

Carolyn Van Cise Memorial Sportsmanship Grant – Updated 1/2018

Carolyn Van Cise Memorial Sportsmanship Grant will be awarded annually to a rider age 25 or under who best exemplifies the qualities that Carolyn found most important in life including exhibiting the characteristics that demonstrate positive sportsmanship principles. Recipients of this grant will receive \$500 which can be used to cover the recipient's personal expenses associated with attending a specific educational dressage or eventing event of their choice.

Requirements

1. Current Michigan resident (and a U.S. Citizen or permanent U.S. resident who holds a Green Card) who is 25 or under as of December 1 of the current year.
2. Active membership in good standing with a Michigan dressage or eventing organization recognized by USEF or USDF (for example - All Dressage Association, Midwest Dressage Association, GLASS-ED, or TEAM). Must have been an active GMO Member for at least 6 months before applying.
3. Applicant must complete his/her own application
4. Spelling and grammar count!
5. Application must state a specific educational event/program for which the grant is being requested. Programs for which the funding is requested must have a stated objective, must be for the specific purpose of advancing the rider's skills and must have clear beginning and ending dates. The event must occur between March 1st of the year in which you apply and March of the year following the application deadline (i.e., an application submitted 2/10/17 must be for an event occurring between 3/1/17 and 3/31/18). Must be a U.S. Citizen, active GMO Member for at least 6 months before applying.
6. Funding cannot be used for competition entries, vet and/or farrier expenses, or the purchase of a horse or equipment. Funding must be used for the event/training specified in the grant application.
7. All forms and documents including those from references must be included with the application.
8. A rider may not receive the grant in consecutive years.
9. The committee reserves the right to not award a grant in any given year if they determine that no candidate has met the criteria. Funds would then be held until the following year. The applications and discussions of the selection committee are confidential and their decisions are final.
10. The recipient is required to submit a written report and final expense summary to The Dressage Foundation within 2 months following the training event in a form satisfactory to The Dressage Foundation.

11. If the grant recipient is unable to attend the specified event/training, The Dressage Foundation must be notified as soon as possible. Approval for a change in the use of funds is at the discretion of The Dressage Foundation and the grant Selection Committee.

12. Classical dressage and Western dressage applicants will be considered.

Qualifications

1. Exhibits characteristics that embody positive sportsmanship principles.
2. Shows genuine concern for the health and welfare of their mount and takes an active role in their care and training.
3. Shows kindness for fellow riders being fair, courteous, considerate and generous to others while recognizing the achievements of others and exhibiting humility if you are defeated.
4. Exhibits respect for fellow riders, officials, trainers, and horses.
5. Demonstrates a commitment and dedication to advancing up the training scale in their sport through proper training.
6. Demonstrates the judgment to set worthy goals while attempting difficult things that are worthwhile.
7. Knows the rules of the sport and abides by them.
8. Displays dedication to their academic education.
9. Participates at any level of competition including local, regional and national.

Timeline

1. Applications are available on The Dressage Foundation's website, www.dressagefoundation.org.
2. Completed applications and required documentation must be submitted directly to The Dressage Foundation and be received by TDF's office on or before **February 10th**.
3. The selection committee will review and discuss the applications with a final decision being announced by the end of March. All applicants will be notified of the results.

Award

The winner will receive:

1. A grant not to exceed \$500 to be used for the educational program specified in the application. 75% of the grant will be paid prior to the event with the remaining 25% to be paid after the completion of the event and after a satisfactory written report and financial summary are sent to The Dressage Foundation.

2. Commemorative certificate suitable for framing.

Tips

- Read the instructions carefully and answer the questions fully.
- Consider the traits of good sportsmanship when completing the application.
- All references or requested information must be supplied with the application. Incomplete applications will be rejected.
- All information must be accurate and verifiable including volunteerism, membership, awards and achievements.
- Ensure that your contact information (e-mail, phone number and address) are accurate. If changes occur prior to the **beginning of March**, it is your responsibility to notify us.
- If you are selected, we will ask that you provide The Dressage Foundation with a photo that must be of high enough quality for publication.
- Spelling and grammar will count!

Letters of Reference

Three (3) signed letters of reference are required. They must be from adults over the age of 21 who are not members of your family. Letters of reference should include observations of the qualities of a good sportsman.

One letter of reference is required from each of the following:

1. Educational Professional (teacher, principal, or advisor)
2. Someone who is qualified to comment on your equine related activities (trainer, instructor, coach, etc.).
3. Someone who is outside of the equestrian community

Questions for References:

- How long have you known this person and in what capacity?
- Why would you recommend this person for the Carolyn Van Cise Memorial Sportsmanship Grant? Please include your observations of this person showing qualities of a good sportsman, hard work, and dedication.
- If you are an equine related reference, what can you tell us about this person's dedication to the care and training of their horse? If this person were to receive this grant, how might they benefit from the funds they receive?
- If you are an educational professional, what can you tell us about this person's attitude and work ethic relative to their education? Are they committed to performing to the best

of their ability at school? Are they a positive role model for other students? Have they received any academic awards?

- If you are outside the equestrian world and the education world, can you describe an example of positive influence this person has had in their community? Is this a person that you consider to be fair and courteous to others?
- Do you have anything additional you would like to share with us regarding this person?