

DRESSAGE FOUNDATION

Building U.S. Dressage Through Your Generosity

Good Monday Morning!

I have some GREAT news for you today...**your support of The Dressage Foundation (TDF) will help dressage riders reach their goals and realize their dreams!** That is such a powerful thing, especially during times when it doesn't seem like there's much good news to share.

That's one reason why I wanted to share this special story with you today.

In the fall of 2019, Genevieve Rohner, an 11-year-old para-dressage rider, was awarded one of TDF's youth grants. At that time, Genevieve had just started competing in recognized shows and wanted to travel to Florida to train and watch FEI-level para-dressage riders because, as she told us, "I hope that one day I will be one of them." She had big goals back then and was working hard to make her dreams a reality.

With that first grant from TDF, Genevieve did just what she set out to do. She used the funds to travel from Utah to Florida for the first time, and she returned home with big dreams. She told us...

"My horse at home cannot do more than Second Level, so it was such a different experience to ride horses that are able to do higher-level movements! I also got to meet a lot of cool people like Kate Shoemaker, who is a Grade IV para rider like me. Seeing all the fancy horses made me wish even harder for when I hopefully get to compete on one in Wellington. Seeing all the highlevel coaches and riders in international competition was inspiring."



Genevieve meeting Kate Shoemaker in Florida

Genevieve's first trip Wellington set her goals in motion, and she continued to work hard that one days with enext comple of years.

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Then in 2021, Genevieve (just 13 years old!) showed TDF how far she had come in two short years and was awarded a TDF Para-Dressage Fund Grant.

"This grant is special because I am going to my first CPEDI in March 2022 in Wellington. I have dreamed about it for so long, and it's finally here. TDF is helping make it happen!"

As with any rider's journey, there were some bumps in the road for Genevieve when she arrived in Florida, but she was determined make the most of the opportunity. And she sure did.

"The minimum I wanted to do in Wellington was get my FEI classification, which I did, and show at the CPEDI3*, which I also did. I learned so much, and sometimes when things don't work the way you plan, it's even better and you learn more than you would have otherwise."

But there's even more to this amazing story. When Genevieve achieved her FEI classification in March, it made her the voungest classified para-dressage rider in the world.



Genevieve at the CPEDI3* in Wellington

"Lots of people have helped me, and it always takes a lot of people, not just one, to achieve your goals."

You can be one of those people today! Your donation will help more riders like Genevieve who have big goals and need a little bit of help to reach them.

What's next for Genevieve?

"My biggest goal is the 2024 Paralympics. I am really looking forward to representing the U.S. on Team USA one day, and being in Florida gave me a little peek into what's coming later. Training with Kate Shoemaker is a dream come true and being in front of all the elite riders and coaches will get me started on the experience I need to move toward my goals."

This is what it's all about.

Thanks to generous donors, Genevieve received financial help for training that has changed her life and made big dreams that one day ow stoke; and dryour gift today can help another rider just like her.



Genevieve is all smiles, thanks to TDF donors! Photo by Impulsion Images

I look forward to sharing the next update from Genevieve, and I wouldn't be at all surprised if she reaches her goal of the 2024 Paralympics! In the meantime, we would love to have your support to help more riders like her.

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https://myemail.constantcontact.com/-I-hopethat-one-day-I-will-be-one-of-them--.html

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