



**DREAMFIELD FARM TEAM FOR
“LONDON GRAY’S YOUTH DRESSAGE FESTIVAL 2011”**

The Youth Dressage Festival (YDF) is a unique equestrian competition and educational event conducted annually by Dressage4Kids, Inc. Designed for riders up to 21 years old (FEI rule), the event is a wonderful learning experience for all involved, including parents and relatives. The event was created and is managed by Lendon Gray, one of the biggest supporters of the practice of dressage and the learning of a better horsemanship for the youth. Lendon has brought many excellent riders along including Courtney King-Dye who competed in the Hong Kong Olympics representing the United States at 32 years of age.

Qualified riders may ride in any of the six USDF and USEF levels, as well as 3 FEI levels. (Introductory through 4th levels and FEI Pony, Junior and Young Rider). Each division consists of 3 sections: A written Test, Equitation Test and Dressage Test. Divisions are further divided by age groups.

The Written Test assesses knowledge of riding theory and stable management learned from the required reading and knowledge of the rules detailed in the event’s Prize List.

The Equitation class judges competitors riding in a group, at the walk, trot and canter. The rider’s position and seat are judged along with the correct and effective use of the aids.

The Dressage Test, ridden individually and in a prescribed sequence of patterns and movements, assesses the forward and supple nature of the horse, its balance and harmony with the rider, the rider’s position and seat, and the correct and effective use of the aids.

Each section is worth 100 points for a total of 300 points for the division. The winner of a division is the rider with the highest points.

In addition to taking the Written Test and riding in the group Equitation class, competitors also execute the FEI (International Equestrian Federation) Team Dressage Tests. FEI youth tests are more intricate than the comparable USEF (U.S. Equestrian Federation) tests. Also, FEI youth tests assess the riding ability of the rider more than the brilliance of the horse, for example, requiring far more transitions.

The event happens over the course of 3 days. The first day is a schooling day to get horses and riders accustomed to the show grounds. The written test is taken

that evening and the equitation and dressage classes take place on Saturday. On Sunday stand-alone classes are offered: Dressage Trail, Musical Freestyles, Prix Caprilli, Pleasure and Leadline Tests.

Foreign Riders and Teams enhance the Festival experience by sharing their cultural and equestrian heritages. To make it possible for them to compete at the Festival, area horsemen and trainers graciously loan them horses and provide coaching assistance. Dreamfield Farm proudly is one of the farms that offers this opportunity

Also, the team concept allows for three or four riders, of any level (except Introductory) or combination of levels and from any region, to form a team. This is not a separate ride or class. Riders do not need to be from Region 8 or be members of USDF. But riders may only be on one team. The highest three scores from each section are combined. For riders entered in more than one division, the scores from the highest division will be used in calculating the team score. The sum of the highest three scores for each section of each team determines the team's placement in the USDF Region 8 Youth Team Competition. A parade of teams is presented on Saturday afternoon for the team awards.

Competitor's Volunteer Requirement: All competitors MUST volunteer for at least 2 hours during the show.

In sum, this event is a great learning opportunity for the kids. They interact with each other and become a solid team, sharing and supporting each other throughout the event and learning about this wonderful sport. Don't miss out on this show, you will not regret it!

Dreamfield Farm will prepare your entry and all other documents necessary as a courtesy for our team members. Deadline for submitting this paperwork for us is May 27th. We also have a block of hotel rooms on hold for our team at a discounted rate, but we have to release them by a certain date if reservations are not done. The sooner you decide on going, the more we can all prepare!

YOUTH DRESSAGE FESTIVAL IN SUM:

Where: HITS on the Hudson show grounds – Saugerties, NY.

When: July 8-10th

Show deadline: June 9th 2011

Paperwork deadline to be submitted to Dreamfield Farm: May 27th 2011

Who may compete: Riders from any country, under the age of 21 years, following the FEI age rule.

How to qualify: Rider needs one score of 55% or higher from any USEF, FEI or USEA dressage test of the level or a higher level within a year from show. Previous YDF competitors are automatically eligible at the same level or lower. The score may be received from any occasion (including schooling shows, events, and Pony Club competitions) where the judge is a USDF 'L' graduate, USEF or FEI Dressage judge.

Horse: Riders may qualify on a different horse than the horse they will compete at the Festival.

Divisions: USDF Introductory Level through 4th Level and FEI Pony, Junior and Young Rider. PLEASE NOTE USDF TESTS CHANGED FOR 2011. Unofficial jog is required for 2nd level and above and the FEI Divisions.

Age groups and reading required:

- ✓ Thru 10 years : **Riding for Kids**, by Judy Richter
- ✓ for *Everyone* over 10: **How Your Horse Moves**, by Gillian Higgins
- ✓ Ages 11-13: **Riding Through**, by Debbie McDonald
- ✓ Ages 14-17 **Practical Dressage Manual**, by Bengt Ljunquist
- ✓ Ages 18-21 **Dressage Masters**, by David Collins

Don't forget to enter **D4K2011** as the Coupon Code when you place your order at www.knightbooks.com to receive the 15% discount for Youth Festival participants.

Optional classes:

- ✓ USDF Region 8 Youth Team Competition
- ✓ Schooling Show (Friday)
- ✓ Pleasure Class
- ✓ Dressage Trail Class
- ✓ Musical Freestyle Class
- ✓ Prix Caprilli Class – dressage test with jumps
- ✓ Leadline Class

Other classes with no riding required:

- ✓ Cover Art Contest
- ✓ Tack Room Competition
- ✓ Turn Out Inspection

Awards:

- ✓ Grand Champion and Reserve Ribbons and Prizes for overall highest score.

- ✓ Ten Ribbons and Prizes for each Division. The trainer of each Division winner will receive an award.
- ✓ Six ribbons for each Section (Written Test, Equitation Class and Dressage Test) within each Division.
- ✓ Six ribbons in each Class.
- ✓ Awards for top scorers in Turn-Out Inspection and Stall Area/Tack Room Competition.
- ✓ USDF Region 8 Youth Team Competition ribbons.
- ✓ Parent Award/Volunteer Award by random draw.
- ✓ Special Awards. (breed, age, etc..)

For more information on how to join Dreamfield Farm's team for this event, please contact Simone at s.detemple@dreamfieldfarm.net

For more detailed information on this Festival, please visit their website: www.youthdressagefestival.com

Source: <http://www.youthdressagefestival.com>