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Dressage4Kids Calendar

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

January

January 2-March 29 D4K WIT Program at Top Meadow Farm in Wellington, Florida

January 19 D4K Training4Teaching Panel Discussion at the Wellington National Golf Club in Wellington, Florida with guest speakers Ali Brock, Christoph Koschel, Adrienne Lyle, and Lars Petersen

February

February 1 D4K Training4Teaching

February 9 D4K UP with Tik Maynard (via Zoom)

February 15 D4K Training4Teaching with Laura King

February 23 D4K UP with Kate Poulin (via Zoom)

March

March 8 D4K Training4Teaching

March 22 D4K Training4Teaching with Reese Koffler-Stanfield and Eliza Sydnor Romm

March 28-29 D4K TEAM Clinic with Maria Lithander at Roaring Run Equestrian Center in Apollo, Pennsylvania

D4K WIT Program - Auditors are Welcome

The D4K WIT (Winter Intensive Training) Program will be held January 2 - March 29 at Top Meadow Farm in Wellington, Florida.

We welcome auditors! If you would like to stop by and visit, please contact Lendon Gray at graydressage@gmail.com.

We welcome 2026 WITees:

Amelie Burk, NY
Tessa Ewer, ME
Madeline Fasse, NY
Logan Green, RI
Zoe Lewis, TX
Grace Lotsikas, MD
Taylor McNeely, NY
Sage Smith, OK

Thank you to Dave and Tuny Page

Dressage4Kids is thrilled to share that a generous gift from Dave and Tuny Page will help fulfill the dreams of talented young riders through access to the D4K Winter Intensive Training Program (WIT).

This sponsorship carries a simple yet powerful intent: to ensure that finances are not the barrier that keeps dedicated, hardworking young riders from pursuing their goals and reaching their full potential. Scholarships such as the ones made possible by sponsorship from Dave and Tuny broaden access to valuable experiences. For decades, D4K has remained committed to providing exceptional learning opportunities for riders who are eager to learn and develop as horsemen and women.

We are deeply grateful to Dave and Tuny, whose generosity lightens the financial burden. Thank you for believing in the mission of Dressage4Kids, for helping us keep education accessible, and for investing in the future of the sport. Together, we're building a bright future!



photo: WI Tées together at a WIT reunion

D4K Training4Teaching January 19, 2026

D4K Training4Teaching

"Training in Harmony: A Toolkit for Both Horse and Rider" with Ali Brock, Christoph Koschel, Adrienne Lyle, and Lars Petersen

Date: January 19, 2026

Time: 6:00pm Complimentary Hors d'Oeuvres and Cash Bar followed by 7:00pm Panel Discussion

Where: Wellington National Golf Club, 400 Binks Forest Drive, Wellington, Florida

All are welcome to attend. Registration in advance is required. Donations to support our programs are appreciated.

[Click here to register.](#)



Dressage4Kids™ Training4Teaching Program

Monday
January 19, 2026

“Training in Harmony: A Toolkit for Both Horse and Rider”

moderator Lendon Gray with panelists:

Ali Brock
Christoph Koschel
Adrienne Lyle
Lars Petersen

6:00pm Complimentary Hors d’Oeuvres and Cash Bar
7:00pm Panel Discussion

Wellington National Golf Club
400 Binks Forest Dr • Wellington, FL

All are welcome to attend.

Donations to support our programs are appreciated.

D4K Training4Teaching Classroom Dates

Join Dressage4Kids for the 2026 Training4Teaching Classroom Seminar Series!

Location:

Wellington Community High School
2101 Greenview Shores Blvd
Wellington, Florida

When:

Sunday, February 1st 6:00-8:00pm to be announced
Sunday, February 15th 6:00-8:00pm with Laura King
Sunday, March 8th 6:00-8:00pm to be announced
Sunday, March 22nd 6:00-8:00pm with Reese Koffler-Stanfield and Eliza Sydnor Romm

All are welcome to attend. Registration is free, donations to support D4K programs are welcome.

[Click here to register.](#)

D4K UP Zoom Series

Join us! All are welcome.

D4K UP Virtual Educational Series 2026

Monday, February 9th at 7:30pm EST via Zoom with Tik Maynard

Monday, February 23rd at 7:30pm EST via Zoom with Kate Poulin

Additional dates to be announced.

All are welcome to attend. Registration is free, donations to support D4K programs are welcome.

[Click here to register.](#)

Meet D4K Lendon's Youth Dressage Festival Competitor Gianna Calabro

Gianna Calabro won the Walk/Trot/Canter ages 14-25 Division at Lendon's Youth Dressage Festival 2025.

Q: How many years have you competed at Lendon's Youth Dressage Festival?

Gianna: I have competed at Lendon's Youth Dressage Festival four times. My very first time at the festival in 2021, I had just turned 11 and was riding a small, white, welsh cross pony named Marshmallow Fluff. That year I found my love for showing, specifically at Lendon's festival. Now at the most recent festival, I turned 15 the week prior, and did the best I've ever done.

Q: What was your reaction when you found out you were division champion?

Gianna: When my name got called for the division champion, I swear my heart sank. I thought to myself, "there's no way...". Pretty sure I almost started crying. I'm not one of those people that show just to get awards, but when I got handed the blue ribbon, the months of training, blood, sweat, and many tears, everything was worth it.

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

Gianna: Mischief Managed or "Loki" is a 7 year old, 14.2 hand Mustang from Sand Wash Basin, HMA. Loki is an opinionated mare in the very best of ways. She is steady, compact and powerful, and often gets mistaken for a Lusitano. I first rode Loki a few weeks before the festival when our team was running through our Quadrille performance. Originally, my friend Hailey was riding Loki in the quadrille, but my horse Carl started to get upset with the loud Jaws music so our trainer, Emily, had us switch horses. The swap went well for the Quadrille practice so we kept the change. Loki had been out of work for a bit and she was just getting back into shape, so we had to take care not to ask too much of her. Prior to leaving for New Jersey I had only ridden Loki twice. On Friday at the festival my horse Carlchen had some issues and I didn't think I'd be able to show him. Chelcee Hamel, Loki's owner, without hesitation offered Loki to me to show. My friend Hailey, who was supposed to show Loki at D4k, switched horses with me Friday afternoon. So with only two rides prior, Loki was my catch ride for the weekend!

Q: What's your horse's "superpower" in the dressage ring?

Gianna: Loki's superpower is definitely staying calm, cool and collected in a new environment. With all the big vehicles constantly moving and roaming around the showgrounds, the whistles and bells, she never batted an eye or gave anything a second glance. I am so incredibly impressed with this horse and how bomb-proof she is. She allowed me to stay calm, focused and confident through warm-up and throughout the test. She has to be one of the most willing and trustworthy horses I've ever ridden.

Q: If your horse could talk, what's something they might say to you?

Gianna: "I got you, kid. Just relax and have fun!"

Q: Is there anyone you would like to thank on your journey?

Gianna: Yes, many people. First my mom, for everything she does that involves horses and working really hard with my horse Carl, even when things don't work out. I would like to thank Chelcee Hamel, who let me borrow her horse for the festival when things didn't work out with my horse. I would also like to thank Hailey Burke for switching horses with me in the first place and coaching me how to ride Loki because she's much different from my horse. I also would like to thank the organizers and show secretary who allowed me to make the last minute change to Loki right before the start of the competition, if they hadn't been so supportive, my weekend would have been very different. I would lastly like to thank my trainer Emily Sumner who made me the rider I am and who introduced me to the D4k Festival 5 years ago.

While my weekend did not go as planned, I did finally get to ride my horse Carlchen in the Musical Freestyle on Sunday morning. We had never done a freestyle before, so it took several months of hard work and everything finally came together that day and we won the Freestyle!

For more information about D4K Lendon's Youth Dressage Festival, go to:

<https://dressage4kids.org/d4k-festival/>



American Connemara Pony Society Scholarship

We're thrilled to announce that the American Connemara Pony Society (ACPS) [Scholarship](#) is back for 2026!

Who can apply? You must be:

- Age 25 or under
- ACPS member
- Riding a registered Connemara (including half- or quarter-bred)

What can the scholarship be used for?

Scholarship funds (generally up to \$500) may be applied toward a Dressage4Kids program, including: D4K TEAM, SIT, WIT, Training4Teaching, D4K UP, or Lendon's Youth Dressage Festival.

Recipients are expected to give back to D4K and ACPS through volunteering, assisting with programs, organizing clinics or fundraisers, writing articles, judging, or helping with publicity - and to share a written report about what they learned.

Applications for 2026 are OPEN!

Deadline: June 1

[To learn more, including how to apply, click here.](#)

Dressage4Kids™ and the American Connemara Pony Society announce the American Connemara Pony Society Scholarship



Photo credit: Kristie Scholten Photography

Applications for D4K SIT are Open

Dressage4Kids is excited to offer the D4K Summer Intensive Training (SIT) Program again in 2026.

Location: Hampton Green Farm in Fruitport, Michigan

Dates: July 2-29, 2026 with options to extend dates

Lendon Gray will be the main instructor of the program. The goal of the Summer Intensive Training Program is to give opportunities for youth riders to participate in consistent and extensive training not only in riding, but in all areas of horse care, riding and training theory, and competition skills.

[Applications are open. Click here to learn more, including how to apply.](#)

Colleges with Equine Programs

Equine programs, degrees, and options are as unique and diverse as breeds of horses. The [Equine Education Network](#) puts this information at your fingertips by providing direct links to the equine programs that are offered by colleges and universities across the country.

You no longer need to spend countless hours searching for equine programs. We've done that work for you! You have the option to sort by geographic region, degree type, name and zip code.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

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/>

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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