

ESDCTA



Youth Program

2018

ESDCTA YOUTH PROGRAM

ESDCTA is committed to developing its youth members into knowledgeable, competent, and responsible horsemen. Our organization believes that sportsmanship is built by fostering the virtues of respect, responsibility, patience, courage, good temper, and unselfishness.

Our Club sponsors various mounted and unmounted educational and competitive activities including clinics, workshops and team competitions, for youth members ages 21 and younger. As an affiliate of the U.S. Dressage Federation (USDF) and the U.S. Eventing Association (USEA), ESDCTA promotes youth member participation in education and competitive opportunities by these organizations at the local, regional and national levels. Furthermore, ESDCTA encourages youth members with a strong desire to delve deeper into the areas of horse management and specific riding disciplines to explore the many opportunities offered through the U.S. Pony Club (USPC) Program.

Youth members are encouraged to develop their abilities by participating in ESDCTA-sponsored activities through its volunteer program. Additionally, youth members are welcome to become active contributors to ESDCTA's newsletter, website and other social media venues. By volunteering, members gain many useful skills such as critical thinking, communications, problem solving, fundraising and commitment. Volunteers are vital to the successful operation of our Club and many of the youth opportunities sponsored by ESDCTA require a certain number of volunteer hours in order to be eligible for participation.

ESDCTA celebrates the accomplishments of its youth members at the annual Awards Banquet. Event and dressage riders are recognized at each level through achievement ribbons, high score rewards and the medal program. Members are also recognized for expanding their knowledge through the Youth Education Award Program which is described in more detail further in this booklet. Additional information on year-end awards can be found on our website.

Through its Grants Program, ESDCTA is able to provide funding for education and competitive opportunities to qualified youth members.

For additional information about our Program or if you would like to serve on the Youth Committee, please do not hesitate to contact any one of our Co-Chairs.

Youth Committee Co-Chairs

Jill Kuc	Ellen Brindle-Clark	Cindy Roesener
570.977.1406	609.351.1054	908.797.9754
esea@ptd.net	eclark8968@comcast.net	croesener@hotmail.com

YOUTH EDUCATION AWARD PROGRAM

Sponsored by Garden State Equine, Amelie McAndrews DVM

The Youth Education Award Program is designed to broaden equestrian education outside of the competition arena. Youth members are recognized for continuing their education by participating in various programs offered through ESDCTA and other recognized organizations. Credits are earned upon successful completion of activities listed in one or more of the 3 designated tier levels. Each activity carries a certain credit value. ESDCTA sponsored events are of higher value and are planned throughout the Club's region to ensure all members have the opportunity to participate in as many activities as possible. Members are required to participate in at least 3 Tier 1 activities for each award level. On-line courses, webinars, clinics and seminars are among the various educational formats offered.

Tier 1 – ESDCTA Sponsored Activities

Tier 2 – Activities Sponsored by USDF, USEA, USPC, 4H, Dressage4Kids

Tier 3 – Other Activities Not Listed in Tier 1 or 2

may need Youth Committee Approval prior to attending)

Members are responsible for maintaining a record of credits earned by completing a Participation Form for each activity. The form is located in the Youth Section of our website. Members should bring the form to each event as most activities require the coordinator's signature.

Recognition Levels of Achievement:

Certificate of Recognition	50 Credits
Prix St. Georges	100 Credits
Intermediare	150 Credits
Grand Prix	200 Credits

For 2017, recognition credits may be earned from November 1, 2015 through October 31, 2017. All credits earned are cumulative. Once the total number of credits reaches a level, a member may submit for an award while continuing to earn more credits towards the next award level. For example, a member receives a Certificate of Recognition for 50 credits earned the first year of participation. In the next year, the member is required to earn only 50 additional credits to receive the Prix St. George Award. An Activity Log Sheet is available on our website to track the number of credits that a member has accumulated.

Members are responsible for maintaining the Participation Forms and mailing all forms along with a copy of their Activity Log Sheet by the deadline, November 1, 2018 to qualify for an award in 2018. Unclaimed credits may be applied to the next award season. Award recipients will be recognized at the Annual Awards Banquet.

Send Participation Forms & Log Sheet no later than November 1, 2018 to:

**ESDCTA Youth Committee, c/o Jill Kuc, 315 Mountain View Drive,
Kunkletown, PA 18058**

YOUTH EDUCATION AWARD PROGRAM

Accredited Activities by Tier Level

TIER 1

Credits	Activity
10	ESDCTA Youth Fix-A-Test Clinics (March, April & May 2017)
5	ESDCTA Youth Pilates Clinic
5	ESDCTA Dressage Symposium
5	ESDCTA Youth Education Clinic
5	8 hour block of volunteering at an ESDCTA registered dressage competition, horse trial or other event.
5	ESDCTA/USDF Continuing Education Program (per day)
5	8 hours in the ESDCTA Judge Shadowing Program

TIER 2

Credits	Activity
1	USDF Convention Educational Sessions (per session)
4	USDF National Symposium (per day)
4	USDF FEI Jr/YR Clinic Series (per day), audit or ride
2/topic	USDF E e-Track In-Depth Study Programs available through the USDF website.
1/topic	USDF e-Track Quick Study Programs available through the USDF website.
4	USEA Young Rider Clinic (per day), audit or ride
5	USPC Quiz Rally at the Regional or National Level
1	USPC Annual Meeting Workshops (per workshop)
5	USPC – Passing the Horse Management Test of Any Rating Or Rating-Up in Horse Management Specialty Track
4	Dressage4Kids Weekend Educational Program (per day)
2	Dressage4Kids Youth Dressage Festival with a 90% or higher in the Written Test Phase
5	4H – Horse Bowl at the State or National Level
5	4H – Participation in a Presentation/Demonstration Competition at the State or National level.

TIER 3

Credits	Activity
2	Participation in Privately Organized Clinics (<i><u>form must be signed by clinician</u></i>)
TBD	Pre-Approved event (credits assigned by Youth Committee)

CHECK THE WEBSITE AND NEWSLETTER FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS ON ADDITIONAL ACCREDITED ACTIVITIES!!!



YOUTH FIX-A-TEST CLINICS

All proceeds benefit future ESDCTA Youth Activities

Through the generosity of our member facilities, judges and L graduates, the Youth Committee is able to offer Fix-A-Test Clinics throughout the year. Not only are these clinics a great way to prepare for the competition season, but they give youth riders across our region the opportunity to meet each other. The clinics are open to all youth riders ages 21 and under.

Riders ride a dressage test of their choice (eventing tests included) and receive a score as they would at a competition. The clinician discusses the test results and works with the rider on ways to improve their test. Afterwards, riders have the opportunity to re-ride the test, or another test of that level, and have it scored. A pizza lunch is included in the fee. During lunch, the clinician discusses various aspects of a dressage test with the riders such as test purpose, movement directives, and collective remarks. Auditors are welcome (lunch is available at a nominal fee).

Send your entry and payment to the clinic organizer detailed below. The entry form can be found on the ESDCTA website. Ride times are available by phone or email a few days prior to the clinic date.

ESDCTA Members \$40

Non-Members \$50

CLINIC SCHEDULE

TBD

Rhythm & Blues Stables, Allentown, NJ

ENTRY DEADLINE:

Clinician TBD Organizer: Heidi Lemack

12 Hill Road, Allentown, NJ 08501 609.306-8221 ▪ RBLStables@aol.com

April 29, 2018

Hidden Creek Equestrian Center, Kunkletown, Pa

ENTRY DEADLINE: April 22, 2018

Clinician: Ann Forer "R" Organizer: Jill Kuc

315 Mountain View Drive, Kunkletown, PA 18058
570.977.1406 ▪ eseat@ptd.net ▪ fax 610.681.6031

TBD

CLR Stables @ Tullamore Farms

ENTRY DEADLINE:

Clinician: TBD Organizer: Cindy Roesener

75 Raven Rock Road, Stockton, NJ
908.797.9754 ▪ croesener@hotmail.com

ESDCTA SPONSORED DRESSAGE TEAM COMPETITIONS

LONDON'S YOUTH DRESSAGE FESTIVAL (LYDF)

**July 13-15, 2018, Hits-On-The-Hudson Showgrounds,
Saugerties, NY**

APPLICATION DEADLINE: RECEIVED BY May 15, 2018

LYDF is the flagship event of Dressage4Kids, Inc., a non-profit organization formed to provide education and competitive opportunities for young riders.

The Festival is a 3-phased competition (written test, equitation class, dressage test) where riders compete as individuals and may form teams. Division from Introductory through FEI levels and Para Equestrian are offered. Many special awards and fun optional classes are offered such as: Prix Caprilli (dressage with jumps), Musical Freestyle, and Dressage Trail. There are also a wide range of demonstrations, exhibits and events. For more information go to:

www.youthdressagefestival.com

Entry qualifications are detailed in the Prize List located on the Festival website. In addition to these requirements, youth members who would like to qualify for the ESDCTA team must meet the selection criteria detailed on the following page.

In addition to team sponsorship, the ESDCTA Grant Program provides 2 grants in the amount of \$250 each to encourage youth member participation. Funds can be used to defray LYDF expenses such as entry fees, stabling fees, transportation costs and the purchase of the required reading materials. See the ESDCTA Grant Program page of the website for additional information and application.

USDF REGION 1 YOUTH TEAM COMPETITION

Oct. 6, 2018

APPLICATION DEADLINE: RECEIVED BY August 15, 2018

This team competition is organized by the Eastern States and Dressage Combined Training Association and is open to anyone age 21 and under riding from Introductory Level through the FEI levels. Riders do not need to be a USDF member to participate. Along with competing in a team format, the competition features an educational component, stable management and stall decorating contest, as well as other fun activities and award recognitions.

Teams are placed in Divisions by age/riding level. Team results are awarded by Division. Individual High Score Champion and Reserve for each Division are recognized. Riders may also enter warm-up, dressage seat equitation and freestyle classes. These classes are pinned individually.

For up to date information go to: <https://www.esdcta.org/>

ESDCTA DRESSAGE TEAM SELECTION CRITERIA

ESDCTA sponsors team(s) of 3 to 4 riders to attend Lendon's Youth Dressage Festival and the USDF Region 1 Youth Team Competition. Entry and stabling fees are paid by ESDCTA and team members will also receive an ESDCTA team polo shirt. All other expenses such as lodging, transportation, etc. are the obligation of the competitor. Additional fundraising to help defray these expenses are encouraged.

Selection criteria used for all dressage youth teams sponsored by ESDCTA:

- ESDCTA member in good standing, age 21 or younger;
- Volunteer at least 8 hours at one or more ESDCTA events during the qualifying period*. These hours may not be used to fulfill any other ESDCTA volunteer requirements. Submit signed volunteer form(s) with the team application;
- Submit at least 3 scores* in qualifying categories from 3 different judges at 2 different shows (schooling or USEF/USDF licensed) listed in the ESDCTA Omnibus.

Qualifying Categories are:

2015 USDF Introductory Tests A and B

2015 USDF Introductory Test C & USEF Training Level Test 1

2015 USEF Training Level Tests 2 and 3

2015 USEF First Level Tests 1 through 3

2015 USEF Second Level Tests 1 through 3/FEI Pony Team/Individual

2015 USEF Third Level Tests 1 through 3/FEI Junior Team/Individual

2015 USEF Fourth Level Tests 1 through 3

FEI levels excluding FEI Pony/Junior Levels. FEI Young

Rider/Individual tests will be considered the equivalent of FEI Prix St. Georges

USDF Region 1 Youth Team Qualifying period is May 15, 2017 through August 14, 2018

LYDF Team Qualifying period is June 15, 2017 through May 14, 2018

**Riders must be an ESDCTA member at the time the scores were earned

. Note: Scores from the equivalent level eventing tests may be used to qualify.

If necessary, median scores will be used to rank applicants applying for the same level. The applicants' highest scores will be used to break any tie. A rider may compete on a different horse from the one on which the qualifying scores were received if the horse can compete at the same level (or lower). Two riders may share a horse provided that they are not on the same team.

All applicable forms can be found on the ESDCTA website: www.esdcta.org

Send application and volunteer form(s) via mail, fax, or email to:

ESDCTA Youth Committee, c/o Jill Kuc

315 Mountain View Rd • Kunkletown, PA 18058

570.977.1406 • esa@ptd.net • Fax .610.681.6031

ESDCTA SPONSORED EVENTING TEAM

MILLBROOK HORSE TRIALS TEAM COMPETITION

August 2-5, 2018

Millbrook, NY

USEF Endorsed/USEA Recognized: Novice & Training

APPLICATION DEADLINE: RECEIVED BY JUNE 15, 2018

The Millbrook Horse Trials (MHT) is an important part of a long equestrian tradition in Dutchess County, NY. For more information about MHT go to www.millbrookhorsetrials.com.

FORMAT OF THE TEAM COMPETITION SERIES

Each Team consists of a minimum of three horse/rider combinations or a maximum of four. Horse/rider combinations must come from the levels designated for each competition. Teams can be mixed levels (i.e. 2 novice combinations and 2 training combinations). A rider may only compete on one horse per team, but may compete on more than one team with a separate horse. Classification is based on the lowest accumulated score per team (three scores to count, one may be dropped). Scoring and final classification will be in accordance with the USEF Rules for Eventing.

ESDCTA may sponsor a team of 3 to 4 riders by funding the Division entry and stabling fees for each rider. Team members also receive an ESDCTA team polo shirt. All other expenses such as lodging, transportation, optional classes, etc are the obligation of the competitor. Additional fundraising is encouraged to help defray these expenses. Riders must be eligible to compete under the rules detailed in the Prize List including being up to date on all applicable USEF/USEA memberships. In addition to these requirements, youth members who would like to qualify for the ESDCTA team must meet the selection criteria on the following page.



Millbrook Horse Trials

TO BENEFIT DUTCHESS LAND CONSERVANCY

TEAM CHALLENGE AT BURGUNDY HOLLOW HORSE TRIALS

Sept. 16, 2018 Northampton, PA

ESDCTA Recognized

APPLICATION DEADLINE: RECEIVED BY: August 15, 2018

A team consists of a minimum of 3 riders. Riders do not all have to enter the full HT; however, each team must have at least 2 scores, at any level, for each phase of a horse trial. The lowest 2 scores of each phase from each team will be added together to be the team score. The more riders a team has, the better the chances of having the lowest scores.

<u>Level</u>	<u>Dressage Test</u>	<u>Cross Country Height / Speed</u>	<u>Stadium</u>
<u>Height</u>			
Intro	2015 Walk/Trot USDF Intro A*	18" / not timed	18 "
Starter	2018 USEF BN Test A or B	2 ' 0" / not timed	2' 0 "
BN	2018 USEF BN Test A or B	2 ' 7" / not timed	2' 7 "
Novice	2018 USEF N Test A or B	2 ' 11"/ not timed	2' 11"

ESDCTA will sponsor a team of 3 to 4 riders by funding the Division entry for each rider. All other expenses such as transportation, optional classes, etc. are the obligation of the competitor. Team members also receive an ESDCTA team polo shirt. Riders must be eligible to compete under the rules detailed in the Prize List. The Prize List can be found in the ESDCTA Omnibus. In addition to these requirements, youth members who would like to qualify for the ESDCTA team must meet the selection criteria detailed on the following page.

Due to the format of the Burgundy Hollow Team Challenge, ESDCTA will accept applications for members who would like to be considered for only the combined training portion of the event. In this case, members should submit at least two scores from combined training schooling shows held during the qualifying period at the Starter, Elementary, Beginner Novice or Novice level. Include your Jr/YR placing. Members who apply for the combined training portion will only be considered if the team is unable to be filled with riders applying for the full horse trials.



EVENTING TEAM SELECTION CRITERIA

The following selection criteria will be used for all ESDCTA-sponsored youth eventing teams:

- ESDCTA member in good standing, age 21 or younger;
- Volunteer at ESDCTA activities for at least 8 hours during the qualifying period +. Submit signed volunteer form(s) with the team application (these hours cannot be used to fulfill any other ESDCTA volunteer requirement);

For Millbrook Horse Trials Team Competition:

Submit at least 2 scores from USEA recognized horse trials held during the qualifying period + at the Novice and Training level with zero XC jump penalties (time penalties permitted). Include your Jr/Young Rider placing

For Burgundy Hollow Horse Trials Team Competition:

Submit at least 2 scores from schooling and/or USEA recognized horse trials held during the qualifying period+ at the Starter, Elementary, Beginner Novice or Novice level with zero XC jump penalties (time penalties permitted). Include your Jr/YR placing.

Qualifying period

Millbrook HT

June 1, 2017 through June 14, 2018

Burgundy Hollow HT

September 15, 2017 through August 14, 2018

***Scores must be received at shows between the applicable qualifying period and you must be an ESDCTA member when the scores were received.

A rider may compete on a different horse from the one on which the qualifying scores were received if the horse can compete at the same level (or lower). Applicant must also be eligible to compete according to the rules detailed in the competition prize list including being up to date on USEA/USEF memberships, if applicable.

Median scores will be used to rank applicants. In the event of a tie, the horse/rider combination with the highest number of first place points will break the tie. If still tied, points will be compared at second place and below. The horse/rider combination with the most number of points at the highest place will break the tie. If still tied, starter numbers will be compared and the horse/rider combination placing above the greatest number of starters will break the tie.

APPLICATION DEADLINES

Millbrook Horse Trials

Received by: June 15, 2018

Burgundy Hollow HT Team Challenge

Received by: Aug. 15, 2018

Send application and volunteer form(s) via mail or email to:

Heidi Lemack, Youth Committee
12 Hill Road • Allentown, NJ 08501

RBLSTABLES@aol.com

Phone: 609.306.8221

JUDGE SHADOWING PROGRAM

Have you ever wondered what judges are looking for when they are watching your test? What are the responsibilities of a scribe? We invite you to be their “shadow” for a day! ESDCTA youth members have the opportunity to learn first hand what goes into judging and scribing a test by auditing in a judge’s booth for a full or half day at an ESDCTA – registered schooling show.

We are proud to offer a long list of judges and competitions who want to help our youth further their education! Please go to our website for the latest list. Members are required to contact both the judge and the show manager to receive “shadow” Approval.

This program is ESDCTA Youth Education Award accredited. Members will receive 4 credits for a full day of shadowing and 2 credits for a half day. Don’t forget to bring a Participation Form with you for the judge to sign. Forms are available on the ESDCTA website.

Please contact any of the Youth Committee Co-Chairs for more information on this great opportunity.



ESDCTA GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

LONDON'S YOUTH DRESSAGE FESTIVAL GRANT

APPLICATION MUST BE RECEIVED BY JUNE 15, 2018

In addition to sponsoring teams, ESDCTA's Educational Grant Program offers funding to attend Lendon's Youth Dressage Festival (LYDF) to be held this year on July 13-15, 2018. Two (2) grants in the amount of \$250 may be awarded each year to encourage youth members to participate in this worthwhile educational experience. Funds may be used to defray LYDF expenses such as entry fees, stabling fees, transportation costs, and the purchase of required reading materials.

Grant applicants must meet the LYDF qualifying requirements detailed in the LYDF Prize List which can be found at: www.youthdressagefestival.com.

The requirements for qualifying for LYDF are incorporated into ESDCTA's requirements and proof of same must be submitted with the grant application. Additionally, the following requirements must be met:

1. Minimum of 15 hours of volunteer service at any ESDCTA registered show, activity or event (hours not transferrable). These hours may not be used to fulfill any other ESDCTA volunteer requirement (awards, etc.). Copies of volunteer form(s) must be submitted with application.
2. Must be an ESDCTA member for at least 2 years.
3. Include a letter of reference from a trainer, instructor, or an individual considered to be knowledgeable in the discipline of dressage who is familiar with the applicant's riding skills.
4. Include an essay explaining what you expect to gain from attending Lendon's Youth Festival

Grant recipients are required to:

- Submit a report or story about their experience to the ESDCTA Newsletter Committee, including a photograph(s), within 30 days after the competition.
- Assist the Education Grant Chair in obtaining items for the silent auction held at the annual awards banquet. The LYDF Grant is generously funded by the proceeds of this auction.

Note: Youth members awarded the LYDF Grant may not re-apply for the same grant for 3 years. LYDF grant recipients may not apply for another type of ESDCTA grant in the same calendar year they received the LYDF Grant.

If the grant recipient is unable to attend LYDF, they must notify the Youth Committee immediately so that another applicant may be chosen. In this event, the recipient may reapply in future years.

ESDCTA EDUCATIONAL GRANT

This grant program seeks to help qualified members take advantage of specific opportunities for advancement with the understanding that the membership will benefit as a result of the shared knowledge and experience. Educational Grants are awarded to members who have a solid record of volunteering throughout their membership. ESDCTA does not accept or reject an application based on riding skill, horse ownership, or specific use of the funds.

The Educational Grant Program is open to juniors, seniors, adult amateurs and professionals. The Educational Grant Program is funded from the proceeds of the Silent Auction held at the Annual Awards Banquet. An annual budget is established for the program and the Educational Grant Committee can award up to that amount. Grant monies are awarded in April and October of each year. Applications must be received by the first of these respective months.

Requirements/Qualifications:

1. Minimum of 20 hours of volunteer service within a two-year period at any ESDCTA registered show, activity or event. Hours may not be used to fulfill any other ESDCTA volunteer requirement and hours must be earned by applicant (transferred hours will not be accepted).
2. Applicant must be an ESDCTA member-in-good-standing for a minimum of two years at the time of application.
3. Applicant must have a solid record of volunteering at functions and events throughout their tenure of membership, and include at least one reference.
4. Funds must be used for specifically stated objective (i.e., clinic, clinic series, riding camp, seminars, or a show such as a regional or national competition that requires additional funding). Funds cannot be used for purchasing tack or clothing or for one's regular lesson program.
5. Applicant must select a dollar amount up to but not more than \$1,000
6. Additional Grants may be applied for by a member, but no more often than every two years, once a member has received the full sum of \$1,000.
7. An Educational Grant may be requested at any time of the year. Grants will be awarded twice a year as per the schedule noted above. Reimbursement of expenses will be made after expense receipts are submitted.
8. Educational Grants must be used within one year of award notification or they will be forfeited.
9. Applicant cannot be a current member of the Educational Grant Committee.
10. A recipient of an Educational Grant may not apply for the LYDF Grant in the same calendar year that Education Grant was received.
11. The Grant Committee makes all final decisions as to whether to award a grant and the amount of the grant based on the applicant meeting the above requirements.

Grant Recipients are required to:

- Assist the Education Grant Chair with obtaining items for the Silent Auction held at the Annuals Award Banquet.
- Submit an article to the Newsletter Committee, including photographs, within 30 days of the event.

SUBMIT YOUR GRANT APPLICATION ALONG WITH ALL OTHER REQUIRED MATERIALS TO THE ESDCTA GRANT CHAIR

Debra Tomajko

276 Readington Rd, Branchburg, NJ 08876

908.392.1747 debratomajko@gmail.com

NATIONAL AFFILIATE PROGRAMS AVAILABLE TO ESDCTA YOUTH MEMBERS

(additional membership requirements may apply)

USEF EQUESTRIAN ATHLETE PROGRAM

The United States Equestrian Federation (USEF), our national governing body for equestrian sport, realizes there are many challenges faced by youth riders during their high school years. To recognize those students who are able to balance school and equestrian activities, USEF created a special program known as the “USEF Equestrian Athlete Program”. This program provides riders with the opportunity to earn USEF’s equivalent of a varsity letter. Riders also receive a special pin for each year involved with the Program. You must be a USEF member to participate. For more FAQs go to:

<http://www.usef.org/IFrames/Youth/HighSchool/HighSchool.aspx>

This is a great way to add an activity or accomplishment to your college application! **ESDCTA offers its support to youth members interested in this Program. Please contact Michelle Hauser at neoskya@yahoo.com** if you have any questions about the Program in general, where to get forms, or how to apply.

USEA AREA II SCHOOLING CLINICS & CAMP

ESDCTA youth members are eligible to attend cross-country schooling sessions sponsored by the USEA Area II Young Rider Advancement Program (YRAP). Clinics are offered from the Beginner Novice to Preliminary levels. For more information on USEA eventing opportunities in our region go to the USEA Area II website: www.usea2.net.

For more information about the USEAs Young Rider Program in general go to: <http://www.useventing.com/programs/youngrider>

The NJ Region of the USPC will once again hold a WOW camp at the Horse Park of NJ. Move in July 2 -Camp runs Tues-Wednesday-Thursday, July 3-4-5, 2018. This is an overnight camp and all horses are stabled at the HPNJ. Instructors will be Nick Hansen, Molly Kinnamon, and Hillary Moses. All are highly qualified and have been instructing at camp for many years. The NJ Region camp is open to all youth riders and Adults. You do not have to be a member of pony club to go to this camp. For the NJ Region's WOW camp application, please contact Cathy Brogan, RS, NJ Region @ 908-510-7999, or go to our website: <https://www.njregionponyclub.org/wow-camp.html> and download the fillable form from the website. Instructions on the form.

USDF ANNUAL ART CONTEST

The contest is designed to highlight the creativity and beauty of dressage by allowing youth members to express their interest in the sport outside of the competition arena in the areas of photography, writing and art. Winners will have their work published in the yearbook issue of *USDF Connection* with the grand prize winner's artwork used as the cover of the USDF Member Guide. All submissions must be the work of a current USDF member. Deadline submission to USDF is July 1st. For rules and entry form go to:

<http://www.usdf.org/awards/other-awards/art.asp>

PLATINUM PERFORMANCE/USDF Jr/YR CLINIC SERIES

USDF provides youth riders ages 14-21 who are interested in advancing to the FEI Pony/Jr/YR levels with the opportunity to work with a nationally recognized trainer in a 2-day clinic format including 2 theory sessions. Clinics are offered each year throughout the country. You must be a USDF participating member to be eligible for this program. For more information go to:

<http://www.usdf.org/education/clinics/jryr/dates-locations.asp>



USEF/USDF DRESSAGE SEAT EQUITATION PROGRAM

This program is focused on rewarding junior riders ages 18 and under with correct seat, position and aids. Dressage Seat Equitation (DSE) classes are frequently offered at USEF/USDF competitions and they are a great way to measure one's progress as a rider. Scores of 70% or over in 1 of these group classes will qualify the rider to compete in the USDF Dressage Seat Medal Semi Finals held annually at each of the 9 regional championships held across the nation. Riders in the Semi Finals compete by age Divisions: 13 & Under and 14-18. Important Note: If you qualify for the Semi Finals as a GMO member, you will need to become a USDF Participating Member before you enter the Semi-Finals and there are also eligibility requirements for the horse and the listed owner of the horse. Riders competing in the Semi Finals, by virtue of their placings, qualify for the USEF Dressage Seat Medal Finals held in the next calendar year.

For more information go to: <http://www.usdf.org/faqs/youth.asp#13>

USDF UNIVERSITY

In addition to the ESDCTA Youth Education Program, youth members may participate in the USDF University Program which provides recognition to members who strive to continue their dressage education through their participation in USDF education programs. For more information go to:

<http://www.usdf.org/education/university/index.asp>

YOUTH RECOGNITION PROGRAMS

REGION 1 YOUTH CONTRIBUTION TO THE DRESSAGE COMMUNITY

Each year Region 1 recognizes a youth member who has provided dedicated service to the sport of dressage at the GMO, regional and/or national level. Nominations are accepted in November of each year. PM and GMO delegates vote for nominees at the fall regional meeting. The winner is recognized at a major regional event in the following calendar year.

For more information go to: www.usdfregion1.org

USDF YOUTH VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD

This award recognizes USDF's most outstanding youth volunteer who has demonstrated an exceptional commitment "to education, the recognition of achievement and the promotion of the sport of dressage". GMO and Participating Youth Members may be nominated for this prestigious award. Members must have a minimum of 25 volunteer hours for the current membership year. Nominations must be submitted to the USDF national office by August 31st of each year. The winner is recognized at the annual USDF Convention. For more information go to:

<http://www.usdf.org/docs/awards/service/USDFYouthVolunteerOfTheYear.pdf>

USDF SHINING STAR AWARD

This Program recognizes youth members who display the traits of good sportsmanship such as courage, good judgement, integrity, kindness, perseverance, respect, responsibility and self-discipline. Anyone may nominate a youth member for this award by submitting a nomination form to the USDF Youth Programs Committee. For more information go to:

<http://www.usdf.org/docs/awards/ShiningStarNomination.pdf>

USDF RIDER AWARDS

In addition to ESDCTA's award program, ESDCTA youth members who compete at USDF/USEF licensed competitions are eligible to participate in USDF's Rider Awards program which includes Rider Performance Awards, Rider Award Medals, Master Challenge and Musical Freestyle Awards. For more information go to:

<http://www.usdf.org/awards/performance/rider-awards.asp>

EQUUS FOUNDATION'S CHAMPIONS PROGRAM

CHAMPIONS is an incentive-based equine service volunteer program to recognize and reward individuals who volunteer with organizations on the Equus Foundation's Equine Alliance Network. ESDCTA is the first GMO to be approved for the C4C network! To become a CHAMPION members must log a minimum of 24 volunteer hours from January 1st to December 31st. Volunteer hours are verified by the Equine Alliance Network and The Equus Foundation. You are eligible to apply for Champion of Equine Service Scholarships once you have achieved CHAMPION status and have a GPA of 3.0. For more information go to:

<https://www.equusfoundation.org/champions.php>

ESDCTA YOUTH COMMITTEE

Please do not hesitate to contact any one of our Youth Committee members for more information on our Youth Program and how to become a member of our Club!

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Check us out on Facebook at ESDCTA & ESDCTA Youth!



Eastern States Dressage & Combined Training Association