderness advocacy and to ensuring wilderness remains accessible to everyone. Scholarships will be awarded to youth who demonstrate leadership or are working towards a leadership role in wilderness education efforts, advocacy and community awareness.

Scholarships to attend the Wilderness 50th National Conference in October 2014 will be awarded through this program. Scholarships will cover conference registration only. The scholarships provide local New Mexico youth who would otherwise be unable to go to the conference an opportunity to attend. The number and amount of scholarships will be based on available funding.

The National Wilderness Conference will be a historic four-day event of diverse programs including presentations, panels, exhibits, field trips, skill-development workshops, and opportunities for fellowship and to share information about recent advances and emerging issues in wilderness stewardship.

When: October 15-19, 2014; audience-specific pre-conference trainings will be offered October 13-15.

Where: Hyatt Regency Downtown, Albuquerque, NM

Goals for the National Wilderness Conference include:

- To provide a forum for discussing the growing challenges of perpetuating the values of Wilderness in a time of unprecedented environmental and social change.
- Deepen participants' engagement in Wilderness stewardship and enable their effective involvement in the difficult decisions which lie ahead.

Eligibility

- The scholarship is open to all New Mexico residents between the ages of 18 and 25. You must be 18 by October 13, 2014.
- Awardees will also have a work role in the conference.
- Applicants need not be part of any formal wilderness or environmental organization to apply.

Timeline

- Application period begins July 15, 2014.
- Applications must be received or postmarked by August 15, 2014.
- Scholarships awarded August 30, 2014.
- Arrive in Albuquerque, New Mexico, October 14, 2014.
- National Wilderness Conference spans October 15 to 19, 2014.

For further information about the conference visit:

www.wilderness50th.org

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Instructions:

1. Please no hand written entries.
2. Do not use abbreviations unless defined first.
3. Complete all sections of the application.
4. Applicants will be evaluated solely on information contained their application, resume, and recommendation letters.
5. A combination of written and alternate media may be submitted to complete an application.
6. Include your resume and one letter of recommendation from a person knowledgeable of your connection to wild places. Letters must be no more than one (1) page, contain the recommenders contact information and be signed.
7. Application must be postmarked or received by midnight mountain time August 15, 2014.
8. Return application:
via e-mail to news@nmwild.org
or by mail to:
Wilderness50 Youth Scholarship
NM Wild
PO Box 25464
Albuquerque, NM 87125

Questions

Please answer the questions below adhering to the word limits provided.

1. Will you be 18 or over by October 14, 2014?
2. What does wilderness mean to you? (100 words maximum)
3. What do you hope to gain through your participation in the National Wilderness Conference? (200 word maximum)
4. Describe a pivotal moment that increased your connection to wilderness, wild places or the natural world. (150 words maximum)
5. In what ways should youth be environmental stewards? (200 words maximum)
6. Describe a pressing problem/issue facing New Mexico's Wilderness. Please provide an explanation of why and recommend solutions/alternatives for approaching and resolving and/or overcoming these problems/issues. (200 words maximum)

Rules

- Scholarships will cover registration cost only. No travel or meals will be included.
- The scholarship is open to all New Mexico residents ages 18 to 25. You must be 18 years old by October 13, 2014.
- NM Wild's selection committee will review applications and award scholarships. The actual number will be based on funding and awardees' needs.
- The purpose of the scholarships is to provide New Mexico youth who would otherwise be unable to attend an opportunity to go to the conference.
- Applicants need not be part of any formal wilderness or environmental organization to apply.
- Incomplete and/or late applications will not be considered.
- E-mail questions to news@nmwild.org