

Concord Ridge Scholarships

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Inbox

To: Mary Herbst <mary_herbst@hotmail.com>; greydressage@me.com <greydressage@me.com>;

I would like to say thank you for giving me this opportunity to have a scholarship. I am really thankful that I got to do this the clinic with Lendon at Concord Equestrian Center. I really enjoy the Lendon clinics because she looks at your horse and you and she knows what needs to be fixed.

I rode with Lendon at the Hampton Green Clinic earlier this year, and we were struggling to make it into the corners. I watched at this clinic as rider after rider could not make it into the arena end by Lendon. Lendon kept saying to each rider " I want you so close to the rail that you should be stepping on my toes" and at this clinic I did just that! As I rode by I heard her say " That time I really was nervous about getting my toes stepped on!".

This clinic, because I could ride into the corners, she helped me with the leg yields. I was struggling to move my pony, Shadow over while trying to keep him on the bit at the same time, she said. "I don't care where your horses head is I just want him to move over then we can focuses on getting him on the bit and move over at the same time". I learned that it is best to work on baby steps and not try to get everything at once.

I not only get a lesson from Lendon but I also get inspired.

I watched the kids that were doing upper level movements, and when I watched them it makes me strive to be better. As I watch them I get excited that one day I will get to do those movements too. It is also nice to know that they struggle with things and yet keep working. I learned that it takes hard work in every stage of riding.

Then there are the younger kids. I love to watch the younger kids, Viviana and Dalton.

The first day Dalton went into the ring and Lendon asked, "What do you want to work on today Dalton?" "Flying changes" he said. And let me just say Dalton is only nine and he asked if he could do flying changes and he was very serious. And he did do them and they were pretty good!

Viviana, who is six, came in the first day, she had no idea what she was doing. She was struggling to do circles and going into the corners, but she came back the next day and she did amazing circles and she went into her corners, she nailed it every time!

No matter what age or what level they are at, I always get inspired.

Lendon helps me understand what I need to do. You see it is hard for me to understand things if I don't see it being done, but Lendon always makes it clear as day what I need to do. She is very encouraging and breaks it down into pieces that we can do and suddenly the movement is all there! I am so, so thankful that I get to do the clinics with Lendon! Every time we go in we come out better than we were before.

Thank you so much for making the scholarships available,

Sincerely,

Sam Stenger