



Quick quiz - in what year did the D4K Winter Intensive Training Program start?

The Dressage4Kids Winter Intensive Training Program (WIT) started in 2013!

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Dressage4Kids Calendar

<https://dressage4kids.org/news-events/event-calendar.html>

June

June 10-11, 2023 - D4K TEAM Clinic at Meadowbrook Farm in Naples, Maine

June 10-11, 2023 - D4K TEAM Clinic at RER Ponies in Hatfield, Massachusetts

June 12, 2023 - D4K Zoom with Laura King

June 28-30, 2023 - D4K Horsemastership Clinic at Hilltop Farm in Colora, Maryland

July

July 22-23, 2023 - D4K TEAM Clinic at Riding Right Farm in Buskirk, New York

July 28-29, 2023 - D4K TEAM Clinic at Hampton Green Farm in Fruitport, Michigan

August

August 1-31, 2023 - D4K Summer Intensive Training Program at Bel Aire Farms in Millbrook, New York

August 10-12, 2023 - Dressage4Kids Youth Dressage Festival at HITS on the Hudson in Saugerties, New York

Dressage4Kids Zoom with Laura King

Laura King joins us for a discussion on Empowering Your Personal Best! If you have not yet registered, registration in advance is required at <https://dressage4kids.org/programs/weekend-equestrian-program-2023.html>.



Join US

via Zoom

Monday, June 12th at 7:30pm EDT

Dressage4Kids™ Weekend Equestrian Program
educational series welcomes:

Laura King: “Empowering Your Personal Best!”

Sometimes we get caught up in doing the same thing the same way, all the time...then we want to change and can't figure out why we get so disconnected from what we really want to do. Increasing or improving a skill takes learning what the right way or the personal mastery of what we are learning really is. Therefore we must discount from the old and learn the new...then practice... create new pathways in the brain to achieve personal mastery of the skill. So during this zoom meeting you will learn how you can help yourself on your path to your personal best!

Registration in advance is required at www.dressage4kids.org

Dressage4Kids Winter Intensive Training Program - Rider Spotlight

For more information about the Dressage4Kids Winter Intensive Training Program, go to:
<https://dressage4kids.org/programs/winter-intensive-training-program.html>



Kiara Williams-Brown

"WIT gave me the opportunity to learn so much from experts in all aspects of the horse industry, including Lendon herself, and gave me so many valuable connections I will carry with me throughout my career. I would not be where I am today without Lendon and the WIT program."

WIT Participant 2022



Dressage4Kids Winter Intensive Training Program Applications Due June 15th

The Dressage4Kids Winter Intensive Training Program (aka WIT) is planning on returning to Wellington, Florida January-March 2024. WIT provides tremendous opportunities for its participants. In addition to consistent training (daily riding lessons 5 days a week plus one hack day and one day off for the horses), riders have access to a regular fitness program, a multitude of lectures and field trips, competitions (for themselves and to cheer on others), and lessons in horse care and stable management. WIT involves three months of pure growth and first-hand experience for young riders (ages 25 and under) on their journeys to reaching their full potential.

Riders of all levels are welcome.

Applications are due June 15th!

<https://dressage4kids.org/programs/winter-intensive-training-program.html>

Dressage4Kids Youth Dressage Festival Entries Open June 19th

Started in 1999, the Festival offers individual and team competition for riders ages 25 and under. Division championships feature a three-phased competition: a written test, an individual dressage test, and an equitation ride. Riders may also assemble teams and vie for the Kross Creek Farm Team Championships in honor of Margarita Serrell. Additional classes and activities are also offered, including: Judging Sport Horse Conformation, Handler Class, Quadrille, Leadline, Dressage Trail, Prix Caprilli, Musical Freestyle, Cover Art Contest, Tack Room Decorating Competition, Turn Out Inspection, Ice Cream Social, and the Stable Management Challenge.

Entries open June 19th!

[Online entries will be available at HorseShowOffice.com.](https://www.horsheshowoffice.com)

Prize List:

<https://dressage4kids.org/d4k-festival/show-info/prize-list.html>

Scholarship Report - Kelly Barry

I would like to thank D4K for providing me with a scholarship to attend a clinic with Felicitas von Neumann-Cosel at the Chesapeake Dressage Institute. I have been waiting a long time to ride with Felicitas, but the stars finally aligned for it to actually happen! I used the opportunity as preparatory instruction for my first Gypsy Vanner breed show. I went with the intention of finding the best way to ride my mount, Marley, so that he would be able to express his gaits and showcase his abilities outside the confines of a dressage ring. In previously auditing Felicitas, I found that she was encouraging of finding "flow" in the ride and taught the rider to embrace the expression of the horse through effective riding.

[To continue reading, click here and then click on the link "Kelly Barry - Clinic with Felicitas von Neumann-Cosel".](#)



Personal Note to Equestrians - from Noah Rattner

From Noah Rattner, originally published on [Facebook](#)

Personal Note to Equestrians: if you enter a competition and have to scratch after cutoff dates due to injury/sickness (or any other reason), please understand that the Organizer is not trying to be unsympathetic to your situation.

In most cases, the Prize List (which is on file with the Federations - and formally binds all parties) details what can and cannot be refunded - or if refunds are even possible. By most of those dates (nowadays), we are VERY close to show time...when stabling has already been assigned, bedding already set out, show has already been scheduled, extra judges or officials have been hired (or released), airfares, hotels, logistics have all been put in place based on the show's entries. As Organizers, we're not being mean or unsympathetic when we say that we can't give refunds. We have so many sunken expenses for a given show that giving you a refund could cause the show financial turmoil...and could even jeopardize it taking place again in the future...

EDIT/ADD: also realize that the show's service providers are making decisions to attend based on your anticipated participation in the show. Photographers, Videographers, Sponsors, Vendors...and all of their logistics (investments) into what they're hoping will be there at the show. Food vendors VERY often have \$\$ minimums (which Organizers are required to have on-site). Fewer competitors means less dollars to ALL of these downstream companies.

Further, giving refunds when the Prize List has clearly outlined the policy and cutoff dates also sets a precedent for others to pursue the same path. If we break the rules for one person, EVERYONE else will expect the same leniency and treatment. So, think of it as a donation to the sport and your support of a show that you would have otherwise attended.

Also, get creative...

-ask them if they can donate your bedding to other competitors (or resell to your friends).

-ask them if they can convert your entry fees into a show sponsorship to promote your business.

-maybe if your horse is injured, but you're physically fit, dare I say it...offer to volunteer?

-have another horse that isn't show ready, but could use a field trip as a non-compete? Ask if you can sub them.

-ask them to donate whatever they might be able to return to you to The Dressage Foundation or to USDF Youth funds.

At the end of the day, know that we WANT you to be *AT* the show. We don't want scratches (or no shows). Regardless of circumstance, be polite and respectful and understand that sometimes, the answer will be, unfortunately, no.

Road to the Makeover: TB Tweenager Training Tips with Rosie Napravnik

Originally published in The Chronicle of the Horse
written by Rosie Napravnik

<https://www.chronofhorse.com/article/road-to-the-makeover-tb-tweenager-training-tips-with-rosie-nappravnik/>

What I have found so important when taking a green horse to a show is to not think about how I want the horse to perform, but how I want to train the horse so that the performance just becomes a reflection of what he's learned.

[Click here to continue reading.](#)

Important Dates for Youth Riders

July 1
USDF Arts Contest Deadline

July 31
USDF Youth Dressage Rider Recognition Pin Program - paperwork deadline

August 15
USDF Deadline to apply for the USEF Youth Sportsman's Award

August 31
USDF Deadline to nominate a youth member for Youth Volunteer of the Year
USDF Youth Convention Scholarship Applications due

The Dressage Foundation Grant Application Deadlines

July 15
Team Tate Mentorship and Leadership Fund

July 20
Lynn Palm Western Dressage Fund for Individuals

August 1
Carol Lavell Advanced Dressage Prize

August 15
Anne Barlow Ramsay \$25,000 Grant

For more information about The Dressage Foundation, go to
<https://www.dressagefoundation.org/>.



D4K TEAM rider Annie Duffin and Dash at the recent Dressage4Kids TEAM Clinic at the Bermuda National Equestrian Centre

About Dressage4Kids

Dressage4Kids, Inc. is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization incorporated for the express purpose of providing educational and competitive opportunities for youth riders and the adults who support them.

<https://dressage4kids.org>

[Check out our videos on YouTube](#)

Dressage4Kids | d4k.org@gmail.com | dressage4kids.org

See what's happening on our social sites:

