

SEDA Scholarship Program

As part of SEDA's mission, educational scholarships are made available to members who wish to expand their training in dressage/eventing. Scholarships are awarded twice a year. Deadlines for receipt of applications are May 1st and November 1st. Scholarships must be used to participate in educational programs (with someone other than the applicant's regular trainer) that include, but are not limited to: seminars, workshops, clinics and training programs. To request funding, members may apply as either a Senior or Young Rider.

Process Details

- 1) Applicant must be a current SEDA member in order to submit a scholarship application and must have completed the four hour volunteer requirement within the six months previous to the scholarship deadline. Applications must be received by the first of May or November. Completed applications require at least one letter of recommendation from someone (trainer) who can describe the applicant's current level of riding and abilities.
- 2) There are two categories in which members may apply: Senior or Young Rider. If the applicant is unsure which category is appropriate, contact the Scholarship Committee.
- 3) The Scholarship Committee (consisting of at least 3 members), will meet to review applications in a timely manner. They will award scholarships depending upon the availability of funds, qualifications of applicants, etc.
- 4) The Committee will screen each application with a uniform set of criteria in order to ensure equity among applicants. While the criteria are slightly different for each category, they generally include such benchmarks as length of SEDA membership, volunteer history, other scholarships received, competition level and any previous awards and recognition. In the Young Rider category one of the criteria is Character, including: Scholastic, Leadership, Responsibilities, Teamwork, etc. Senior members who are applying for the scholarship must have completed a minimum of four hours of volunteer time at SEDA-recognized events within the competition year.
- 5) The Scholarship Committee will notify all applicants of the outcome. Those who are awarded scholarships will be notified by a "Letter of Award" which outlines how the scholarship can be used, as well as requesting the recipient submit an essay sharing their experience which will be published in the SEDA newsletter. Some ways that recipients can 'give back' for their scholarship assistance include: giving clinics, organizing a clinic, or organizing a fundraising event for Scholarships. Award recipients must provide receipts to the Treasurer for reimbursement of expenses (up to a maximum of \$200) associated with the scholarship. Award recipients may not reapply for another scholarship for a period of one year.

Scholarship must be used within one year from date of award. Award recipients must wait a period of one year from receipt of their award before they may reapply.

All applicants are encouraged to maintain copies of their applications and letter(s) of recommendation. Applicants not chosen are strongly encouraged to reapply for the next scholarship award and may resubmit previous applications/letters of recommendation.

SEDA Scholarship Application

NAME _____

AGE (IF UNDER 21) _____

ADDRESS _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER _____

Please respond to the following questions. You may respond at whatever length you feel appropriate.

1. Please describe your riding goals (attach)
2. State what you intend to use the award for (attach)
3. Attach a letter of reference from trainer/clinician who is familiar with your riding skills/abilities
4. At what level are you riding? _____

5. What have you done to fulfill your service commitment according to the scholarship guidelines?

a. Volunteered for (check all that apply):

- SEDA Shows
- SEDA-Sanctioned Events (Annual Banquet, Juniors Only Show or other club event)
- SEDA-Sponsored Clinics
- Fundraising
- Serve as a committee member or officer for SEDA?

b. Other: (please explain) _____

Send completed application to:

SEDA Scholarship Committee Chair, Elaine Harmon

3345 Massachusetts Avenue

Kenner, LA 70065