



# Cassidy Deveney-Huggins

Hi, my name is Cassidy Deveney-Huggins! I live in Grass Valley, California, I am currently a junior at Nevada Union High School. I've always had a passion for horses. It was around five years ago when I first moved to Grass Valley that I had the incredible opportunity to meet Megan Gallagher, the talented trainer at Grand Finale Stables. Before riding at her barn, I had heard a bit about the Morgan Horse but never really looked into learning more about this remarkable breed. However, everything changed during my first riding lesson on a beautiful Morgan Horse named Cassie. From that moment on, I was captivated by the Morgan horses' stamina, personality and eagerness, strong natural way of moving. It's amazing how much Megan Gallagher has contributed to my growth as an equestrian. Her expertise and dedication have truly shaped me into the rider I am today. Megan Gallagher got me involved with Youth of the Year. Megan told me about this opportunity and the benefits the Youth of the Year program had and helped me if anything was needed. From not knowing what the Morgan horse was 5 years ago to being able to compete at the Morgan Grand National for the second time with my lovely horse Fieldcrest Astaire, "Fred" is a beautiful big bay. He was my very first Morgan horse. Even those we have had our ups and downs. I could not have asked for a better horse to start my passion for showing in the Morgan horse industry 3 years ago. I am also very excited about competing in Youth of the Year at the Morgan Grand Nationals for the first time. I have learned a lot from the youth of the year program throughout the years from competing at shows trying to get qualified for the Morgan Grand Nationals, I have also learned a lot about the Morgan Horse Association by joining the AMHA youth council in 2022. The AMHA youth council is a great opportunity. I have met many wonderful people across the USA. I really recommend joining this program. If I were the winner of the 2023 Youth of the Year, I would take the skills I have learned to help the youth of the Morgan Horse Association, get more involved in Youth of the Year, and how it does pay off. Also, A very big thank you to my wonderful parents, Grandma, Megan Gallagher, Allison Gillard, Lucia Dizon, and the whole Grand Finale barn for the support you have given me. I can't wait to see everybody at the Morgan grand nationals and good luck!