

I am so thankful for receiving the scholarship because it really opened up a door of opportunities. I was able to take lessons with Liz Austin which really helped me really learn to use my seat to ride and less hand. She was able to point out little things in my movements to really get that extra point in the arena and help me take the next step in my riding. I was also fortunate enough to be able to ride with Katherine Bateson with two of my horses. When I was riding Laurel we worked on me not holding my inside rein in the half pass and getting Laurel to sit back on her hind legs a little bit more in the collected canter. On my other horse Boo, we worked on flying changes. He is very sensitive with his changes and she helped me learn how to ride them more quietly. She also helped me understand how important it is to stay one step ahead of him. It's very helpful to be able to ride with different instructors. Each one seems to have a new piece of information that is helpful. Having different sets of eyes on the ground helps me understand my horses better. I also continue to realize how important accuracy is. Having different instructors point out the same weaknesses in my riding has made me realize how much I need to focus on these areas. Without this scholarship I wouldn't have been able to take any lessons this summer. I love to compete, but I know how important it is to take lessons to better my riding. Taking these lesson also helps me be a better instructor for the kids I teach so I can pass what I learn along to them.

London Morin