



# The Dressage Foundation *News*

2018 EDITION

## Exceptional Experiences – Home and Abroad

Throughout the past year, TDF's grant recipients have embarked on journeys across the country and around the world that have helped strengthen dressage in the United States.

Whether riders were working with an instructor not far from home, traveling to Europe to be immersed with the top professionals on an international level, or participating in judging or instructor programs, all of their experiences come together to shape our dressage community.

As you browse these pages, we hope you enjoy hearing from just a few of our recent grant recipients in their own words. If you are part of our donor family – thank you! The role you have played in providing exceptional experiences for our grant recipients has made an impact. If you'd like to join us in helping the sport you love, we invite you to donate today!



*The 2018 Dream Program participants met with Laura Graves and Kasey Perry-Glass in Aachen*

The 2018 Young Rider International Dream Program took four top young riders – Hannah Irons (MD), Callie O'Connell (MA), Amanda Perkowski (NJ) and Emma Smith (MN) – to Aachen for a week in July. Led by chaperones Charlotte Bredahl and Meaghan Byrne, the group had the unique opportunity to meet with top international trainers,

riders and judges and cheer for Team USA!

Callie shared, "As a young rider and aspiring professional, this trip opened my eyes even more for my love of this sport. Watching and meeting the best-of-the-best riders and trainers was life-changing!"

*(continued on page 4)*

*Thanks to Margaret Duprey and Cherry Knoll Farm for the \$10,000 matching grant challenge and thanks to everyone who donated towards the match for the 2018 Young Rider International Dream Program trip!*



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# Message From TDF President & CEO, *Beth Baumert*

Dear Friends of TDF,

Have you noticed that money flows like energy? It flows in and out, and it seeks a balance. That's how it is with TDF: Generous donors bring the funds in and worthy grant recipients help it flow out. There's a good balance, but TDF is greedy about their sphere of influence. The long term TDF goal is to remove the financial barriers so individuals and groups in our sport can experience maximum growth in as fluid a way as possible. That translates into kinder, better riding in the United States from the backyard to the podium. If financial barriers were not in the picture, imagine where we could go! For that, TDF needs to keep that fine balance but with greater flow—which means a larger budget.

To give that flow a nudge, please consider the following two-fold plan:

- 1 Please encourage worthy people you know to apply for TDF grants. I'm sure there are people within your sphere of influence who are not achieving their goals because of financial

constraints. If a name just popped into your head, please ask them to go to our website and/or call Jenny. That would increase the quantity and quality of TDF grant applicants, which would challenge our selection committees and enable them to award more.

- 2 Please give to TDF—small, medium or large. Donors of all sizes are so valued! Without them, we have nothing.

And finally, I hope you enjoy reading the inspiring stories in this issue as much as I did. They reflect the TDF influence from the backyard to the world stage.

When you get to page 17, give a nod of thanks to Judith Noone who was a driving force within TDF since its inception. She was always pushing for positive change and growth. We miss her, but look at that picture! She's still challenging us to do more!

Many thanks to each of you for being a part of TDF!

Beth Baumert



*Beth Baumert, TDF President & CEO*



# Exceptional Experiences (continued)



Here's more from their trip:

## Day 1 - Hannah

Today we spoke with members of the U.S. dressage team. It takes a village to make a medal-winning team, including riders, horses, coaches, vets, therapists, nutritionists, sponsors and directors. They help each other, cheer for each other, face challenges with each other and, most importantly, are great friends. Laura Graves and Kasey Perry-Glass shared that you need to have someone to talk to who understands your struggles. You must be a good teammate, no matter if you have a good day or bad.

## Day 2 – Callie

Today was the first official day of dressage competition in Aachen, and wow, was it amazing! We started the day watching the U25 competition. The riding quality is unlike anything I have seen before and all the horses show so much talent and incredible quality for the future. It is a goal of mine to compete in the U25 division one day and seeing the best of them compete head-to-head is beyond inspiring.

Every movement is ridden with precise accuracy and determination.

## Day 3 – Emma

Today we had the incredible opportunity to watch and discuss rides with Christoph Hess. He noted that you have to be able to push forward towards collection. At the end of the diagonal with the extended canter, some riders would pull back to collect the horse. Christoph loved how Kasey Perry-Glass rode that movement because she kept the forward tendency and softly pushed Dublet to her hands to create collection. He also stressed that details are important!

## Day 4 – Amanda

Today we spoke with Henk van Bergen while watching the warm up. Henk is a member of the FEI Dressage Judges Supervisory Panel. The goal of the panel is to improve the honest result of the judging in World Championships, Olympics and major CDIs. Henk explained that the judges often look forward to meeting with the panel at the end of a day to discuss and analyze their marks. It really created an awareness for me that the judges are trying to be as accurate as possible, and

*Discussing the rides with 4\* FEI Judge Christoph Hess*



it was interesting to see dressage from their perspectives.

## Day 5 - Emma

In addition to watching competition, we also spoke with Jeanine Nieuwenhuis, a top U25 rider from the Netherlands. It was motivating to hear from a young professional who has already been very successful in her career. Jeanine's days include mucking stalls, working with the barn staff and riding 8-10 horses per day. She talked at length about the importance of having good eyes on the ground, saying that it is easier to teach something to the horse than to fix a problem later.

## Day 6 – Hannah

Through this trip, we have all gained new perspectives on dressage and have set a completely new standard of excellence. Reading and watching videos of the top riders is one thing, but being able to see them in person makes it feel so much more real and applicable. It was something special to be here to support the U.S. team during their great achievements this week. I am very grateful to TDF and its donors for this opportunity; it was truly a life changing experience.





## PONIES – AND VALEGRO! – IN ENGLAND: TDF's Michael Poulin Fund Grant Awarded to Dressage4Kids



*Lendon Gray and the D4K group in England with Carl Hester*

Dressage4Kids hosted a trip to England in August, which gave six young riders the opportunity to attend the FEI Pony European Championships, visit Carl Hester and Charlotte Dujardin, and learn from top international pony riders and trainers. TDF was pleased to award a \$5,000 Michael Poulin Fund Grant to support the trip for Caroline Grosso (NY), Paige Hendrick (RI), Annie Klepper (OH), Finley Peterson (VT) and Brylee Flores (CA).

Carl Hester gave the group a two-hour "symposium" using two young horses ridden by his students. They were then surprised with a session from Charlotte and Valegro. Some key take-aways from their time with Carl and Charlotte include:

- The canter is the most important gait; the trot can be developed.
- Stretching is very important and young horses need to learn it. At the end of the session is when they are most likely to offer the stretching (if your work is correct).
- Carl and Charlotte have to deal with some of the same problems we do as riders...they also had to learn from

the beginning just like everyone else.

- You can't make anything supple by holding it in the same place – stretch, bend, step sideways, bigger strides, smaller strides, etc.
- Elegance is important!
- Watch the horse's ears – they need to remain level.
- The rider needs to be in self-carriage before the horse will be in self carriage. Carl stressed the importance of the rider's core.
- It takes a lifetime of work to get a horse straight.

- Horses learn by repetition.
- With a hot horse, keep your legs closer. With a lazy horse, your legs should stay away more.
- You can take a risk if you have a good partnership.
- If you're going to be a working student for someone, you must commit to at least three years.
- Young horses need many transitions to develop strength, suppleness and balance.
- When watching Charlotte ride Valegro, Carl was still coaching and critiquing...even after all her success.



*Meeting Charlotte and Valegro!*



# Raising the Bar from Coast to Coast

*Your gifts help dressage organizations host top-notch events*

Each year, grants are awarded to dressage clubs that are hosting educational events for riders in their areas. Through these grants, thousands of people are impacted... from small groups of riders in remote areas who attend a clinic, to hundreds of people who attend a symposium with a top international trainer. Your support is key!

## Olympic Gold Medalist Hubertus Schmidt in Omaha

It was TDF's honor to support a symposium at the International Omaha with Olympic Gold Medalist Hubertus Schmidt. Thanks to a generous gift from Margaret Duprey, we were also able to co-host a lunch-and-learn session with Herr Schmidt and *Dressage Today* magazine. During lunch, many youth and young adults were able to ask questions about Mr. Schmidt's

training philosophies and competition experiences.

"Mr. Schmidt was approachable and eager to share his knowledge. It was great to have the methods I am using in my training confirmed by such a renowned trainer and rider!"

– Aussia Stander (NE)

## Louisville Dressage Society Recipient of Edgar Hotz Fund Grant for their Continuing Education in Dressage Judging Program

"I attended the judges event with the Louisville Dressage Society and I want to thank you for your sponsorship, support and the View from C book. Your continued support in the education of riders, trainers and judges in the sport of dressage is truly appreciated."

– Michelle Sieracki (WI)



Central Florida Dressage Society rider with Sandra Hotz

## Central Florida Dressage Society

*Recipient of a Violet Hopkins Fund Grant for their "Dressage Super Clinic," which included ride-a-test lessons along with lectures about saddle fitting, equine dentistry, feeding, pasture management, farriery, horse vision and more.*

"The riding instructors were extremely knowledgeable, friendly, personable and generous with their time and energy. The lectures were interesting and covered a variety of equestrian-related topics. Thank you for supporting a great event!"

– Event Auditor



Hubertus Schmidt meets young riders at the Omaha International

Photo credit: Jen Mellace





# Raising the Bar from Coast to Coast

*Your gifts help dressage organizations host top-notch events (continued)*



*Lehua Custer meets a rider in Hawaii*

## Hawaii State Dressage Society

*Recipient of a Violet Hopkins Fund Grant for a clinic with Leahua Custer*

"Everyone had a fantastic time and loved the learning experience! Leahua

is a wonderful clinician and made each rider feel special. We had three riders so new to dressage that they were riding in their hunt saddles. For me, that made this event a special success! We are very thankful for the grant from TDF!"

– Viva Medina, HSDS President

## USDF/USEF Young Rider Graduate Program

*Recipient of a \$15,000 Grant for the weekend program, plus grants to 8 individuals to attend*

"Gathering with other young professionals from all over the country was such an empowering experience. It was invigorating to be in good company with world-class speakers eager to share their knowledge and advice with us. What stood out to me the most was hearing how everyone took different paths to get to where they are now.

Ali Brock told us to remember that we are on our own paths. Our journeys will not be like the rest." – Sarah Yawata

"In this sport, it is financially challenging to not only compete, but to also stay educated. Because of my grant from TDF, it became financially possible for me to attend the Young Rider Graduate Program to become more educated and better prepared as I transition from Young Rider to a professional. The presenters told us about how hard work, late nights at the barn and unfortunate horse shows were all part of their journeys that eventually paid off. This motivated me to stick with my goal of becoming an elite rider. I love this sport, just like all of us that were sitting in that room, and hearing from top international riders validated that the journey is worth it."

– Emily Gill

*Beth Baumert (right) and Jenny Johnson (left) with the Young Rider Graduate Program participants*





# Grant Recipients Reaping the Benefits of Your Support

*Your donations are reaching all levels and every aspect of our sport*

From beginning riders to our top International competitors, from young professionals to seasoned judges, your donations to TDF are used to educate dressage enthusiasts across the board and at every level.

We are thankful that you are part of our incredibly generous donor family!

## Trip Harting Fund Grant for Pony Club Members

*Awarded to Sarah Adams (ME) to attend the USDF L Education Program*

"The L Program was an eye-opening opportunity to gain specific and applicable techniques to apply to my own 'ringmanship' and to improve my own test riding skills. I was able to really absorb the nuances of the various transitions and fully appreciate the building blocks that make up the Training-Second Level tests. The exercises from the homework drove home the 'why' behind the countless exercises that my instructor works on with me each week – and that suddenly made perfect sense and invigorated my own training efforts." – Sarah Adams



*Sarah Adams, the 2018 Trip Harting Fund Grant Recipient*

Photo credit: Jen Richardson



*TDF Board Members Ralph Dreitzler (left) and Maryal Barnett (right) present the Carol Lavell Advanced Dressage Prize to Alyssa Pitts* Photo credit: Belynda Moore

## Carol Lavell Advanced Dressage Prize

*Providing \$300,000 to U.S. High Performance Teams since 2009*

"I am so thankful and honored to receive the incredibly generous \$25,000 Prize. I hope that with the travel and training that this grant will afford us, Quintessential Hit and I will be able to move successfully into the international arena. I know that the Prize will help me to pursue my dream of being a team member for USA with him."

– Alyssa Pitts (WA)

"I am ecstatic and extremely thankful that this grant will give me and Sanceo the opportunity to focus on quality training with my coach, Christine Traurig. The training that the Prize provides will have a major impact on pursuing my goal to develop Sanceo into a Grand Prix horse that has the quality to represent the USA in international competition."

– Sabine Schut-Kery (CA)





# Grant Recipients Reaping the Benefits of Your Support

*Your donations are reaching all levels and every aspect of our sport (continued)*



Veronica Holt Fund Grant recipient,  
Beth Davidson

## Veronica Holt Fund Grant for Dressage Technical Delegates

*Inaugural Grant Awarded to  
Beth Davidson (FL)*

"I was so very lucky to know Veronica and learn from her at the USDF TD Clinics. Veronica knew well the challenges that many of us face when we are apprenticing for our licenses and promotions – we must travel outside our Region and apprentice at multi-day shows at our own expense. I own a farm in Florida, which adds additional costs while I am traveling. I will be utilizing the Grant funding to pursue my 'R' Dressage TD license and am thankful for the donors and TDF for administering so many great programs for riders, amateurs and licensed officials in dressage."

– Beth Davidson

## Karen Skvarla Fund for Young Professionals

*Recipient, Sydni Nusink (ID),  
shares "Words of Wisdom" from  
her training time with Mette  
Rosencrantz*

"I am so grateful for the opportunity that I was given to participate in this clinic and for The Dressage Foundation that made it a reality for me. As I watched Mette teach over the course of two days, I wrote down a few key points that stood out to me.

- Set the tone for the ride at the beginning. Attitude is a big deal.
- Talk to his tongue with your fingers.
- Don't let hot horses talk you into thinking they are untouchable.
- The slower you go, the more leg you need (in relation to collecting the trot).
- Your rein is like a child, you have one on each side... don't drop your (left) child!
- Equal hands, equal legs.
- Don't throw away the contact. Feel like the bit will fall out of his mouth



Karen Skvarla Fund Grant recipient,  
Sydni Nusink

Photo credit: Impulsion Images

if you don't hold it steady in there.

- Just because you have gotten some good transitions, don't take that for granted and think it's just going to happen. Ride!"

– Sydni Nusink

## Special Note Received from a Grant Recipient's Student

"Brianna Zwilling, recipient of your Major Lindgren Grant for Instructors, is my trainer and I'm sending my own gratitude for your support of this amazing professional! Brianna has incredible skills, talents, insights,

and work ethic – all which helped maximize the training experience for herself, the horses she trains and the students she teaches. You touched many lives by touching this one. Well done!!"

– Sally Roos Miller



# Weeklong Training Leads to Riding Breakthroughs

## *Gifted Fund Grants help adult amateurs*

### Patty Keim (OH)

My partner of nine years is Java Joe, a 15-year-old half Percheron/ half Thoroughbred affectionately nicknamed Hunka Chunka (since he's a big guy at 17.2 and about 1600lbs).

Thanks to the Gifted Fund grant, I spent a week training in May and was so excited to be on vacation from work and spend every day on the farm. I took daily lessons, did lunge lessons to work on my seat, audited training rides and I videoed as much as I could.

I was thrilled to be able to audit a training ride where Betsy Rebar Sell, owner of Shade Tree Farm, agreed to school Java. My trainer sat with me and we talked about the entire ride from exercises in warm up to finishing up with full pirouette work. I took video clips on my iPad so that I could see (and replay later) the quality of the gaits, the exercises she did to achieve them and the execution of various movements.

The "ah-ha" moment for me was how patient Betsy was with Java and how she never settled for less than what she was asking for. Until she achieved the quality of the gait she was in, she did not try to do anything with it - no half passes, no flying lead changes, no pirouettes. Near the end of the ride, when the quality of the gait was there with some consistency, she did a series of movements for me to watch and video. It was quite

stunning to watch what my Java Joe could achieve when he had the "perfect" canter.

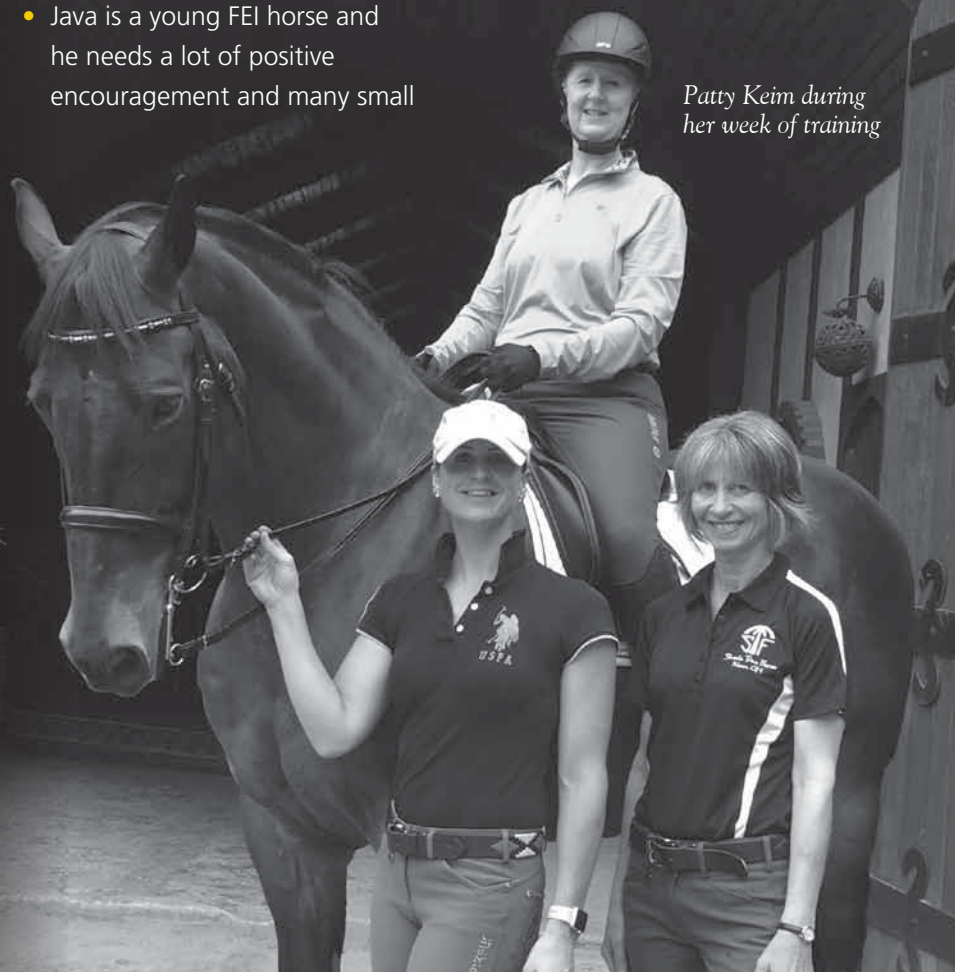
I walked away with these key learnings from my week of training:

- I'll probably be seeking the "perfect" canter for the rest of my riding days. When you find it, you want more! When you lose it, you want it back! With it, you can do any movement well and it's an amazing feeling.
- Foundational things like straightness, throughness, suppleness and self-carriage are the keys to the kingdom.
- Java is a young FEI horse and he needs a lot of positive encouragement and many small

breaks during our training sessions. He is building strength in every session so that he can better carry himself.

- I should appreciate what I have more than I do sometimes. I have an amazing partner in Java Joe and I am more grateful for him than ever. He tries hard for me and that's all I should be asking – I'm very lucky to be his Mom.

Finally, I want to thank The Dressage Foundation's Gifted Fund Committee, Carol Lavell and all donors who make this grant possible for Adult Amateurs like me.



*Patty Keim during her week of training*



# Weeklong Training Leads to Riding Breakthroughs

## *Gifted Fund Grants help adult amateurs* (continued)

### Aneesa Romans (PA)

My training plans changed when the horse I originally intended to ride during my Gifted grant training time was sold. But I started leasing a different horse this spring and I was thrilled that TDF graciously allowed me to use the grant to build a partnership with him. JD is a handsome, easy-going, dark brown 9-year-old Swedish gelding with solid training through Third Level. I competed at Third Level a couple times last summer but hadn't kept up with it over the winter, so I knew my timing and feel for the level would need a major tune up.

Lessons began with my trainer, Ange, with a focus on my seat and position. I had a lunge lesson on Ange's awesome horse, Harry. He has big, active gaits and it was a challenge to stay open in my hips so all that power could travel through his whole topline. I did a series of exercises to get control (or at least awareness) of my wayward hips and shoulders. Ange keyed in on a problem of collapsing at the waist, especially to the left, making my left leg ineffective as a bending aid. It was also apparent that my elbows had gone rogue and liked to flap



*Aneesa Romans working on the lunge line*

about instead of maintaining their dignified position above my hips. Luckily, Ange had a surefire way to address that. Soft foam balls tucked between my torso and upper arms, and the mandate of providing baked goods anytime one fell out.

In my next lesson I rode tall in the waist and JD's quieter connection made it clear that he appreciated the steadier elbows as well. We rode through different exercises with an eye toward which ones might carry over to a show

warm-up routine. The idea is to select the type of work that, based on JD's response, produces relaxation, improves the quality of the gaits and prepares him for specific test movements without over-taxing his (or my) stamina. Also known as, "don't leave your best horse in the warm-up."

The overall improvement in our communication throughout the week was very rewarding. It confirmed that we had met my goal of laying the foundation for a successful partnership. I now feel comfortable with our skills as a team and I can move forward with setting realistic, achievable goals for show season.

Also, the extra time with JD before and after lessons gave him a chance to patiently teach me very important lessons such as the exact location and pressure for optimal wither scratches, the best spots for hand grazing, that mints are better than sugar cubes, and that he is pretty sure I mean *let's go snack around the fields* when I say let's go hack. We're still sorting that last one out, but JD and I do agree on a big "thank you" to The Dressage Foundation for this wonderful opportunity!

*Visit [www.dressagefoundation.org](http://www.dressagefoundation.org), click on "Grants and Programs" then "Our Stories" to read more grant recipient stories like these!*





# More Than Just 100

## *An instructor's perspective*

*By Jess Riley, Instructor for Century Club Team #325, Sandra Fels-Barton and Sterling Diamond*

"There is something about the outside of a horse that is good for the inside of a man." – *Winston Churchill*

Those of us who have been afflicted with this equine obsession/compulsion/addiction totally "get" Winston Churchill's famous statement. It is simply part of us. We don't outgrow it. We don't ever stop needing it. What then happens when we grow older and more frail? Do we just stop needing this connection to our equine friends? Of course not! We don't ever stop. We join the Century Club!

As a dressage trainer I have the privilege of working with and learning from all sorts of students. There are the young enthusiastic kids that make you smile because they are so excited to just ride a horse. They could care less if they're actually in control of the horse, and the idea of teaching something like "on the bit" would be laughable. There are the many adult amateur ladies who, on the other hand, are so determined to ride their horse on the bit that they need to be reminded that

this is supposed to be fun. These riders make you smile when they achieve such things.

While I benefit from working with each and every student, it's the older riders who teach me the most. One of my favorite students is Sandra Fels-Barton, who is 83 and a lifelong rider. She generally rides for about 20 minutes: walk, trot, maybe a little canter or some leg yielding now and then. We had a good laugh the day her horse, Tam, decided to be difficult and threw a pretty good buck when he was told to trot. Yes, Sandra can still stick a buck!

The perspective of these older riders

is what I most admire and enjoy. They have been the careless child exhilarated by their first fast canter. They have been the frustrated rider who finally rides on the bit AND in shoulder-in at the same time. In their final years of riding they are again just happy to be on the horse. If today the shoulder-in eludes them, it's okay. They have perspective. Every day they get to be on a horse is a victory.

The Dressage Foundation has created such a wonderful program in the Century Club. We not only have a great milestone to celebrate these horse-and-rider teams, we are reminded to celebrate our love of the sport.



*Jess Riley (right) with Sandra Fels-Barton and Sterling Diamond*

*Thanks to Platinum Performance and all the Century Club sponsors for their generous support!*

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# TDF's Grants and Programs

## *Building U.S. Dressage Through Your Generosity*

Thanks to the generous support of many donors, who donate gifts both large and small, the following grants and programs are offered each year.

### EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

- Violet Hopkins Fund for GMO Events
- Maryal and Charlie Barnett Fund for Instructors
- Dancing Horse Fund for Freestyle Events
- Edgar Hotz Fund for Judges' Education
- Linda Acheson Fund for events in Oregon
- Sally Swift Fund for Centered Riding clinics
- Michael Poulin Dressage Fund

### YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS

- Young Rider International Dream Program
- Cynthia Aspden Fund for Youth and Young Adults
- Karen Skvarla Fund for Young Professionals
- Spanish Riding School Heldenberg Training Center Fund
- Carolyn Van Cise Fund for Michigan Residents
- Gerhard Politz Instructor Fund for Young Adults

- Jack Fritz Grants for the YR Graduate Program

### HIGH PERFORMANCE TEAMS

- \$25,000 Carol Lavell Advanced Dressage Prize
- \$25,000 Anne B. Ramsay Grant for U.S.- Bred Horses
- Festival of Champions Patsy Albers Award

### ADULT AMATEURS

- Gifted Memorial Fund Grants for concentrated training
- Spanish Riding School Heldenberg Training Center Fund
- Evie Tumlin Fund Grants for Region 9 Riders

### INSTRUCTORS

- Maryal and Charlie Barnett Fund for Instructors
- Karen Skvarla Fund for Young Professionals
- Major Lindgren Instructor Education Grants
- Region 9 Teaching Excellence Award

- Trip Harting Fund for Pony Club Members
- Gerhard Politz Instructor Fund for Young Adults

### JUDGES

- Shannon Foundation Fund for Judges' Licensing
- Karen Skvarla Fund for Young Professionals
- Trip Harting Fund for Pony Club Members

### SHOW MANAGEMENT

- Lloyd Landkamer Show Management Development Fund

### DRESSAGE TECHNICAL DELEGATES

- Veronica Holt Dressage Technical Delegate Fund

### BREEDERS

- U.S. Breeders Excellence Fund

### CENTURY CLUB

- Recognizing the senior riders and horses in our sport

## NEW in 2018 – TDF's PARA-EQUESTRIAN DRESSAGE FUND

We are pleased to share that our Board of Directors has developed the Para-Equestrian Dressage Fund through a gift from the Lowell Boomer Family Charitable Remainder Unitrust. Grants will be available for para-dressage riders to attend educational events such as clinics/seminars at the USEF/USPEA Centers of Excellence, lessons with a trainer of choice or other educational opportunities

that will enable the rider to improve and reach his/her goals. We will continue fundraising efforts to ensure that grants for Para-Dressage riders are available perpetually.

*Applications are now being accepted and are due on or before November 1st. Visit [www.dressagefoundation.org](http://www.dressagefoundation.org) for more information.*



# Making a Difference After I'm Gone

*A gift for the future of our sport*

By Cyndi Craig

I have been an avid student of dressage since the early 1980s. I discovered dressage when I got back into horses after college and have been taking dressage instruction and competing ever since. In the early years, it was mostly the blind leading the blind, as there were very few people who knew much about dressage back then. Decades later, I am tickled and amazed at both the number and quality of instructors, the increase of competition at upper levels and the quality of riding I see now.

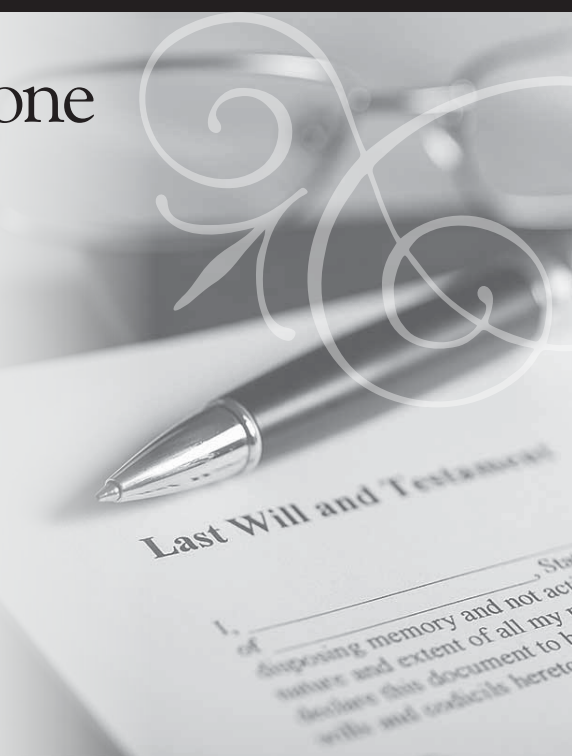
These advances are not possible without education. And that is where The Dressage Foundation comes in.

I received the Gifted Grant for amateurs in 2010 for which I will always be grateful. In addition to the funding

to underwrite some serious instruction, it was also an acknowledgement that my dreams and goals mattered. That amateurs, with no goals other than that of the pure joy of learning to be better partners with our horses, are a valid part of the dressage community.

Because I believe in The Dressage Foundation's mission of education for everyone – Olympic hopefuls and amateurs alike, I started donating a small amount monthly, which is drafted from my bank account. And, when it came time to update my Will, I wanted The Dressage Foundation to be a beneficiary. I may not be able to donate huge amounts in my lifetime, but my assets could make a real difference after I am gone.

I have The Dressage Foundation listed as a beneficiary of my 401K and



also have left them some real estate in my Will. To convey property according to your wishes after your death and avoid going through probate, make sure each bank or investment account has a person or a charity designated as a beneficiary of the account. You can bequeath all the funds to a single person or charity, or designate a percentage divided to go to different entities. And you can change the percentages, or the beneficiaries, any time you would like.

Although American dressage has advanced leaps and bounds in the last few decades, each generation needs its own mentors, educators and competitors. And we need money to invest in those people who will continue to educate, inspire and improve American dressage for us all.

Please consider helping further The Dressage Foundation's mission by including them in your estate planning.



Cyndi and Fling

Photo credit: Yellow Dog Photography





# Give Today for a Lasting Impact

## *Gifts that are good for you and dressage*

The stories you've read in this newsletter have been possible because of many gifts received throughout the years – both big and small. Some gifts have taken some planning, and some have been given in a more “outright” way, as gifts of cash or stock.

Here are a couple giving ideas for you to consider as we enter the end of the year. Your gift this year will help more riders reach and exceed their goals, strengthening our dressage community!

### IRA Charitable Rollover

Are you over the age of 70 ½ with a required minimum distribution from your IRA? The IRA charitable rollover will allow you to make a tax-free charitable gift of up to \$100,000 per year directly from your IRA to an eligible charity such as The Dressage Foundation.

The funds must be transferred by your plan administrator directly to The Dressage Foundation in order to qualify. Doing so may allow you to exclude the distribution from your taxable income and will be a great gift for dressage!

### Donations of Appreciated Stock

How would you like to avoid capital gains taxes, receive an income tax deduction and help the sport you love? If you have stock that you've owned for more than a year, if it has increased in value and you itemize deductions, donating stock can be better than donating cash!

We'd be happy to provide your broker with instructions on donating stock to TDF. Have them call Jenny Johnson, Executive Director, at (402) 434-8585.

*TDF encourages you to contact your attorney and/or financial planner for legal, financial and tax advice regarding these types of gifts.*

## *Leave a Legacy for the Sport You Love*

**Is The Dressage Foundation named in your Will?** Please let us know, even if you wish to remain publicly anonymous, so we can thank you personally and speak with you about your wishes for the gift.

If you have not yet included TDF in your plans but would like more information about leaving a gift in your Will or estate plan, contact us for more information.

### **Your gift will inspire and encourage others!**

- ☐ I have named The Dressage Foundation in my Will or financial plan.
- ☐ I would like information on how to leave a gift to The Dressage Foundation.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I prefer to be contacted by: ☐ Phone ☐ Mail ☐ Email

*Or contact Jenny Johnson, Executive Director, at (402) 434-8585 or [jenny@dressagefoundation.org](mailto:jenny@dressagefoundation.org).*



## Our Volunteers: Vital and Valued

From our Board of Directors to Grant Committees and our State Representatives, nearly 150 individuals volunteer for TDF and provide guidance and support for all that we do. They make both the quantity and quality of our work possible!

### TDF State Reps – They're in your neighborhood

Several years ago, our dear friend and Board member, Judith Noone, recognized the need for TDF to have a larger presence in dressage communities across the country. She developed the TDF State Rep program in 2013 and enlisted the help of volunteers from nearly every state to spread the word about TDF's grants and programs.

Across the country, these important volunteers can answer your questions and provide you with information about TDF. To find your State Rep, visit [www.dressagefoundation.org](http://www.dressagefoundation.org) and click on "Who We Are."

Although Judith passed away earlier this year, we hope that her legacy of service to U.S. dressage continues through TDF's State Representative program!



State Rep Kathryn Butt shared TDF's info at a recent event for South Carolina junior riders



Photo credit: Ayala Pavia

Ready to become  
part of something big?  
TDF's Sustaining  
Partner Program  
allows you to make  
a difference for the  
sport you love.  
Every single month.

Become a Sustaining Partner to easily support U.S. dressage – at all levels! Set up an automatic monthly donation, in an amount you choose, to directly support grants and programs that help educate thousands of equestrians each year.

[www.dressagefoundation.org/make-it-monthly](http://www.dressagefoundation.org/make-it-monthly)





# TDF's Book of Memory

*Honoring dressage friends, past and present*

TDF's Book of Memory is a way for you to remember dressage enthusiasts who have passed away, to honor living dressage friends, or to give special recognition to retired or deceased horses. A donation to the Book of Memory will provide a lasting tribute to your devoted dressage friends.

**The following individuals and horses have been added to the Book of Memory since September 2017.**

*The name of the individual being honored appears in bold italic type; donors' names appear below it in regular type.*

## In Honor of Living Dressage Friends

### ***Beth Baumert***

Pierre Pirard

### ***Annie Morris***

Pierre Pirard

### ***Eliza Romm***

Emme Johnston

### ***Lyn Rosen***

Fern Feldman

## In Memory of Dressage Enthusiasts

### ***Jim Eldridge***

Cathy Alexander

### ***Dr. Jorge Gomez***

Barbara O'Kelly

### ***Crystal Lee***

Elizabeth Smith

### ***Judith Noone***

David Beland – Beland Stables

Kathleen Bisaro

Todd and Rebecca Bryan

Roberta Carleton

Sally Davenport

Heritage Dressage Association

Michelle King

Carolyn Marsh

Alice Martin

Katherine Miller

Melissa O'Donal

Melanie Palmer

Doreen Quintiliani

Dianne Georgian-Smith and Emily Smith

Sally Seaver

Jeffrey Starr

### ***Peter Rosow***

Sharon Curran

### ***Sue Thome***

Julia Houle

Midwest Dressage Association

Michael Thome

### ***Carolyn Van Cise***

Jane Hutchins

### ***Susan Woods***

Alpha Dressage Association

## In Special Memory of our Equine Friends

### ***Cody, owned by Debra Epard***

Lyn Christie

Gilan Hanagan

Cat Harasewych

Beverly Parks

Barbara Rellahan

Judy Seeherman

### ***Remy***

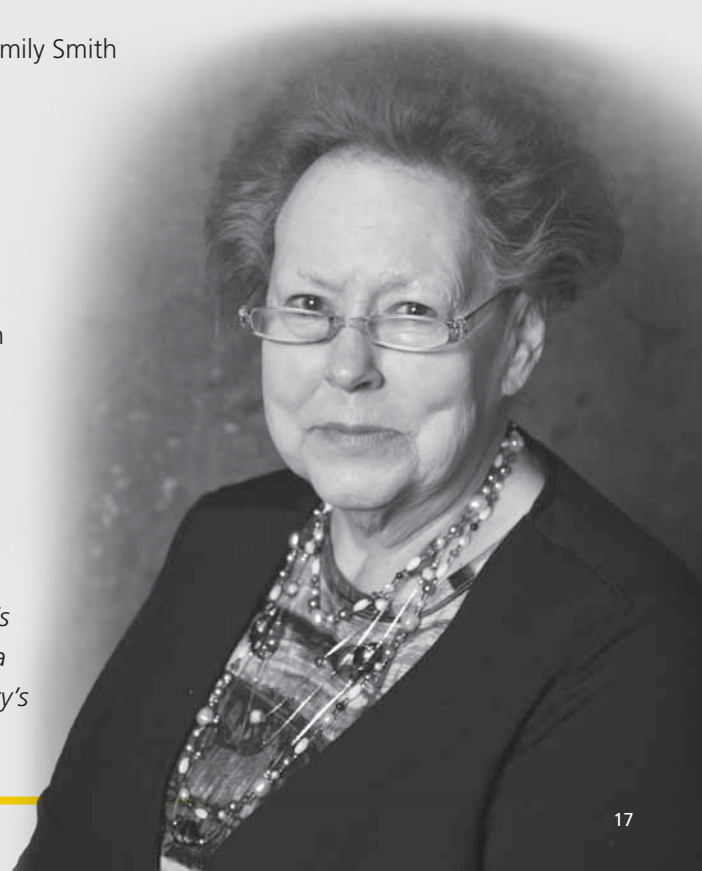
June Hooks

### ***Kaliber***

Benjamin Redditt

*We invite you to visit our online Book of Memory for names of all those who have been honored through the years. It can be viewed at [www.dressagefoundation.org](http://www.dressagefoundation.org). Click on "Support" then "Book of Memory."*

*Judith Noone (pictured) was a member of TDF's Board of Directors since the beginning. She was a powerful driving force behind many of our country's best dressage initiatives and is greatly missed.*







# We Thank The Dressage Foundation's Donors

*Gifts received from September 1, 2017 to August 31, 2018*

## **\$10,000 +**

Anonymous  
Carol Lavell/Gordon and  
May Cadwgan  
Foundation  
OD Fisher Charitable Fund  
/ Dreitzler Family

## **\$5,000 - \$9,999**

Goldman Sachs Matching  
Gift Program  
Martin and Toni Sosnoff  
Foundation

## **\$2,500-\$4,999**

Maryl Barnett  
Maryl Barnett's Facebook  
Fundraiser  
Karl and Eileen Baumert  
Bess Bruton  
Brenda Curnin  
Platinum Performance

## **\$1,000-2,499**

Dr. Rod, Debbie and  
Heidi Basler  
Beth Baumert  
Gardy Bloemers  
Jane Bunting-Sage  
Ralph and Freddie Dreitzler  
Margaret Duprey –  
Cherry Knoll Farm  
Candace Faber  
Georgia Dressage and CTA  
Sarah Graham –  
Refugio Road Ranch  
Lendon Gray  
Nancy Hutson and  
Ian Williams  
Lincoln Community  
Foundation  
Jane MacElree  
Michael Matson \*  
Tuny Page  
Bob and Diane Perry  
Gerhard Politz  
Rennoc Corporation  
Foundation

Anne Sushko \*  
Amy and Andrew Thalacker  
Meredith Watters  
Lisa Wilcox\*

## **\$500-\$999**

Todd and Allyson Aldrich  
Austin Dressage Unlimited  
JoAnne Balling  
David Beland –  
Beland Stables  
Lisa Marie Bishop  
Ralph Conner \*  
Sharon Curran  
Barbara Doherty  
Priscilla Endicott  
Fern Feldman  
Lori and Carl Fisher  
Frederick Flemming  
Meg Flemming and  
Gail Lewis  
Lynn and Race Foster  
Richard Freeman  
Tom and Linda Freeman –  
Grand Paradise Ranch  
David and Diane Fucinaro  
Jane Hutchins  
Caroline Jacob  
Roxanne Jewell  
Jenny Johnson \*  
Nancy Johnston  
Kevin and Janet Keller  
Michelle King \*  
Janine Malone  
Sue McKeown  
Carin Mei \*  
Michelle Paris  
Julia Peterson  
Pierre Pirard  
Rebecca Reno  
RevitaVet \*  
Rocky Mountain  
Dressage Society  
Lyn Rosen  
Gretchen Schmidt

Ryan and Katie Shumacher  
Diane Skvarla \*  
Anne Sushko's Facebook  
Fundraiser  
Ken Van Cise

## **\$250-\$499**

Alamo Dressage  
Association  
Jill Asplundh-Kosek  
Ruth Babcock  
Kathleen Bisaro  
Becky Brown \*  
Joseph Carr  
CenterLine Dressage  
Robert and Jean Clements  
Judy Ethell-Glatz  
Eva Lynn Finlon \*  
Laura Freeman  
Jane Fucinaro's Facebook  
Fundraiser  
Doris Gahwyler  
Sherry Guess  
Rebecca and Brian Hafner\*  
Stacey Hastings \*  
Theresa Hunt \*  
Mariye Inouye  
Kentucky Dressage  
Association  
PJ Koehler \*  
Midwest Dressage  
Association  
Debbie Moloznik  
Michelle Morehead  
New England Dressage  
Association  
Northern Ohio Dressage  
Association  
Ali Perkins' Facebook  
Fundraiser  
Heather Petersen  
Nan Phipps  
Annette Pressas \*  
Lisa Roskens  
Peter Rosow  
Sabine Schut-Kery

Elizabeth Smith \*  
Emily Smith  
Denise Sobering  
Charles and Leslie  
Sponberg  
Christine Standish  
Joan Sussman  
Michael Thome  
Helen Vandervoort  
Zacharie and Louis Vinios  
Anne Wallis \*

## **\$5-\$249**

Absorbine  
Eva-Maria Adolphi  
Carol Ahlf  
Alaska Dressage  
Association  
Cathy Alexander  
Lisa Alexander  
All State Insurance  
Alpha Dressage  
Association  
AmazonSmile  
Tracy Ambrico  
Leslie Anderson  
Carol Angle  
Lynda Angstadt  
Arlington E-Supplements  
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Janet Beckers  
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Susan Bender  
Sharon Berkshire  
Paul Bird  
Debra Bishop \*  
Cayce Black  
Peggy Blair  
Kristi Bloom

Carlene Blunt  
Rowena Blythe  
Roxanne Bok  
Suzanne Border  
Angela Brady  
Mary Brady  
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Julianne Brock  
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Todd and Rebecca Bryan  
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Barbara Cadwell \*  
Marilyn Cantey  
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Carlisle Academy  
Jenny Carol  
Megan Carr  
Martha Carter  
Teresa Castanias  
Milda Castner  
Janet Chisholm  
Carolyn Christie  
Terry Ciotti Gallo  
Gabrielle Claridge  
Joan Clay  
Hilary Clayton  
Julie Count  
Cecilia Cox  
Mary Craft  
Cyndi Craig \*  
Ruth Crennell  
Regina Cristo  
Elizabeth Crosby  
Sally Davenport  
Susan Day  
Dazzling Dressage Designs  
Fran Dearing-Kehr \*  
Debbie DelGiorno  
Jennifer Delmer  
Elise DePapp \*  
Alexa Derr  
Linda Deyo  
Arlyn Diamond



# We Thank The Dressage Foundation's Donors

*Gifts received from September 1, 2017 to August 31, 2018 (continued)*

Doc's Designs	Michelle Heitman	Lynda LeCrone	Paula Popilock	Tommy Steyer
Jeanne Doll-Peyron	Viktoria Herson	Lehigh Valley Dressage Association	Doreen Quintilliani	Libby Stokes
Donna Donaghy	Darby Hewes	Jance Lentz Hatch	Tracy Ramey	Jon Stromberg
Louise Duda *	High Plains Chapter RMDs	Katherine Lewis	Makenzie Rath	Theodore and Judith Sunder
Kimberly Dunlap	Claire Hodges	Marianne Ludwig	Jessica Rattner *	Isabel Surrey-Saylor
Lisa El-Ramey	Lindsay Hofman	Sara MacGowan	Benjamin Redditt	Clay and Carol Teske
Cean Embrey	June Hooks	Carol Machulski	Susan Reed	The Burlap Pony
Brandon Evans	Julia Houle	Carolyn Marsh	Barbara Rellahan	Kaley Tomsic
Carey Evans	Melissa Hovey	Alice Martin	Marchella Richardson *	Trafalgar Square Books
FarmVet	Ami Howard	Sarah Martin *	Mona Ridgway	Nancy Trait-Lira
Thomas Faylor	Judith Huddleston	Marsha Mason *	John Rodenburg	Philip Travaline
Sandra Fels-Barton	Jeanne Ilvento	Mary and Caroline McConnell	Josephine Rodgers	Utah Dressage Society
Michael Fisher-Sandler	David and Suzanne Irons	Heather McCullough	Elizabeth Rohde	Marilyn Vail
FITS	Nancy Isaacson	Michael and Stacie McManus	Leslie Rohrer	Julie Van Horn
John and Karen FitzGerald	Angela Jackson	Patricia McVary	Felice Rose	Laureen Van Norman
Howard and Barbara Fleming	Susan Jacobs	Abigail Melchior	Nancy Rosen	Carolyn VandenBerg
Lillian Floyd	Jason's Deli	Katherine Miller	Yvonne Ross	Virginia Dressage Association – Northern Chapter
Forever Forks	Emme Johnston	Jennifer Mingari	Paddy Rossbach	Sonja Vracko
Margaret Freeman	Jennifer Jones	Pamela Molyneux	Brenda Roth	Katherine Walmer
French Creek Equestrian Association	Marion Julier	Carol Mundschenk	Kathy Rowse	Melissa Ward
Jane Fucinaro-Gollin *	Kansas Dressage and Eventing	Connie Napier	Holly Rutland	JoAnn Weisenford
Eileen Fuller	Katsman Family	Nebraska Dressage Association	Riitta Saada	Amanda Wilgenburg
Susan Gaebel	Amy Kavan - Norwex	NEDA Membership Drive	Denise Sarnoff	Krystal Wilt's Facebook Fundraiser
Arlene Gaitan	Jennifer Keller	Beth Nicholson	Ruth Schindler	John Wood
Elizabeth Gambée-Osborne	Sharyl Kidd	Rosalie Nitzsche	Teresa Schlesinger-Parker	Ann Yellott
Irene Gimbel	Harriet Kiehl	Judy Nordstrom *	Marilyn Schroer	Anne Zahradnik
Martha Goodney	Laura Joyce King	Melissa O'Donal	Michael Schultz	Marek Zaluski
Radene Gordon-Beck	Roz Kinstler	Deborah O'Keefe	Sally Seaver	Holly Zickler
Grand Valley Dressage Society	Jerry Kleffman	Barbara O'Kelly	Judy Seeherman	
Judith Grass	Kathleen Knappitsch *	Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo	Susan Shebelsky	
Sandy Grossi	Jennifer Koch	Lara Osborne	Jennifer Shepherd	
Suzanne Hall	Eldon Kordes	Melanie Palmer	Susan Shiels	
Gilan Hanagan	Kathryn Kostenbader *	Yoel and Meredith Palomino	Esther Siegel	
Susan Hancock	Kate Kouba	Beverly Parks	Judith Simms	
Dolly Hannon *	Nancy Krial	Ashley Parsons	Lauren Simons	
Jane Hansen	Anne Kuhns	Melissa Peck	Lillian Simons	
Kristin and Christopher Hansen	Anne Kulak	Jean Pecor	Sharon Skvarla *	
Cat Harasewych	Susan Lang	Nancy Perkins	Jann Smith	
Deborah Harper-Bono	Elizabeth and Rebecca Langwost	Sophie Pirie	Carol Spicknall	
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Lila Heiney-Duncan	Julie Lawson		Jeffrey Starr	
	Lazlo's and Emyprean Brewing		Gretchen Stearns	
			Fran Steinwedell	
			Charli Ann Stevens and Walter Geil	

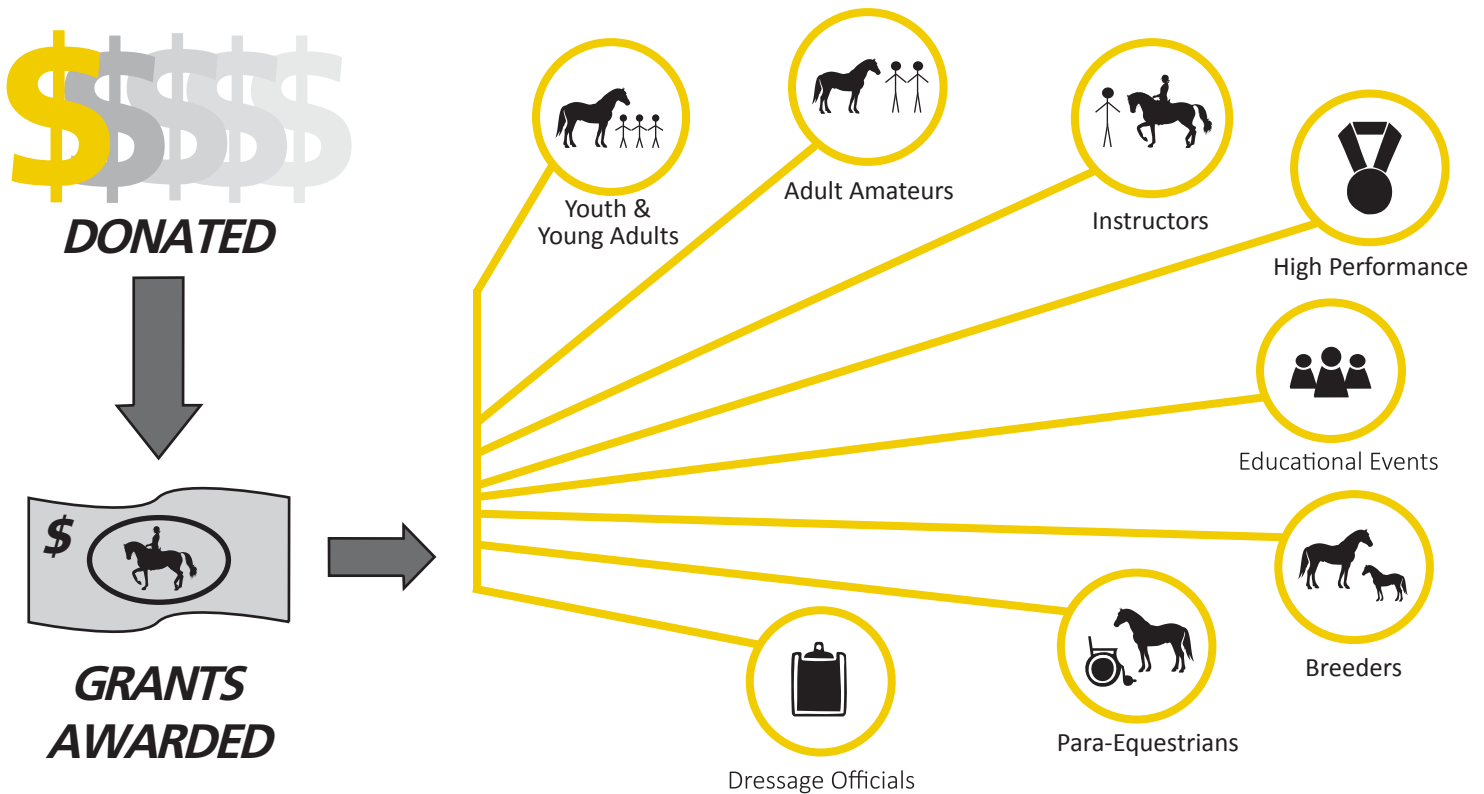
*\* Denotes TDF Sustaining Partners who give monthly*

We have tried diligently to "get things right," but if your name should be on our list or is misspelled, please contact us so that we can make things right. Thank you!



The  
**DRESSAGE FOUNDATION**

## HOW YOUR DONATION HELPED U.S. DRESSAGE THIS YEAR



**\$  
175K**

Total Awarded

**98**

Individual Grant  
Recipients

**36**

Dressage Group  
Recipients

**34**

Number of States  
Impacted

**1,124**

People Who Attended  
TDF Events

**ONE DRESSAGE COMMUNITY**  
raising the bar in our sport across the country

Continuous improvement and growth of dressage.  
All ages. All levels. Every aspect of our sport.