



WNYDA News

Late Winter / Early Spring 2026

A Letter from Our President

Hello WNYDA Members,

I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Alicia Rosenblatt, and I am serving as your WNYDA Interim President for 2026 (Dec 1, 2025 – Nov 30, 2026). It has been some time since we last sent an email blast or newsletter, and I apologize for the lapse. I hope we can get back on track with regular updates moving forward.

We concluded our 50th year at the 2025 Fall Symposium held at Houghton University. On Saturday the 25th, we celebrated with a beautifully decorated luncheon in the atrium in honor of this milestone – thank you to Lauren Adelizi and Deb Kondoff for their efforts. During the event, we also unveiled the new WNYDA logo designed by Rachel Newcomb, along with a commemorative plaque listing our past presidents from the last 50 years. Many thanks to Betsy Doyle Levy for coordinating this. The plaque is now displayed alongside our retired rotating trophies in the cases that remain there.

The WNYDA Board and Committee Chairs have been busy throughout the fall and winter planning several new and exciting programs and events for this year. These initiatives began under the leadership of Jen Powell, and I have worked with the board to ensure they came to life. Highlights include the addition of a Virtual Show Series, which was researched and organized by Jess Robbins. And also, the return of a Ride-A-Test Day, both of which were requested in last fall's member survey.

If you have any thoughts, concerns, or questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. If you would like to volunteer or help WNYDA in any way, I would be happy to hear from you. I can be reached by text at 716-866-8536 or by email serendipity1998@aol.com.

Wishing you a happy almost-spring and enjoyable riding season ahead.

Alicia Rosenblatt
WNYDA Interim President

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A Quick Reminder

If you haven't renewed your WNYDA Membership yet, please do so. Your membership makes you eligible for the WNYDA discounted prices for educational events coming up later this year. It automatically makes you a GMO Member of USDF so you can have the opportunity to receive the benefits it offers. Last but not least, it makes you eligible for the WNYDA End of the Year Awards if you like to compete.

WNYDA Needs your Help - Volunteers

If you're feeling compelled to help, WNYDA has several committees that need more people to plan and work on the various programs we offer and events. If you enjoy doing fundraising for a good cause, we have a committee for that also.

We are also in need of "Members at Large" (MAL) to join the board. If interested, please contact any of current Officers or MAL people and they will let you know how to do it.

A Heartfelt Thank You

The following people generously made donations to WNYDA through last fall and this winter. WNYDA thanks you! For anyone that has already paid their membership and would like to donate, please contact the Treasurer, Alicia Rosenblatt

Diamond Donor:

Victoria Bentley – Lockport NY
Kathryn Bieler – West Falls, NY
Carrie Wafler – Wolcott, NY
Karren Warren – Rush, NY

Silver Donor:

Kristen Adams – Pittsford NY
Amy Alexander – Colden, NY
Carol Kozlowski – Geneseo, NY
Sandy Hider – Henrietta, NY
Laurel Slack – Honeoye, NY

Gold Donor:

Fauna Pappalardo – Macedon, NY
Kellie Rowekamp – Leicester, NY

Bronze Donor:

Julie May – Albion, NY
Andrea Schinsing – Williamson, NY
Mary Beth Smith – Grand Island, NY
Marianne Stowell – Canandaigua, NY

WNYDA Summer Festival I & II

This year's Summer Festival once again will be holding DSHB classes (Friday) along with two full days of Intro – FEI Classes. If you are interested in being a personal or business sponsor for this event, please visit www.wnyda.org for more information on this wonderful opportunity.

2026 WNYDA Board:

Interim President:

Alicia Rosenblatt
serendipity1998@aol.com

Vice President:

Nicole Olivero
naolivero17@gmail.com

Interim Treasurer:

Alicia Rosenblatt
serendipity1998@aol.com

Corresponding Secretary:

Betsy Doyle Levy
betsydoylelevy@gmail.com

Recording Secretary:

Taylor Schwartz
daileytaylor15@gamil.com

MAL:

Megan Boss
laboss84@gmail.com

MAL:

Natalie Shepard
natalie.sheppard@gmail.com

2025 WNYDA End of Year Awards Banquet

On February 22nd, 2026, Our Awards Banquet was held at the Terry Hills Golf Course and Restaurant. A big shout out of thanks goes to Jen Powell for all her work planning and organizing to make this happen. A guest speaker, Aija Clancy also motivated us in ways to improve our riding – Thank you Aija.

Congratulations Are in Order

Congratulations are being sent to all of our 2025 End of Year Award winners. Also, a big congratulations are in order to the WNYDA Members who received USDF recognition in 2025 for their accomplishments. For a complete list of who the award winners were, please see page 4 & 5.

Up Coming WNYDA Events & Programs

For a complete calendar of events that include things not sponsored by WNYDA and for more information on any event please go to www.wnyda.org

- March 8, 2026 WNYDA Virtual Show
- April 18, 2026 Pro Bona Youth Clinic – Niagara Co. Fair Grounds
- April 19, 2026 Ride A Test – Niagara Co. Fair Grounds
- May 2, 2026 WNYDA Challenge Series Show – Houghton University
- May 17, 2026 WNYDA Virtual Show
- May 24, 2026 WNYDA Challenge Series Show - Cobblestone Equestrian
- June 21, 2026 WNYDA Challenge Series Show - Cobblestone Equestrian
- July 5, 2026 WNYDA Virtual Show
- July 31 – Aug 2, 2026 WNYDA Summer Festival I & II – Houghton University
- July 11, 2026 WNYDA Challenge Series Show – FM Farm
- Aug 11, 2026 WNYDA Challenge Series Show – GVRDC
- Aug 15, 2026 WNYDA Virtual Show
- Oct 11, 2026 WNYDA Challenge Series Show - Cobblestone Equestrian
- Nov 7, 2026 WNYDA Challenge Series Show – Houghton University

Please note there are more dates to be added as things are finalized.

WNYDA 2025 End of year Awards Winners

Rider of the Year:

Overall Rider of the Year

Champion	Holly Parker	Skyfall	
Reserve Champion	Kristen Adams	Floreen	

Adult Amateur

Champion	Kristen Adams	Floreen	
Reserve Champion	Marianne Stowell	Jupiter	

Professional

Champion	Holly Parker	Skyfall	
Reserve Champion	Carrie Wehle	Rock My Lady	

Jr. / YR

Champion	Zoe Gilson	Clearbrook Morning Star	
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Vintage

Champion	Marianne Stowell	Jupiter	
Reserve Champion	Kellie Rowekamp	Aces High	

Materiale

Champion	Carolyn Wehle	Layla	
Reserve Champion	Jannah Matzen	Magnific C'Imoeratrice	

Horse of the Year:

Training

Champion	Kristen Adams	Floreen	
Reserve Champion	Alicia Rosenblatt	Rhonalia RF	

First

Champion	Marianne Stowell	Jupiter	
Reserve Champion	Kenzie Norman	Olympia DL	
3rd	Kellie Rowekamp	Aces High	
4th	Jessica Robbins	Tempramillo	

Second

Champion	Kenzie Norman	Lambrusco DL	
Reserve Champion	Katie Peterson	Di Livio	

Third

Champion	Katie Peterson	Saylor	
Reserve Champion	Rachel Newcomb	Kalletta Liberti	

Fourth

Champion	Holly Parker	Skyfall	
Reserve Champion	Mary Barnes	Ferovanck PP	

FEI

Champion	Carolyn Wehle	Rock My Lady (Int)	
Reserve Champion	Scott Peterson	Porter (PSG)	
3rd	Carolyn Wehle	Rock My Lady(GP)	

Darla Trophy

Carrie Wehle	Rock My Lady
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Opportunity

Carrie Wafler	Leonardo 27
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Joint Upstate

Kellie Rowecamp	Aces High
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Upstate GMO

Jessica Robbins	Tempramillo
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OTTB

Jessica Robbins	1st
Carrie Wafler	2nd

Flying Change

Senior	Marianne Stowell
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Challenge Series:

Overall

Senior Megan Bond
Junior. Johanna Fugate

Intro Sr.

Champion Jessica Robbins

Intro Jr.

Champion Johanna Fugate

Training Sr.

Champion Jessica Robbins
Reserve Champion Jennifer Powell

Training Jr.

Champion Kenley Fenton
Reserve Champion Karina Jentsch

First Sr.

Champion Megan Bond
Reserve Champion Marianne Stowell

First Jr.

Champion Kenley Fenton
Reserve Champion Laurel Slack

Second Sr.

Champion Suzanne Chang

Second Jr.

Champion Johanna Fugate

Third Sr.

Champion Carly Starky

Rider Achievement:

Kristen Adams	Training	*
Julianne Pangal	Training	*
Marianne Stowell	First	*
Megan Bond	First	*
Holly Parker	Fourth	*

DSHB Awards:

Champion	Natalie Sheppard
Reserve	Carolyn Wehle
3rd	Natalie Sheppard

Volunteer of the Year : Lauren Adelizi

2025 USDF Awards Winners – WNYDA Members

Rider Awards

Jessica Robbins	Dressage Seat Equitation - Accomplished
Jessica Robbins	Dressage Seat Equitation - Elementary
Prin Furst	Master's Challenge – 1 st
Alexaiya Backman	Performance Award – First
Mary Barnes	Performance Award – First
Alexaiya Backman	Performance Award – Training
Julianne Pangel	Performance Award – Training

***** Congratulations To All of Our Winners *****