

Application

\$25,000 CAROL LAVELL ADVANCED DRESSAGE PRIZE



Application deadline – August 31st

The purpose of the *Carol Lavell Advanced Dressage Prize*, established at The Dressage Foundation in 2005, is to provide financial assistance for coaching and training to talented, committed, qualified riders with plans to reach and excel at the elite, international standards of high performance dressage. Up to two Prizes will be available annually, in the amount of \$25,000 each, to U.S. Citizens 21 years of age or above, who are selected by a distinguished national panel of dressage leaders. Selection criteria include merit and need.

Carol Lavell has achieved high marks in all phases of dressage – an Olympian, rider, competitor, trainer, teacher, judge – and with her legendary horse, Gifted, brought pride and honor to our country through her performance on the 1992 U.S. Olympic Team. Carol knows firsthand of the work, sacrifice, and struggle necessary to make it to the top of the dressage world. Through the creation of these \$25,000 Prizes, she wants to help other deserving riders who aspire to climb this high-performance mountain.

The *Carol Lavell Advanced Dressage Prize* was initially funded by Carol Lavell, her family, and friends, in special remembrance of her mother, May Cadwgan, an in honor of her father, Gordon Cadwgan. The Carol Lavell Advanced Dressage Prize has been established as a Fund at The Dressage Foundation, which will administer and manage the Fund and its application process, procedure and distribution.

Please contact The Dressage Foundation with questions about the application.



Bob Langrish

Who should apply for the Carol Lavell Advanced Dressage Prize...

- ~ A talented, committed, qualified rider whose plan is to reach and excel at the elite, international standards of high-performance dressage.
- ~ A horse and rider team that has received scores at the FEI Levels (Prix St. Georges or above) in National or International competition.
- ~ A rider who shows merit and need.
- ~ A rider who respects horses and humans and is a model of horsemanship and sportsmanship.
- ~ A rider whose horse teammate has potential to grow and succeed at the FEI Levels.

Applicants can re-apply for the Prize each year. The Prize must be used for training and competition expenses; it cannot be used for the purchase of a horse.

How to apply...

Please type answers to the following questions

1. **Cover Sheet:** Complete and sign the Cover Sheet and include as the first page in your application.
2. **Your Dressage Résumé – History, Training, Performance:** Give a summary of your dressage history to-date. Include training, instruction, competition record, levels at which you are riding, scores, certifications, national rankings, awards, etc. Describe the horse who is your teammate for this grant. Name other horses you are currently training.
3. **Your Training Plan:** Include *what* you want to achieve, *how* you plan to get there, *who* you will train with, and by *when* (your estimated timeline). Outline your training plan from the previous two years and your plan for the coming year, including your competition plan. Also include contact information of the trainer you plan to work with.
4. **Financial:** Tell us about your financial needs and how the \$25,000 will help you achieve your goals. Give a line item budget of your plan's estimated costs based on details in #3. What current and past financial assistance/sponsorship have you received? We do not anticipate that the Prize will cover all expenses. Please indicate how you will handle the balance of the expenses.
5. **Ownership:** If you own the horse, attach proof of ownership. If you do not own the horse, provide a letter from the horse's owner indicating that you have permission to train and compete the horse as outlined in your plan.
6. **Recommendation letters:** Include recommendations letters from 2 judges (must be R or higher, preferably from one R judge, one S judge, and/or one 1/4* judge). Also include two letters of personal recommendation from dressage professionals who have high performance credentials.
7. **Video:** Provide a YouTube link of you and your horse that shows, **at minimum**, training progress made in piaffe, passage and collected canter work. Type the YouTube link on a separate sheet of paper to include as part of your application.
8. **Scores:** Include a list of scores that you have achieved with your teammate horse from the past two years, with names of judges. Must include FEI scores (Prix St. Georges or above). Scores can be from National or International competition.

Mailing Instructions: Seven (7) complete sets, including all attachments, must be received by The Dressage Foundation's office on or before August 31st. Emailed applications will not be accepted.

Mail to: The Dressage Foundation
1314 'O' Street, Suite 305
Lincoln, NE 68508

Questions? Call (402) 434-8585 or email
info@dressagefoundation.org



\$25,000 Carol Lavell Advanced Dressage Prize

Cover sheet

(Please type or print legibly)

Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Phone:

Email:

Are 21 years of age or older?

Are you a United States Citizen?

Name of Horse:

Breed:

Age of Horse:

I have included 7 copies each of the signed Cover Sheet, application content (questions #2-8), letters from judges, recommendation letters, the typed YouTube video link, and scores. The copies are collated so that each folder/binder contains one of each item, to make seven total sets.

I have read all the attached application information and understand the requirements for using the Prize funds for furthering my dressage education with the horse(s) stated in my application. If I am selected, I agree to use the funds within two years following the announcement date, with my chosen and approved trainer, based on my detailed training plan included in this application. I understand that I will receive an initial grant of \$20,000 one month before I begin my training, and \$5,000 at the completion of my training and the submission of a written report to The Dressage Foundation (TDF). The report will include details of my training program, a financial summary of expenses, and documentation and results of competitions attended. I will send this written summary to TDF within three months after I have completed my training. I agree to return any paid money to TDF if it cannot be used for its intended purpose as presented in the grant application.

If there is a change to any part of the training plan included in this application (different horse, dates, trainer, etc.), TDF must be notified prior to the use of the grant funds. Approval for a change in the use of funds is at the discretion of TDF and the grant selection committee. TDF reserves the right to not award the grant or modify the amount of funding if the training plan presented in this application changes for any reason.

I attest that I am a citizen of the United States of America.

SIGNATURE

DATE

View from Carol Lavell: On Mountains and Molehills

For aspiring international riders, pressure to achieve their goals can become a great burden. Each must deal with competition nerves, learn how to use failure as motivation instead of termination, and perhaps find time to meet the demands of a family when the demands of the goal require months away from home.

For most, obtaining financial support becomes the ultimate hurdle. Some find that this goal can only be achieved by competitive success.

Yet, success cannot be without failure along the way: Gifted was last in his first European Grand Prix. I discovered that “acceptance” was not my strong suit.



Carol Lavell and her father, Gordon Cadwgan

When an international trainer announced at dinner, “You know, Carol, your horse will never win a medal with you riding,” I got motivation! Being last was past, but it would take more time, more coaching, training, and more dollars.

The road to the top is very difficult: some ways are bumpier than others, some are more crooked, and some are dead ends.

My Olympic dream came true only because my road

was paved with many generous supporters who gave not only dollars, but also tack, equipment, and even discounted transportation.

I hope this Prize will smooth the bumps for those deserving riders and horses on the road to their dreams.



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