



## USDF/USEF Young Rider Graduate Program

WITH FUNDING SUPPORT FROM THE DRESSAGE FOUNDATION



January 14-15, 2023  
West Palm Beach, Florida

Both USDF and USEF recognize the transition from young rider to adult often presents many challenges. Both organizations feel it is important to cultivate our future leaders, providing education about what is required for a successful dressage career. The USDF/USEF Young Rider Graduate Program, with funding support from The Dressage Foundation, is designed to help the young rider transition into the professional world of international competition, teaching, training, and/or equine business management.

The Young Rider Graduate Program is a weekend educational seminar that focuses on crucial topics such as: fundraising, sponsorship and grants, training opportunities, ethics, business management, management of the high performance horse, legal issues, goal setting, and leadership. Seminar presenters include foremost national/international competitors and trainers, successful young rider graduates, and representatives from key national organizations.

In addition, participants in the Young Rider Graduate Program may wish to attend the 2023 USDF FEI-Level Trainers Conference to be held on January 16-17, 2023. For further information or to register for this event, please visit [www.usdf.org](http://www.usdf.org).

### PROGRAM INFORMATION

Date: January 14-15, 2023  
Location: Embassy Suites West Palm Beach, West Palm Beach, Florida  
Tentative Schedule: Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. EST/Sunday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. EST  
Applications: **Application required**; see Applicant Criteria below.  
Advance applications must be received by September 30, 2022; *applications will be accepted until October 31, 2022 but will incur **an increased fee**.*  
Notification: Selected applicants will be notified by November 15, 2022  
Fees: Program fee is \$395 for applications received by September 30, 2022; \$500 for applications received October 1 - 31, 2022. The program fee includes: Two nights lodging at host hotel, meals, education sessions and two USDF University credits upon completion of the program.

**\*\*Grants are available through The Dressage Foundation\*\***

Visit their website at <http://www.dressagefoundation.org/grants-and-programs/apply/young>

### APPLICANT CRITERIA

Age: Must be between 20 & 28 years of age  
Membership: Must be a current USDF PM or GM member  
Qualifications: Riding at Third Level or above

***The USDF National Youth Programs Committee shall consider all applications received by October 31, 2022 ; preference will be given to those applying by the September 30 deadline. Selection will be based upon demonstrated commitment to riding, training and/or teaching, and evidence of proficiency at Third Level or above. Recommendations may be submitted to support the completed application.***



# UNITED STATES DRESSAGE FEDERATION™

**USDF**

**USDF/USEF Young Rider Graduate Program**  
With funding support from The Dressage Foundation  
**Participant Application**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

USDF#: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Riding Experience:**

1. How many years have you been studying dressage? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Have you ridden at Third Level or above? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Who is your current instructor/trainer? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Have you participated in the USDF Jr/YR Clinic Series? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. If Yes, please indicate date(s) and name(s) of clinician(s):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## **Competition Experience:**

1. What is the highest level you have competed?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. At what level are you currently competing?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Did you compete in NAJYRC/NAYC?  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - a. If Yes, in what year(s)?  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - b. What Junior/Young Rider Team or Individual Awards have you earned?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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4. Please provide a short summary of your competition experience:

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**Goals & Community Involvement**—*Please type your answers on a separate sheet.*

1. What are you currently doing in the equestrian world?
2. What are your short-term goals?
3. What are your long-term goals?
4. Explain in what ways you are involved with your local dressage community, Pony Club, or USDF. Examples include committee work, volunteering, teaching, training, etc.
5. Please list one question that you would like answered or a topic you would like to see covered at the USDF/USEF Young Rider Graduate Program.

***Thank you for applying!***

**If you have questions or need further information, please call (859) 971-2277**

**Please email your completed application to [youth@usdf.org](mailto:youth@usdf.org)**

**or**

**Fax to Attn: Youth Programs Liaison at (859) 971-7722**

**or**

**Mail to: USDF, Attn: Young Rider Graduate Program  
4051 Iron Works Parkway  
Lexington, KY 40511**