



This winter I had the opportunity to go to the Winter Intensive Training Program. This program spans from January 3rd to March 28th and is only for the riders who have the drive and passion to become professionals. It opens your eyes to the innerworkings of the dressage world and shows you what life as a professional rider will be like. We were able to meet and audit many trainers such as Ali Brock, Robert Dover, Charlotte Bredahl, Christine Traurig, Debbie McDonald, Conrad Schumacher, Axel Steiner, and Jan Ebeling. We also listened to lectures from nutritionists, saddle fitters, bit and bridle fitters, mental performance coaches,

and judges. Being able to go to this program was such an amazing opportunity, and the Lendon Gray Scholarship made that possible!

The WIT program was not all sunshine and daisies, but that's what makes it the *Winter Intensive* Training program. We faced hardships and struggles in the barn and in the ring. It was hard at times, but this just taught me to push forward and overcome anything that gets in my way. Some days were hard, but the WITees did everything as a team- we laughed together, we cried together, we learned together, and we taught each other. And for that, I'm forever grateful to the girls whom I proudly call my WIT sisters.

Without the Lendon Gray Scholarship, I would not have been able to go the WIT program and been able to undergo all the amazing experiences I did! I'm so grateful to have had the opportunity to receive this grant and go to WIT! Thank you so much Lendon and Dressage4Kids for giving me the change to use the Lendon Gray grant to attend the 2019 Winter Intensive Training Program!

