

Application Information for the

Carol Lavell *Advanced* Dressage Prize

\$25,000

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 a talented, committed, qualified rider whose plan is 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 a rider who is a US citizen, over 21 years of age, and is 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

What it is...

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 United States Olympic Team. Carol Lavell knows first hand of the work, sacrifice and struggle necessary to make it to the top of the Dressage world. Through the creation of these \$25,000 annual 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, and 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. The Directors of the Foundation are deeply committed to the continuation of the Dressage Prize. They express their hope that the recipients of the Prize will demonstrate, each in his or her own way, their future support for the Foundation and the Prize.

The application process is described on the following pages. For further information and questions, contact The Dressage Foundation.

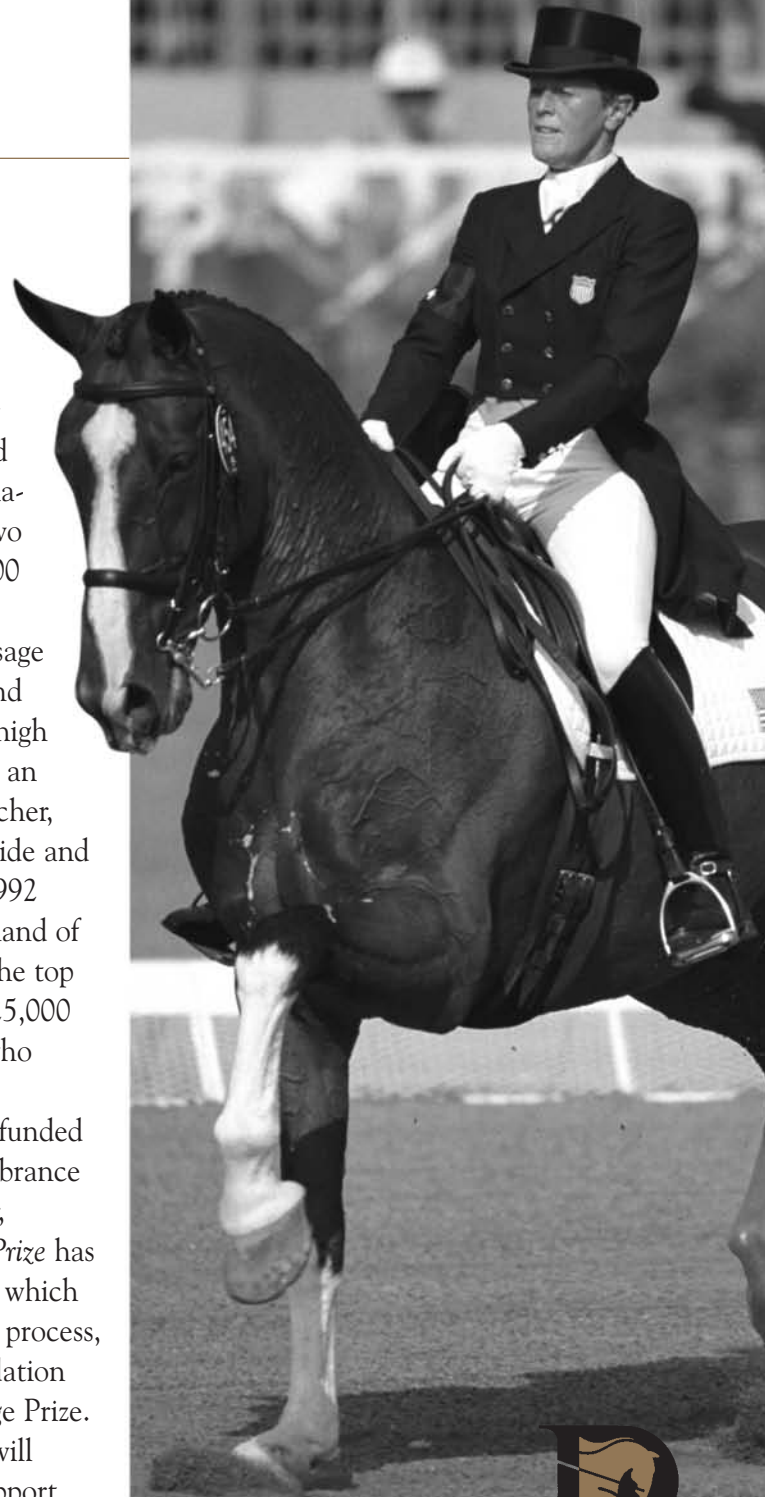


Photo courtesy of Bob Langrish

Carol Lavell *Advanced* Dressage Prize

Who should apply...

- ~ 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.
- ~ Someone who will use the funds for further education of the horse and rider *team*.
- ~ A rider whose horse teammate has potential to grow and succeed at the High Performance Levels.

Applicants can re-apply for the Prize each year. The Prize must be used for training expenses; it *cannot* be used for the purchase of a horse. The Carol Lavell Advanced Dressage Prize winner(s) will be announced in February of each year.



How to apply...

Please type the answers to the following questions. No handwritten applications will be accepted.

1. **Personal Information:** Complete and sign the Application Form at right. Include this as your cover sheet.
2. **Education Record:** Outline your general education history, schools attended, location, degrees received, along with any training or continuing education you have taken.
3. **Employment Record:** Outline your employment history, including employer name/s, location, dates of employment, and brief descriptions of your work.
4. **Your Dressage Resumé – History, Training, Performance:** Give a complete resume of your dressage history to-date. Include training, instruction, competition record, levels at which you are riding, scores, certifications, national rankings, awards, etc. Describe your horse/s who will be your teammate/s and will help you reach your dressage goals. Name your primary horse along with other horses you are currently training.
5. **Your Dressage 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.
6. **Financial:** Tell us about your financial needs and how the \$25,000 Prize will help you achieve your goals. Give a line item budget of your plan's estimated costs

(based on details provided in #5). What current and past financial assistance/ sponsorship have you received? Provide sponsor names, dates, and what/how much you received.

7. Recommendation Letters: Include recommendation letters from one “R” Judge, one “S” Judge, and one “I” Judge. Also include two letters of personal recommendation from dressage professionals who have High Performance credentials.

8. 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.

9. Include a list of scores that you have achieved with your primary horse from the past two years. Include names of judges. Must include FEI scores (Prix St. Georges or above), and scores can be from National or International competition.

Mailing Instructions: Seven (7) complete sets must be received by the Foundation office by December 13th.

We will not accept applications after this date. Application items will not be returned to you.

Mail to:

The Dressage Foundation
1314 ‘O’ Street, Suite 305
Lincoln, NE 68508

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

Application Form/Cover Sheet

To be included as page one of your application.
Please print legibly.

NAME

STREET ADDRESS

CITY

()

STATE

ZIP

()

PHONE

E-MAIL

I have included the following items in this application packet
(place a checkmark beside each item included):

- 7 copies of this signed Application Form/Cover Sheet
- 7 copies of application content (questions #2-6 found at left)
- 7 copies of “R” Judge recommendation letter
- 7 copies of “S” Judge recommendation letter
- 7 copies of “I” Judge recommendation letter
- 7 copies of personal recommendation letter #1
- 7 copies of personal recommendation letter #2
- 7 copies of a sheet with the typed YouTube video link
- 7 copies of scores from the last two years
- Collate copies so that each folder/binder contains one of each item, to make seven total sets.

I have read all the information and understand the requirements for using the Prize funds for furthering my dressage education with my horse(s). 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. 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 The Dressage Foundation within three months after I have completed my training. 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.

When an international trainer announced at a 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 more bumpy 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.



Carol Lavell



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