



## USDF/USEF Young Rider Graduate Program

WITH FUNDING SUPPORT FROM THE DRESSAGE FOUNDATION



January 13-14, 2018  
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 2018 USDF FEI-Level Trainers Conference to be held on January 15-16, 2018. For further information or to register for this event, please visit [www.usdf.org](http://www.usdf.org).

### PROGRAM INFORMATION

- Date: January 13-14, 2018  
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, 2017; *applications will be accepted until October 15, 2017 but will incur an increased fee.*  
Notification: Selected applicants will be notified by October 30, 2017  
Fees: Program fee is \$300 for applications received by September 30, \$450 for applications received October 1 – 15. 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  
Deadline: For applications to be considered, the completed application and any supporting documents must be received in the USDF office on or before September 30, 2017 for the advance fee (\$300), or October 15 for the increased fee (\$450).

***The USDF Youth Programs Committee shall consider all applications received by October 15, 2017; 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 #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

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?  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - 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**