

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

THE SENSE OF WONDER

Rachel Carson Intergenerational Poetry, Essay and Photography Contest

Sponsored by:

EPA Aging Initiative, Generations United, and the Rachel Carson Council, Inc.

Last year in May, the world celebrated the 100th anniversary of Rachel Carson's life. She was an American biologist who cared deeply about the natural world around her.

In *The Sense of Wonder*, Ms. Carson wrote "There is something infinitely healing in the repeated refrains of nature - the assurance that dawn comes after the night and spring after the winter." And it is also important to remember how nature can serve as a source of strength, as she noted with the comment from the book, that, "Those who contemplate the beauty of the earth find reserves of strength that will endure as long as life lasts."

To honor this amazing woman, the EPA, Generations United, and the Rachel Carson Council, Inc., are sponsoring the Second Annual Rachel Carson Intergenerational photo, essay, and poetry contest "that best expresses the Sense of Wonder that you feel for the sea, the night sky, forests, birds, wildlife, and all that is beautiful to your eyes." We want you to share this love of nature with a child and others around you. When we teach our eyes and ears and senses to focus on the wonders of nature, we open ourselves to the wonders around us.

Submissions are due by **Monday, June 16, 2008**. The finalists will be selected by a panel of judges. Then the public will be asked to vote for their favorites in each category: photography, essay, and poetry. Entries must be intergenerational projects involving persons from different generations.

The winners will be posted on the websites of: EPA, Generations United, and the Rachel Carson Council, Inc.:

www.epa.gov/aging www.gu.org <http://members.aol.com/rccouncil/ourpage/>

For more information please see: www.epa.gov/aging/resources/thesenseofwonder/index.htm

