

NWSA Youth of the Year

The NWSA Youth of the Year contest is designed to award top young achievers in the American Saddlebred industry in the Northwest and rewards those who are well-versed in the Saddlebred world. The contest provides a wonderful opportunity to improve one's horse knowledge as well as being a means to set realistic goals and learn the benefits of hard work and dedication. Most importantly, this contest creates a positive atmosphere in which young people and adults, who share a love of the American Saddlebred, can interact. The friendships that are developed through youth contests are a rewarding and fulfilling benefit.

Contest Rules and Requirements

*****Participants must be a member of the NWSA and ASHA. Participants must show as a Junior Exhibitor according to USEF rules. Participants must register PRIOR to the start of NWSA's Fall Classic show. No late entries will be permitted.*****

This award consists of five categories:

❖ *Written Essay* ❖

The written essay must be at least one typed page on one of the following topics: American Saddlebred history; or how/why you became involved with American Saddlebreds and who inspired you in the Saddlebred world. Essays will be scored on content, grammar, spelling, and punctuation. Include your name, age, and phone number. This will be submitted at Fall Classic

❖ *Oral Presentation* ❖

A 3-5 minute speech on one of the following topics: how or what inspired you to become involved in Saddlebreds; or describe your favorite American Saddlebred horse or division and explain why you chose it. Speech will be presented during Fall Classic to a panel of judges and will be scored on content, speaking voice, eye contact and presence.

❖ *Artwork Presentation* ❖

Artwork can be of pencil, chalk, crayons, pastels, oil colors, watercolors, or photography. Sculptures, ceramics, and other 3D pieces are also acceptable. All entries must be created by the participant. No computer-generated art will be accepted. Please protect and mark your artwork. All entries will be returned at the year-end banquet, if not at the end of Fall Classic.

❖ *Junior Judging* ❖

Junior Judging will be held during at least two NWSA shows. You must participate in at least one junior judging event. You will be judging a minimum of three classes (each class must have at least three horses going). The classes will be decided by the NWSA Youth Leader, who will attempt to accommodate everyone's schedules.

❖ *Sportsmanship* ❖

Contestants will be observed and judged at NWSA-approved shows and events throughout the entire year. Sportsmanlike behavior is expected and imperative. This can be demonstrated by congratulating others, helping others, participating in youth activities, friendliness, cooperation, and overall generosity and a good attitude.

Each category is worth 100 points. The contestant with the highest accumulation of points at the end of Fall Classic will be named Youth of the Year. Awards vary from year-to-year but past awards have included trips to Saddlebred camps and a William Woods University Saddle Seat clinic. Beginning in 2022, William Woods University is offering a \$1,000 RENEWABLE scholarship towards attendance at William Woods.

Please contact Julie Livingstone with any questions or to register: corbettstablesjulie@gmail.com.