

2026 Pro Bono Young Rider Clinic

Saturday, April 18, 2026

Niagara County Fairgrounds, Lockport, NY

Registration: Opens January 18 and Closes March 15



Created and offered by WNYDA through the Ida Mizelle Educational Fund to offer a **FREE 45-minute, private dressage lesson to ANY rider between the ages of 8 and 21 with an interest in trying dressage on their horse**, in a low-key, supportive environment, held at Niagara County Fairgrounds. The instructors are all expert competitors, instructors, and coaches who are donating their time for the day. Riders do NOT need to be current members of WNYDA, although all WNYDA youth members are welcome! Any interested youth rider who desires access to dressage instruction is eligible for this event.

Approximately 20 spots are available with a \$25 deposit upon sign-up to hold the time slot; the deposit will be returned to the rider upon arrival and check-in. If a rider needs to cancel due to illness/lameness, the deposit will be returned if cancellation occurs at least 48 hours ahead of time with a doctor's and/ or veterinarian's signed note; otherwise, full deposit will be considered a donation to the WNYDA educational fund.

- New riders who have not previously participated in this clinic will be given priority. Rider selection will be determined by a raffle system, with names randomly drawn using a computer program. After new riders are selected, remaining spots will be offered to riders who have participated in the clinic in the past, also selected through a raffle system. If overwhelming interest occurs, riders will be waitlisted in the order entries are received
- Two lessons will take place simultaneously in the indoor arena.
- Riders can bring one groom to audit for free.
- Auditors of all ages are welcome. A \$5 auditing fee will apply
- The food stand will be open for lunch.
- Tickets will be available for a basket raffle.
- Please bring any items you would like to donate to the **FREE Items Table**.
- Stalls are available at no charge (participants must provide their own bedding and strip the stall before leaving).
- We will be hosting a Ride-a-Test clinic on **Sunday, April 19 at Niagara County Fairgrounds**. All riders and auditors are encouraged to attend and learn from a professional dressage judge. Riders will perform a dressage test of their choice, receive constructive feedback and guidance on how to improve, and then re-ride the test to apply what they have learned.

Please contact Jessica Robbins for more information at jrobbins4185@gmail.com.

Registration forms will be available on WNYDA.org and our Facebook page