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**The Dressage Foundation’s**

**USDF Region 9 Teaching Excellence Award**

**Application**

You can use this form to gather and save your answers, but the **online application found on our website** must be completed and received by TDF’s office on or before August 1st for your application to be considered.  Please contact us at (402) 434-8585 or info@dressagefoundation.org if you have questions.

The Region 9 Teaching Excellence Award will be presented at the Great American/USDF Region 9 Championship Dressage Show each year.

**Applicant Information:**

Name   
Address

Phone

Email

USDF Member #

Are you a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident?

Proposed use of $5,000 Award?

**General Information:**

**Your Dressage Résumé:** Provide a brief summary of your dressage experience, including training, instruction experience, professional certifications, competition records, national rankings, levels at which you are riding, and awards. (Max 500 words)

**Your Biography: Include** any horse or non-horse related background, other than listed in your résumé above, that you feel is pertinent to your dressage career. (Max 100 words)

**Your Volunteerism:** In what ways have you been involved in your local dressage community? Examples include serving on GMO Board or committee, hosting or volunteering at events, donating time/resources, and/or volunteer work. (Max 100 words)

**Your Training Philosophy:**Summarize how you approach dressage training of a horse(s). How do you approach the diversity of horses? Tell us of horses that have influenced your training and why.  (Max 500 words)

**Your Teaching Philosophy:**How do you approach teaching?  How do you approach the diversity of your students? Describe the most successful teaching experience you have had, and the least successful. Who are your teaching mentors who influenced you and why? (Max 500 words)

**Your Business Plan: If** you receive the $5,000 award, how would you use it? How would the award change your career?  How could you give back to the dressage community? (Max 250 words   
  
**Competition Scores:**

Provide a summary of your best competition record (levels and scores). (Max one page)

**Videos:**

Provide YouTube links to videos of you teaching two lessons. These videos should show riders of different skill levels. Videos should be approximately 20 minutes per lesson, with a maximum of 30 minutes per lesson. See the “Video Recommendations” document for more information.

*Optional upload –* Provide short written statements about each horse and rider. See “Video Recommendations.” (This information can also be included in the videos.)

Provide a YouTube link to a short video (five minutes or less) with an example lesson plan for one of your students. This should be you in front of the camera, describing the beginning, middle, and end of your lesson.

**Letters of Recommendation:**

Attach two letters of recommendation from your peers validating your dressage experience/qualifications, good character, and professionalism.

**Signature:**

Download and sign where indicated on the Signature Page.

 You will be notified that the application has been received within two business days. If you do not receive email confirmation (please check your spam folder!) that your application has been received, call our office at (402) 434-8585.  Additionally, if you have any questions regarding the application, feel free to contact us. After the grant selection committee has made its final decision, all applicants will be notified. Thank you!