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Dressage4Kids Calendar

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

February

D4K Winter Intensive Training Program at Top Meadow Farms in Wellington, Florida - visitors welcome, contact Lendon Gray at graydressage@gmail.com

February 4 - D4K Training4Teaching Classroom Seminar Series at The Media Room, Wellington Community High School in Wellington, Florida

February 5 - D4K UP with Dr. Cleo Bubulka: Equine First Aid (via Zoom)

February 12 - D4K USDF Focus on the Collective Marks Remote Workshop Part 1 (via Zoom)

February 18 - D4K Training4Teaching Classroom Seminar Series at The Media Room, Wellington Community High School in Wellington, Florida

February 26 - D4K USDF Focus on the Collective Marks Remote Workshop Part 2 (via Zoom)

March

D4K Winter Intensive Training Program at Top Meadow Farms in Wellington, Florida - visitors welcome, contact Lendon Gray at graydressage@gmail.com

March 11 - D4K UP with Ann Guptill: The Pyramid of Training (via Zoom)

March 18 - D4K UP: Intro to the Revamped USDF Instructor/Trainer Development Program (via Zoom)

March 25 - D4K UP with Dr. Heather Beach: Equine Tendons and Ligaments (via Zoom)

Training4Teaching February 4th with Lendon Gray -

Open to All

Register today!

Sunday, February 4th Dressage4Kids is pleased to welcome Olympian Lendon Gray for a presentation about teaching techniques followed by an open discussion with the audience.

Additional dates include:

February 18 more info to be announced

Registration in advance is required at <https://dressage4kids.org/programs/d4k-training4teaching/training4teaching-classroom-seminar-series-january-march-2024.html>

D4K UP Virtual Educational Series - Open to All

Monday, February 5th at 7:30pm Eastern Time via Zoom

- Moderator: Lendon Gray
- *Presentation with Dr. Cleo Bubulka: Equine First Aid*

Monday, March 11th at 7:30pm Eastern Time via Zoom

- Moderator: Lendon Gray
- *Presentation with Ann Guptill: The Pyramid of Training*

Monday, March 18th at 7:30pm Eastern Time via Zoom

- *Intro to the Revamped USDF Instructor/Trainer Development Program (separate registration form, check back for updates)*

Monday, March 25th at 7:30pm Eastern Time via Zoom

- Moderator: Lendon Gray
- *Presentation with Heather Beach, DVM: Equine tendons and ligaments*

Register today at <https://dressage4kids.org/programs/d4k-unmounted-programs/d4k-up-virtual-educational-series-2024.html>



Save the Date!

via Zoom

Monday, March 18th at 7:30pm Eastern Time

Dressage4Kids™ UP
virtual educational series welcomes:

Kate Fleming-Kuhn, Sarah Geikie, and Kathie Robertson
“Intro to the
Revamped USDF Instructor/Trainer Development Program”

stay tuned for more info, including how to register

Sarah Lockman Tubman and Marin Roth

discuss the Pan Am Games and their journeys in Dressage

In case you missed the discussion, the video recording is available at <https://youtu.be/OvWnmv3Koaw?si=OPYjqoOdQFdiU4qH>.



Meet Youth Dressage Festival Competitor Allison Lewis

Allison Lewis was the Training Level Division Ages 14-16 Champion of YDF 2023

Q: How many years have you been riding?

Allison: I started casually riding when I was around 3 on and off, a little Western and a little English. When I was in 2nd Grade I started doing regular lessons weekly. A few years later I switched barns to Faith Hill Farm where I am still riding today.

Q: How many years have you competed at YDF?

Allison: This was my 3rd year competing at YDF.

Q: What was your favorite part about YDF this year?

Allison: I love the atmosphere at YDF and being able to spend more time with my team and horse Faith.

Q: What was your reaction when you found out you were the Training Level Division Ages 14-16 Champion?

Allison: I was very excited about winning and seeing that all the work that myself, my horse, and my trainer were putting in was finally paying off.

Q: What are your future riding goals/plans?

Allison: I will be competing at First Level this coming show season and just hope to be able to retain my love for riding all throughout my life as I continue to move up the levels.

Q: Are you planning on returning to YDF next year?

Allison: Yes, as I feel that the show has many great opportunities to learn new things and grow in my love for the sport, and my amazing team.

Q: Can you tell us a little bit about your horse?

Allison: Faith is a 17 year old Morgan pony, she is a Dark Bay and is the most amazing horse that I could have ever asked for.

Q: Are there any funny quirks about your horse?

Allison: She loves to be scratched on her withers and makes the funniest faces while I am sweat scraping her.

Q: What's your horse's favorite treat?

Allison: Faith really just loves all treats and food and would do anything for more.

Q: Does Faith have a favorite class at YDF?

Allison: I think that Faith really likes the Trail class because it is just a fun class that is very different than what she is used to.

Q: What's your horse's favorite dressage movement to perform?

Allison: Faith loves to extend her trot and canter because she just loves to go fast.

Q: What was it like competing on a team?

Allison: I competed with Faith Hill Farm this year and I really loved it, my team is just amazing and so supportive.

Q: Is there anything else you would like to add?

Allison: I would first like to thank my parents for funding my riding as well as taking me to all my lessons and shows, and my amazing coaches who have taught me so much and made me the rider I am today. Thank you to all of FHF for just being an amazing team and place to learn to ride and start my Dressage journey.

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>



"The WIT program allowed me to be immersed in day-to-day education about all aspects of riding and caring for horses. I have formed lifelong connections with people that share the same passion for horses."

—

WIT Participant 2016 & 2017



PC: Melissa Fuller/Sidelines Magazine

Kayla is a USDF Bronze and Silver medalist and represented Region One four times at NAYC two of which with her D4K donation horse Perfect Step, generously donated by Suzanne Dansby, as well as four trips to Festival of Champions where she was 2017 Reserve Champion Junior Rider and 2019 Champion Young Rider. Kayla was also part of the 2019 Young Rider European tour and USEF Emerging Athlete program. After WIT she trained and worked full-time for Shelly Francis and Olivia LaGoy-Weltz. Kayla is now a full-time student at Northern Virginia Community College pursuing a degree in engineering.

Dressage4Kids TEAM Clinics are kicking off for 2024!

Want to find a clinic in your area? Check out our calendar at <https://dressage4kids.org/news-events/event-calendar.html>.

Want to organize a clinic? Contact Mary at d4k.org@gmail.com.

Congratulations to Lendon Gray and Fern Feldman

At The Dressage Foundation's recent meeting of its Board of Directors, Lendon Gray (NY) was selected as the new Chairman of the Board to begin in January 2024. Lendon first joined TDF's Board in 2013 and has served as Vice Chairman and President, in addition to serving on numerous committees.

Additional new officer positions include Fern Feldman (CT) as Vice Chairman and Diane Skvarla (FL) as Secretary.

Members and Officers of the TDF Board of Directors for 2024 are:

Lendon Gray (NY), Chairman
Fern Feldman (CT), Vice Chairman
Beth Baumert (CT, FL), President and CEO
Nancy Hutson (CT, FL), Vice President of Development
George Williams (VA, FL), Vice President of Grants and Programs
Ryan Shumacher (CA), Treasurer
Diane Skvarla (FL), Secretary
Maryal Barnett (MI)
Barbara Cadwell (FL)
Nicole DelGiorno (NJ)
Sarah Geikie (CT)
Rebecca Hafner (MN)
Karin Reid Offield (MI)
Ralph Dreitzler (Director Emeritus)
Michael Poulin (Director Emeritus)

[Click here for the full press release.](#)

The Dressage Foundation Grants

The Dressage Foundations offers a wide range of grants and programs to meet the needs of dressage enthusiasts across the board, including adult amateurs, breeders, instructors, judges, technical delegates, FEI/High Performance, para-equestrian, show management, Western Dressage, and youth and young adult riders.

To access their grant calendar, go to: <https://www.dressagefoundation.org/grants-and-programs/>

Upcoming grant deadlines:

FEBRUARY 1

Maryal and Charlie Barnett Continuing Education for Dressage Instructors Fund

FEBRUARY 10

Carolyn Van Cise Fund for MI Youth and Young Adults

FEBRUARY 15

Karen Skvarla Fund for Young Professionals



Dr. Hilary Clayton gave an excellent lecture to WITees on understanding some of the horse's biomechanics. WITees also learned valuable strengthening exercises and stretches they can practice with their horses daily.

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:



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