

NBEA Youth Bursary 2023

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Essay #1 – Describe your horse interests and experiences

Since I can remember, I have dreamed of horses. My parents thought it was a passing phase. Then in June 2018, I had my first riding lesson. I was thrilled while feeling intimidated and a deep respect for the very patient equine partner I was paired with! My coach recalled that my hands shook so much at the mounting block she was positive I would not return. But, as has been the course of my riding journey, my passion overcomes my fears and with quiet determination I continue to show up almost five years later!

Over the last two years, I have completed Rider Level 1 to 4, attended cross-country schoolings as well as dabbled at eventing and hunter/jumper competitions. I had set a goal to purchase my own horse and went to work mowing lawns and got a job in retail. In July 2022 my biggest dream came true! Bruin "*High-A-Cheevers*", a seven-year-old gelding, became the center of my world! Bruin and I work together 4 – 5 times a week and are lucky enough to have access to an indoor arena. We have coaching on a regular basis to support continued improvements. I'm so thankful for my equine experiences!