

RENEE ISLER HELPS YOUNG RIDERS WITH NEW FUND AT THE DRESSAGE FOUNDATION

Renee Isler (MA) has been providing financial help to Young Riders for some time, and now establishes the "Renee Isler Dressage Support Fund" at The Dressage Foundation. One of its primary purposes is to help Young Rider applicants to the USDF FEI Jr/YR Clinics, who are in need of a financial boost in order to attend, if qualified and accepted.

Renee's new Fund has designated up to nine grants of \$800 each, one for each of the nine USDF Regions, or a total of \$7200 in annual funding for this purpose. USDF Participating Youth Members between the ages of 14-21 are eligible to apply for this outstanding Clinic Series, with priority given to those riders currently at Third Level or above.

Sue Blinks, Kathy Connelly, George Williams and Jan Ebeling are the instructors. Details of this program and how to apply can be found at www.usdf.org.

The Dressage Foundation has provided a \$25,000 grant annually for each of the past five years, or a total investment of \$125,000, to help make the program possible. And, now Renee Isler steps forward with additional funding to support those Young Riders who need some financial help in order to apply and participate. We are proud and thankful to Renee for putting her funds in place for such a good cause.

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For more information about
The Dressage Foundation contact



THE DRESSAGE FOUNDATION
Wells Fargo Center, Suite 732
1248 'O' Street, Lincoln, NE 68508
Telephone: 402/434-8585 Fax: 402/436-3053
Email: lendon@dressagefoundation.org
Website: www.dressagefoundation.org

THE RENEE ISLER DRESSAGE SUPPORT FUND

...established to help Young Riders
who need a Financial Boost



Renee Isler with her Fourth Level schoolmaster, "River."

PHOTO COURTESY OF BRIGITTE VOELK.



THE RENEE ISLER DRESSAGE SUPPORT FUND

Renee Isler is an active adult amateur competitor. She has been training and competing in the discipline of Dressage for the past eight years. While a young girl, Renee would work at various barns in exchange for lessons. She bought her first horse when she was twenty but gave up the horse world to complete her education.

Renee worked at her first startup company at the age of 18. This company was purchased by Hewlett Packard. Renee used their tuition reimbursement program to finish school while continuing to work full-time. She graduated from Northeastern University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Computer Engineering. Renee continued her professional development by working at various startups. She has had a successful career in which she started as an engineer and moved up to VP Product Marketing.

Renee currently has three wonderful horses in her “stable”:

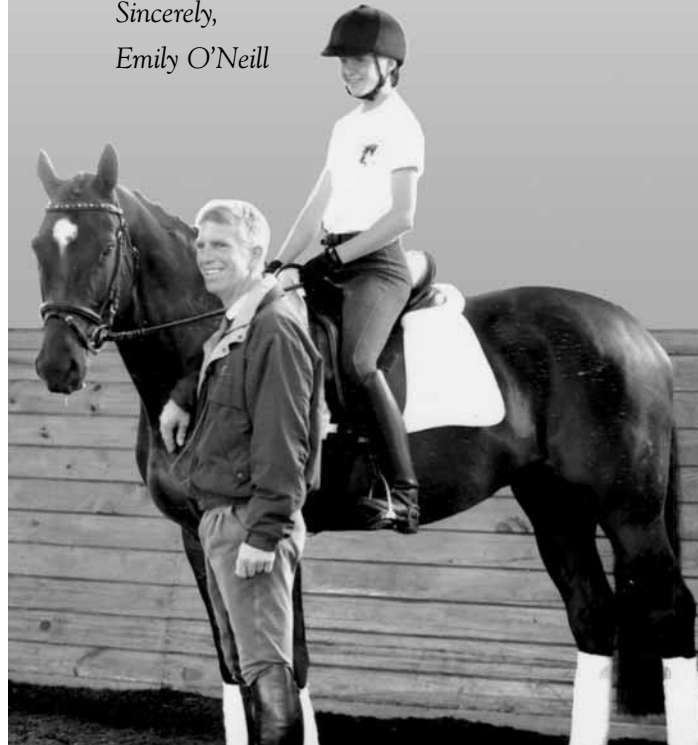
- ~ BlueGrass Bear is a 15 year old Thoroughbred whom Renee has owned for 8 years.
- ~ River is a 19 year old Hanoverian Schoolmaster whom Renee purchased from Kathy Connelly five years ago.
- ~ Tokyo is an 8 year old Dutch Warmblood gelding with great potential.

Renee’s main focus is to continue to ride and learn so that she can reach her ultimate goal of competing Tokyo in the Grand Prix ring.

Thanks From our First Recipient

*“Dear Members of The Dressage Foundation,
I write to you in utmost gratitude for granting me the opportunity to participate in the Jr/YR Clinic Series with George Williams. It was an amazing weekend- educational, inspirational and truly a blast! It is a wonderful organization you all run and we are so fortunate as riders and dressage enthusiasts to be able to take advantage of such opportunities. I certainly would not have been able to do it with out the help from the Foundation.”*

*Sincerely,
Emily O’Neill*



The reasons for which I am establishing this Fund are based on my own journey through the horse world. When one grows up without an abundance of extra money and has a passion and a talent for riding, the road can be a difficult one. I would like to be in the position to provide assistance to those in similar positions.

My goal for this sponsorship is to assist Jr/Yrs to meet and reach their dreams. The main focus would be on those that need financial support. Growing up financially challenged doesn’t leave one with much opportunity for lessons or for a horse to ride. I believe the sport should provide more support for young riders trying to enter the dressage world, as there is a lot of work and integrity in the sport itself.

The sport of Dressage is about learning, working and volunteering to really get where you want. I do not feel that it should be about how expensive the horse is that you are riding or about being limited in your opportunities for learning due to factors beyond your control.

I have personally supported riders, Lou Denizard and Courtney King, for those same reasons; the work ethic and the belief that talented riders should be given the chance to succeed. This is what I believe the sport is all about.

Renee Isler

Renee Isler