

Khloe Kilpatrick
2024

NBEA Youth Bursary

Over the past 8 years horses have played such a crucial role in my life. Ever since I first sat on a horse at the age of 6, I realized that I must keep these animals in my life forever. Horses have taught me so much that's important. Like, they've shown me how to love something with all my heart, and they've taught me patience, especially when things don't go the way I want them to. They've also taught me that it's okay when things don't turn out perfectly you just must keep trying. They've shown me that riding isn't just about the technical stuff it's about forming a real connection with these animals. And I don't just love riding. I also really enjoy helping around the barn whenever someone needs me.

After six years of consistent lessons at Hampton Pony Club, I also had the chance to half-lease a horse until the end of the 2022 season. Then, in early April 2023, I was offered an off-property lease with a stunning, experienced gelding, which allowed me to continue pursuing my passion. I dipped my toes into the show world and remained focused on schooling in the hunter jumper aspect of showing. This year, on Valentine's Day, after much searching, we found my forever horse a beautiful six-year-old warmblood cross mare. It was truly the best Valentine's Day I could have ever imagined. Moving forward, my goals revolve around working closely with my trainers and soaking up as much knowledge as possible as Sable and I embark on our journey together. I will continue to keep my eye on the end goal which is exceling in the hunter jumper Jr. division as well as take on new challenges such as taking some dressage level testing.

I am pleased to have the opportunity to be applying for this NBEA Youth Bursary as it would greatly support the care of my new horse. As a passionate equestrian, I am deeply committed to ensuring the health and well-being of my equine companion, and I firmly believe that this bursary will significantly contribute to achieving that goal. A primary use of the funds would be to contribute to the cost of Sable's training, scheduled to begin in April 2024. By covering a portion of Sable's training expenses, I not only invest in her development but also gain valuable lessons in responsibility and deepen my appreciation for the support and opportunities provided to me.

Thank you for considering my application. I am grateful for the chance to apply for this bursary.