Joan Alliger Memorial Scholarship Fund

The Joan Alliger Memorial Scholarship Fund was established by the Genesee Valley Riding and Driving Club (GVRDC) in 2014 to benefit young riders and adult amateurs in Western New York.

Joan was active in the eventing and dressage community for many years as a competitor and volunteer. She served on the board of the GVRDC for 24 years, and as an officer, including Vice President, for 20 years. While combined training was her passion, Joan earned her Bronze Medal from the US Dressage Federation and was a founding member of the Western New York Dressage Association. She also served as an instructor in the early years of the Mendon Pony Club. Joan is best remembered for her tireless devotion to her horses and the sport of eventing. She passed away on August 24, 2013.

A Joan Alliger Scholarship Grant will be awarded annually to an amateur rider, aged 16 years or older as of December 1st of the current year, who is a current resident of Western New York. Recipients of this grant will receive $500 which can be used to cover the recipient's personal expenses associated with attending a specific educational equestrian event of their choice.

There will be one or two annual $500 grants during a calendar year. Applications are due at any time during the year. A selection committee will review applications and announce a decision.

Requirements

1. Current Western New York resident who is an amateur and is 16 years or older as of December 1 of the current year.

2. Active membership in good standing with a regional equestrian organization and participates at any level of competition including local, regional and national.

3. 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 January 1st and December 31st of the year following the application deadline. The intended use of the grant will be taken into account in selecting the grant recipient.

4. 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.

5. All forms and documents including those from references must be included with the application.

6. A rider may **not** receive the grant in consecutive years.

7. The committee reserves the right not to 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.

8. The recipient is required to submit a written report and final expense summary to GVRDC within 2 months following the training event in a form satisfactory to GVRDC.

9. If the grant recipient is unable to attend the specified event/training, the GVRDC must be notified as soon as possible. Approval for a change in the use of funds is at the discretion of GVRDC and the grant selection committee.

Timeline

1. Applications are available on the GVRDC website, www.gvrdc.org.

2. **Completed applications and required documentation must be submitted directly to Ann Parks, 103 Loud Road, Fairport, NY 14450.**

3. The selection committee will review and discuss the applications **and a final decision will be announced**. All applications will be notified of the results.

Award

The winner will receive 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 GVRDC selection committee.

Joan Alliger Memorial Scholarship Grant Application

Important Notes

Completed applications and required documentation must be submitted directly to Ann Parks, 103 Loud Road, Fairport, NY 14450. The selection committee will review and discuss the applications and a final decision will be announced. All applicants will be notified of the results. Please read the requirements before completing the application.

Contact Information

Name _____

Address _____

City _____State _____Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Birthdate _____

Name of equestrian organization of which you are a current member in good standing.

_____

Horse/Riding Information

Do you own your horse(s)? _____. How long have you been riding ?_____

Do you work with a trainer on a regular basis? If so, with whom?

Describe your involvement with the care and training of your horse.

At what level do you compete currently? Locally, regionally or nationally.

Event/Training Information

Describe, in as much detail as possible, what educational event you plan to attend with this grant.

Why are you applying for this grant?

Name of program/instructor/trainer where this grant will be used.

Date and location of event.

Provide a budget for this event (Include fees to attend and other expenses associated with attending).

What would this grant allow you to do that you would be unable to do otherwise?

Explain your personal riding goals for the next year and the next 2-3 years. How would this grant assist you in reaching these goals?

Letters of Reference

Two (2) signed letters of reference are required to be submitted with your application. They must be from adults over the age of 21 who are not members of your family. Letters of reference should include observations as to your qualities as a good horseman.

Letter 1 is an Equine professional reference letter from someone who is qualified to comment on your equine related activities such as a trainer, instructor, coach, etc.

Letter 2 is a general reference letter from someone who can comment on your personal qualities.

Signature/Date

Applicant Signature

_____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian signature if applicant is under the age of 19

_____ Date _____