

# AMERICAN MORGAN HORSE EDUCATIONAL CHARITABLE TRUST

## Ellen DiBella Western Dressage Scholarship



This scholarship honors the founder of Western Dressage, Ellen DiBella, for her years of service to all things Morgan and especially her support in the creation of the WDAA (Western Dressage Association of America).

Western Dressage seeks to improve balance, cadence, and carriage of both horse and rider. By combining the disciplines of dressage with the philosophies of western riding, Western Dressage seeks to improve our partnership with our horse. The goal is a happier, more sound horse, and a more aware and

knowledgeable rider. Achieving these goals is a journey of technique, learning, growth, practice, and patience. To help Western Dressage Morgan riders, this scholarship hopes to allow riders to advance in their skills once they are well into the first level.

To preserve and encourage the classical methods as applied to the Western discipline that Ellen DiBella strongly believes in, the American Morgan Horse Educational and Charitable Trust shall make an award of up to \$1000 to a Morgan individual wishing to further his or her skill, knowledge, or proficiency in ridden Western Dressage utilizing Morgan horses.

### **Application Instructions:**

In selecting a candidate for this scholarship, emphasis will be placed on helping a rider move from the lower levels of dressage through fifth level. Preference will be given to applicants who have competed their Morgan(s) at first level or above and received a 60 percent or higher score at a recognized competition.

The scholarship must be used to further the training and education of the applicant and their Morgan(s). Eligible expenses include instruction, travel and living expenses directly related to receiving instruction, instructional materials, etc. Following selection, the successful applicant must attest that he/she will continue to pursue Western Dressage training on a Morgan for the duration of the scholarship.

Previous Ellen DiBella Western Dressage Scholarship winners are not eligible.

**Applicant must be a current competing AMHA member and the Morgans must be shown under their registered names.**

Applications should be assembled in the following order:

1. Application Cover Sheet
2. Narrative (up to 5 pages)
3. Two (2) written letters of reference
4. Up to one page of photo(s) {Optional}

**Deadline: November 30.** Applicants must submit a fresh application package each year to be considered.  
***Incomplete applications will not be considered.***

**Applications can be mailed, faxed, or e-mailed to the AMHECT Office:**

American Morgan Horse Educational Charitable Trust  
Attention: AMHA Ellen DiBella Western Dressage Scholarship  
4037 Iron Works Parkway, Suite 130, Lexington, KY 40511-8508  
(802) 985-4944, Ext. 201  
(859) 287-3555 (Fax Line)  
[execdir@morganhorse.com](mailto:execdir@morganhorse.com)

Applications will be scored independently by a team of qualified reviewers designated by the AMHECT. Applicants will be notified no later than April 1<sup>st</sup>.

**AMHECT Ellen DiBella Western Dressage Scholarship Application Narrative**

Answer the following questions. The narrative may not exceed five pages with a type size of 12 points. The maximum point value for each section is listed in parenthesis.

**1. Describe your involvement with Morgans.** Give a short background of your history with the breed. How have you helped promote Morgans in Western Dressage? What are your goals for your Morgan in Western Dressage? How do you envision you and your Morgan as ambassadors for the breed? (Total possible score, 7 points.)

**2. Discuss your background in the sport of Western Dressage.** Include such items as how long you have been riding Western Dressage; what attracted you to the sport; the level you are riding your Morgan(s); the training principles you follow; the frequency you receive regular lessons; the qualifications of the instructor(s) and any other information that helps to clarify your background and commitment to the discipline. (Total possible score, 6 points.)

**3. List your competitive Western Dressage accomplishments on a Morgan(s).** Include any national or regional year-end awards, such as: Western Dressage Association of America awards, or All-Breeds Awards; American Morgan Horse Association Open Competition awards; US Equestrian Regional awards; Morgan or dressage club awards; or any individual competition level championships. Include the Morgan's name, award, level and year won. For individual competitions include the name of the competition, the level, and note if it was an open or Morgan breed show and if it was recognized. List the highest levels you have competed with your current Morgan(s) and the scores you have earned at that level, noting whether those scores were earned in recognized or unrecognized competitions. (Total possible score, 10 points.)

**4. What challenges do you face in riding Western Dressage seriously?** How might the Ellen DiBella Western Dressage Scholarship help to overcome these challenges? (Total possible score, 5 points.)

**5. How will you use the \$1,000 AMHA Ellen DiBella Western Dressage Scholarship?**

Provide a detailed budget including a description of all intended expenditures. If you use the scholarship to ride with an instructor/clinician, name the instructor/clinician and his or her qualifications and the number of lessons/clinics and their cost. (Total possible score, 5 points.)

**Personal recommendations**

Include written recommendations from two individuals who have personal knowledge of you, your Morgan(s) and your dressage ability. (Total possible score, 5 points.)

AMERICAN MORGAN HORSE EDUCATIONAL CHARITABLE TRUST

# Ellen DiBella Western Dressage Scholarship

## Application Cover Sheet

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Morgan Horse's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Registration # \_\_\_\_\_

AMHA Member number \_\_\_\_\_

**(Applicant must be a current competing AMHA member)**

*Applicants must include two written references.*

### Reference # 1

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

### Reference # 2

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

I certify that all the information submitted is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge. I further certify that if chosen to receive the scholarship, I will use the funding to continue my dressage education on a registered Morgan Horse. I also understand that incomplete applications will not be considered.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature of Applicant**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

Application packages must be received by November 30.

### **Applications can be mailed, faxed, or e-mailed to the AMHECT Office:**

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4037 Iron Works Parkway, Suite 130, Lexington, KY 40511-8508  
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