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## Dressage4Kids Calendar

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

### September

September 14-15 D4K TEAM Clinic at Kellenbrook Farms in Gig Harbor, Washington

September 21-22 D4K TEAM Clinic at Cadence Ranch in Hutto, Texas

September 28-29 D4K TEAM Clinic at Flow Equestrian Center in Chagrin Falls, Ohio

September 29 Dressage at Devon Dressage Explorers Day

### October

October 5-6 D4K TEAM Clinic with Maria Lithander at Euphoria Stables in Starke, Florida

October 19 D4K UP Meet & Greet with Gareth Hughes during the NEDA Symposium at Mount Holyoke College Equestrian Center in South Hadley, Massachusetts

### November

November 16-17 D4K TEAM Clinic with Lilo Fore at Twinwood Equestrian Center in Fulshear, Texas

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## Dressage4Kids 25th Annual Lendon's Youth Dressage Festival Results

Over 20 teams competed at the 25th Annual Lendon's Youth Dressage Festival August 8 - 10th at HITS-on-the-Hudson Showgrounds in Saugerties, New York. Riders ages 4-25 from across the Northeast plus Florida, Wisconsin, and Canada competed in all levels from Leadline through FEI Young Riders.

Overall Champion: Antonia Hansmeyer  
Overall Reserve Champion: Sofia Taveras

Class Results: <https://dressage4kids.org/d4k-festival/festival-news-results/2024-class-results.html>

Team Results: <https://dressage4kids.org/d4k-festival/festival-news-results/2024-team-results.html>

Special Awards: <https://dressage4kids.org/d4k-festival/festival-news-results/2024-special-awards.html>

Official Show Photos: <https://akdragoophoto.zenfolio.com/f77869110>

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## Meet Youth Dressage Festival Competitor Antonia Hansmeyer

Antonia Hansmeyer was the Overall Division Champion of YDF 2024. She and her horse, Destino 115, also won both the FEI Division and the First Level Ages 14 and Under Division.

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

Antonia: This was my first time to compete at Lendon's Youth Dressage Festival, as we only moved to the US last autumn from Munich, Germany.

Q: What was your favorite part about YDF this year?

Antonia: The team spirit is one part that makes it stand out from the other shows and I really enjoyed that. Also, the incredible awards and trophies with the ceremonies on the last day of the show are very special. You feel taken very seriously as a rider and very motivated to go home, work harder, and come back to show more.

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

Antonia: I could not believe it! It felt like a dream.

Q: What are your future riding goals/plans?

Antonia: The overall goal is to keep spending lots of time with my horse, to become ever better partners and to grow as a rider every day! Competitions are great fun to us. In September, we will participate at the regional championships first level. Soon, we will test the waters showing at third level, too. Next year, we are very much looking forward to spending more time at FEI Children tests.

Q: Are you planning on returning to YDF next year?

Antonia: Absolutely! It was the best show I ever participated in - both in the US and Europe!

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

Antonia: My horse Destino is a 14 year old Hanoverian chestnut, sired by Desperados and Rotspon. I have been his rider for the past 1 1/2 years and we brought him over from Germany when we moved to the U.S. He is very sure in all the lessons, is a great teacher and loves showing at competitions.

Q: Are there any funny quirks about your horse?

Antonia: Destino is very curious and social, so if a stall door is not closed properly, he will for sure make use of the opportunity and venture out on his own. This almost happened at Lendon's Youth Dressage Festival, too!

Q: What's your horse's favorite treat?

Antonia: Apple juice! But he only gets it after shows as a very special treat. At home we are very much into carrots and apples.

Q: Does Destino have a favorite class at YDF?

Antonia: The FEI Children's Team Test! This was the first time we did it together and it was so exciting.

Q: What's your horse's favorite dressage movement to perform?

Antonia: He's really into flying changes.

Q: What was your team like this year? Any favorite team moments?

Antonia: We were a team of 10 riders representing the phenomenal Riding Right Farm this year. Everyone was super friendly and supportive of each other. Plus, we had the most fantastic tack room with mermaids and that Ursula!

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

Antonia: Lendon's Youth Dressage Festival is one of a kind. So much thought and heart is put into the show, it's a true labor of love. I am beyond grateful to Lendon Gray and everyone at Dressage4Kids for giving us the opportunity to compete here. It is truly special and we will remember this forever. Thank you to my amazing trainer, Mica Mabragaña, and her partner, the wonderful Antonio Diaz. Not only do they teach me literally everything, they also make sure my horse has the best possible life at their uber-beautiful farm in North Salem. It is a huge privilege to be with them and I am so grateful for it. I am also very thankful to my dear trainer in Germany, Svenja Holzmayr and my first barn Gut Eicherloh, where I started out on the longe a mere three years ago, aged 8, where I was introduced to the world of dressage and swiftly taken along to some of the coolest (kids) shows in Southern Germany/Austria. Last but not least, I would like to thank my parents and three siblings for being so supportive of my riding in every way. Thank you a million times! I couldn't do without you!

Congratulations, Antonia!



photo credit: Q2 Photography

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## Dressage at Devon Dressage Explorers Day

Dressage at Devon  
September 29th

Bring the kids any day but especially on Sunday when they can join the Grier School

Dressage Explorers day in an array of fun activities including the beloved stick horse making and riding in the Dixon Oval. Kids and adults alike can make their own stick horse to ride down the centerline in the Dixon Oval. They can also join the selfie-scamper hunt with prizes, see the multitude of Freestyles in the ring, get their face painted and go on a trick or treat adventure through the vendor fair area.

Dressage4Kids will be there!

For more information, go to: <https://dressageatdevon.org/dressage-explorers/>

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## **D4K UP Meet and Greet with Gareth Hughes**

Dressage4Kids is pleased to announce a special meet and greet with Gareth Hughes during the 2024 Absorbine/NEDA Symposium!

When: October 19, 2024 during the 2024 Absorbine/NEDA Symposium, immediately following the last ride of the day

Where: Mount Holyoke College Equestrian Center in South Hadley, Massachusetts

Who: This special Dressage4Kids UP Meet and Greet with Gareth Hughes is open to all youth ages 25 and under. All youth who wish to participate in the Dressage4Kids Youth Meet and Greet must also have purchased a NEDA auditor ticket for Saturday, October 19th.

Gareth medaled at the 2014 World Equestrian Games (Team Silver) and at the 2022 World Equestrian Games (Team Silver) and competed at the European Championships in 2013 (Team Bronze, 2019, 2021 (Team Silver) and in 2023 (Team Gold). His international experience is highlighted with over 60 National and International titles, and he has been a member of the British world class podium squad with numerous Nations Cup wins.

Gareth was a member of the British team for the 2021 Olympic Games in Tokyo, Japan, as the Team GBR Reserve.

In addition to his competitive career, Gareth also served as the Australian Eventing Dressage coach from 2012- 2019, and from 2016-2019 was the Swiss Dressage Technical Advisor. When he is not riding his own horses, he is a dedicated coach and can be found giving regular clinics, exhibitions and participating in many various online training platforms, including the popular equestrian app Ridely.

For more information, including how to register, go to:

<https://dressage4kids.org/programs/d4k-unmounted-programs/d4k-up-with-gareth-hughes.html>

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## **Dressage4Kids Winter Intensive Training Program - Rider Spotlight**

For more information about the Dressage4Kids Winter Intensive Training Program, go to: <https://dressage4kids.org/programs/winter-intensive-training-program.html>





# Brittany Stanley

“I was fortunate enough to be in the very first year of the WIT program and it definitely changed the course of my life.

From the formation of lifelong friendships, to meeting the people who would help me find my way to Europe, I learned about so much more than just dressage and built relationships that helped me become a successful horseman and competitor alike.”



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## WIT Participant 2013

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After five years in Denmark, Brittany moved back to the U.S. to work as the assistant trainer for Hilltop Farm for three years. I am fortunate to have launched my own training business, Stanley Sporthorses in January of this year and I am so excited to see what the future holds!

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## D4K WIT Program Open Spot Available

The D4K Winter Intensive Training Program has a spot open! Riders of all levels are welcome to apply.

For more information, including how to apply, go to:

<https://dressage4kids.org/programs/winter-intensive-training-program.html>

For a sneak peak of the WIT Program, go to: <https://youtu.be/fX3DcufuHu8?si=qXoUdv4RjiUAM2xF>

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## Penn Vet First Tuesday Lectures

The First Tuesday Lectures are a longstanding tradition of community outreach at New Bolton Center hosted by our leading equine veterinary experts. For more than a decade, faculty and staff at New Bolton Center have shared information on the latest advancements in equine health research and clinical best practices for horse owners and caregivers. The lectures have been presented virtually since 2020 with attendees represented from nearly every continent.

Penn Vet's equine clinical and research experts present 8 lectures during the academic year (September – May) on topics such as the latest treatments for infectious diseases, discoveries in stem cell research, innovations in laminitis, diagnostic breakthroughs, and the state-of-the-art equipment and facilities available at New Bolton Center.

For more information, including how to register, go to:  
<https://www.vet.upenn.edu/veterinary-hospitals/NBC-hospital/news-events/first-tuesday-lecture-series>

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## The Dressage Foundation 2025 Young Rider Dream Program Trip

Thanks to the generous \$100,000 Matching Gift Challenge from Margaret Duprey, her Cherry Knoll Farm and many donors, the Dream Program will return to the prestigious CHIO Aachen (Germany) World Equestrian Festival in 2025! This exceptional program allows young dressage riders the opportunity to immerse themselves in one of the most iconic and historic dressage events in the world.

For more information, including how to apply, go to:

<https://www.dressagefoundation.org/grants-and-programs/apply/young/dream.html>

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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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