

## The USDF Region 9 Annual Teaching Excellence Award

**The Application:** This application is expected to be very thorough as well as thoughtful.

You must include a typewritten or electronic copy of the following items:

- 2 letters of recommendation from dressage professionals who have respected teaching/training credentials.
- 2 letters from your students (past or present) that describe, in detail, the benefits of learning dressage from you.
- letters from show management, and/or Regional Director, and/or GMO presidents attesting to your volunteer efforts.
- a short video or DVD of you teaching 3-4 lessons, from the most basic level to the highest level at which you teach. Approximately 20 minutes per lesson, with a maximum of 30 minutes per lesson.

### 1. Your Personal Information:

Name:

Street address:

City:

State:

ZIP:

Phone:

Fax:

Email:

USDF #:

2. **Your Biography:** In 1 page or less, any horse or non-horse related background, other than listed in #3 below, that you feel is pertinent to your dressage career.

3. **Your Dressage Resume:** In 5 pages or less, discuss your dressage experiences, including your training, instruction, clinics, seminars, or symposia attendance, instructor, TD, or judge certifications / licenses, or other awards received. Tell us about your service to the dressage community such as National, Regional or GMO board, volunteerism, presenting free demonstrations, etc. Include 1 page or less of your best competition record (levels and scores).

4. **Your Training Philosophy:** In a summary of 2 pages or less, your principles or how you approach dressage training of a horse(s). Outline how you approach the diversity of horses. Explain your approach when you feel you have reached your limits with a horse. Tell us of horses that have influenced your training, and why.

5. **Your Teaching Philosophy:** In a summary of 2 pages or less, your principles or how you approach dressage teaching. Outline such things as how you approach the diversity of your students. Describe the most successful teaching experience you have had, as well as the least successful. Tell us of your teaching mentors, who influenced you most and why.

6. **Your Business Plan:** If you are awarded the money, how would it change your career? How could you give back?

The USDF Region 9 Teaching Excellence Award committee chair requires that you submit: **complete sets (including the DVDs)** of your application, no later than Sept 1. Applications will not be accepted after that date. The USDF Region 9 Teaching Excellence Award will be presented at the Great American/USDF Region 9 Championship Dressage Show.