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## Dressage4Kids Calendar

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

### February

February 1 D4K Training4Teaching with Reese Koffler Stanfield and Eliza Sydnor Romm "The State of the Dressage Industry"

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 Jen Verharen

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

### April

April 18-19 D4K TEAM Clinic at Sagewood Farm in Ravenna, Ohio

April 25-26 D4K TEAM Clinic at Sterling Hill Stables in New Tripoli, Pennsylvania

April 25-26 D4K TEAM Clinic with Jodie Kelly at Noble Steeds LLC in Canton, Georgia

April 26 D4K Benefit Show at the Bucks County Horse Park in Revere, Pennsylvania

Are you interested in hosting a D4K TEAM Clinic? Contact Mary at [d4k.org@gmail.com](mailto:d4k.org@gmail.com).

## Recipient of the Corinne Gray Award Kristine Holloran

Dressage4Kids is proud to announce Kristine Holloran as the recipient of the Corinne F. Gray Memorial Award.

The Corinne F. Gray Memorial Award is given in honor of a woman who spent her life trying to help children and adults alike enjoy all aspects of horse care, competition, and companionship. Mrs. Gray's influence spanned Pony Club, eventing, dressage, hunters, jumpers, and trail riding - as an organizer, judge, committee member, mentor, and writer. Her legacy continues through those who share her tireless, selfless dedication to the equestrian community.

Kristine Holloran exemplifies these ideals in every sense. Originally from Bucks County, Pennsylvania, Kristine was a self-described "horse-crazy kid", beginning her riding journey at a young age and participating in a wide range of disciplines. While she took a break from horses to complete her degree in Business at Millersville University, followed by an MBA at Rider University, her passion never faded - and it ultimately came full circle through her daughters and Dressage4Kids. In addition to her involvement in D4K, Kristine has consistently given back to the equestrian community. While living in MA, Kris volunteered for several years for the Pepperell Horse Owners Association (PHOA) as well as the Hollis Area Equestrians (HAE), and has more recently assisted with events for The Dressage Foundation in Florida.

Kristine became part of the Dressage4Kids family in 2010, when she brought her daughter, Tessa, then just six years old, to the Weekend Educational Program (now D4K UP). What began as a single weekend quickly grew into a lasting commitment, with Kristine and her family expanding their involvement to include Lendon's Youth Dressage Festival, the TEAM Program, and the Winter Intensive Training Program (WIT).

Beyond being a devoted horse show mom, volunteer, and supporter of youth riders, Kristine has given generously of her time and expertise to Dressage4Kids through Board service, volunteering at the Youth Dressage Festival, and supporting the Training4Teaching and WIT programs. Her steady presence, thoughtful contributions, and genuine care for young riders and their families reflect the very heart of Corinne Gray's vision.

Please join us in congratulating Kristine on this well-deserved honor.





## D4K ACT 2025 Year End Awards

Congratulations to our top D4K ACT volunteers of 2025!

These remarkable individuals took ACTION and showed the power youth riders have! Thank you for leading the way and being passionate about giving back to our communities!

1st place: Lucy Watkins, age 14, from Georgia (Region 3): 349 hours

2nd place: Molly Shewmaker, age 16, from Georgia (Region 3): 331 hours

3rd place: Sofia Taveras, age 12, from Florida (Region 3) : 230 hours

4th place: Emily Rawlston, age 12, from Georgia (Region 3): 179 hours

5th place: Elan Stremmel, age 13, from New York (Region 8): 141 hours

Each of our top 5 volunteers will receive a free lesson with the trainer of their choice. The top 3 volunteers will also receive gift cards from a vendor of their choice. Congratulations to all and thank you for taking ACTION with D4K!

[To learn more about D4K ACT, click here.](#)



Molly Shewmaker



Sofia Taveras



Emily Rawlston

(not pictured Elan Stremmel)

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## 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.](#)

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## D4K UP at Sprieser Sporthorse Save the Date

Sage the Date!

D4K UP at Sprieser Sporthorse (Virginia) on May 31.

What does a real day in the life of a professional equestrian look like - and how do you design a business that actually works for you?

Join us for an in-person, behind-the-scenes look at practical equine business models and intentional decision making.

Save the date - more details coming soon!

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**In Case You Missed It -**

# D4K T4T Panel Discussion Video Recording Now Available

In case you missed it!

Dressage4Kids hosted Ali Brock, Christoph Koschel, Adrienne Lyle, and Lars Petersen for a D4K Training4Teaching panel discussion: "Training in Harmony: A Toolkit for Both Horse and Rider."

[The video recording is now available \(click here\).](#)

Thank you to the many volunteers and donors who help support D4K Programs.

Up next ...

Join Dressage4Kids for the 2026 D4K Training4Teaching Classroom Seminars!

Sunday, February 1st 6:00-8:00pm

with **Reese Koffler Stanfield and Eliza Sydnor Romm** on the State of the Dressage Industry

Sunday, February 15th 6:00-8:00pm

with **Laura King**

Sunday, March 8th 6:00-8:00pm

Sunday, March 22nd 6:00-8:00pm

with **Jen Verharen**

Location:

Wellington Community High School

2101 Greenview Shores Blvd

Wellington, Florida

All are welcome to attend.

Donations to support our programs are appreciated.

[Click here to register.](#)

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## Meet D4K Lendon's Youth Dressage Festival Competitor Priya Roopnarine

Priya Roopnarine won the Walk/Trot Division at Lendon's Youth Dressage Festival 2025.

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

Priya: I have competed at Lendon's Youth Dressage Festival for three years.

Q: What was your reaction when you found out you were Division Champion?

Priya: When I found out that I had won my Division, I was so happy! My pony and I have been working so hard together for two years, and once I heard that I was my Division Champion, I felt like all the hard work paid off. My pony and I have really grown together as a team, and in that moment, I was just so proud of us!

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

Priya: My pony is a Connemara, and his name Michael Aodh McDuff, aka, Rory. He used to compete in cross-country events but now is transitioning to dressage. Rory definitely has some pony behaviors and he has some spice to him!

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

Priya: Rory's "superpower" in the show ring would be "shapeshifting" because he can go from fussy to beautiful!

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

Priya: If Rory could talk, he would probably ask me, "Priya, are we really, really doing this?" He likes to give me a challenge when going into the show ring!

Q: Is there anyone whom you would like to thank for helping you on your dressage/riding journey?

Priya: I would like to thank my Trainer, Hollie McNeil, for training me to be the rider I am today. I would also like to thank Millie, a horse I used to ride before Rory for lessons. Millie was the first horse I rode at the Festival. I would like to thank my parents for just being there for me through my riding journey. I would also like to give a big thank you to my pony, Rory, for being a wonderful partner. Thank you Dressage4Kids for the opportunity to be a part of the Festival!

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

Priya: I am so excited for what the future holds with Rory!

Save the date for D4K Lendon's Youth Dressage Festival 2026!

August 7-9, 2026

at the Horse Park of New Jersey

To learn more about the D4K Lendon's Youth Dressage Festival, go to:

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



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## Applications for D4K BA Program are Open

Dressage4Kids is excited to offer the D4K Business Assist (BA) Program again in 2026.

with sponsorship from Iron Horse Dressage and anonymous donors

The D4K Business Assist (BA) Program is an innovative initiative designed to support D4K participants who have become equestrian professionals in building financially sustainable and personally fulfilling businesses.

The D4K BA Program is part of Dressage4Kids' broader commitment to helping support equestrians throughout their careers – from those just starting out to international-level riders, trainers, judges, and business owners.

Over the course of 6 weeks, participants will gain tools to:

- Define their core values and core purpose
- Manage their time more effectively
- Identify their ideal customer
- Craft a compelling brand message
- Understand their finances and key performance indicators (KPIs)
- Set achievable goals
- Navigate crucial conversations
- Develop a one-page business plan
- Visualize a 3-year growth plan

The next BA course is scheduled to start in May 2026.

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

Preference is given to those who have already participated in D4K Programs.

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## 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/>

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## 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](#)

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Dressage4Kids | [d4k.org@gmail.com](mailto:d4k.org@gmail.com) | [dressage4kids.org](https://dressage4kids.org)

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