

2007 Silver Sonata – Nomination – for Taylor Finke

WINNER – 2007

October 10, 2007

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to the committee in charge of Young Rider nominations to support the nomination of Taylor Finke, member of the BCYR association for the year 2007, for the Silver Sonata Award.

Taylor started taking lessons with me in the year 2005, riding a fiery little TB school horse known as "Spicicles". She showed exceptional talent right from the beginning, riding difficult and temperamental mare so quietly that the horse settled happily into her job. Because of the results of this "trial by fire" apprenticeship, I decided I could trust Taylor to ride green or temperamental client's horses that my adult amateur ladies were struggling with. In exchange for schooling their horses for free, Taylor would be supplied with decent quality horses to show, as she is in a single parent, single child situation and there are no funds for her own horse.

The owners of these horses have been exceptionally pleased by the results of her work, garnering many first places at every show and an overall hi-point Championship at National Training Level at Rising Stars 2007 in the 16 – 21 age division when she was still 15 years of age.

Due to her consuming desire to learn everything she possibly can, she volunteers and works as barn staff with Valley Therapeutic Association every weekend. She also helps me teach all my new small children riders in the school about tacking up, prepares them for mounting, shows them how to pick out feet and clean tack. Believe me when I tell you how much patience this requires. Taylor usually drops what she is doing to help anyone struggling. I've witnessed her bathe a client's horse and braid it without being asked because the client was so overwhelmed and panicked about the show. This is all while getting herself and her horse ready at the same time with good humour, enough to make everyone around her smile.

At the moment, Taylor is studying for her Equine Canada Rider 3 Exam, (Nov. 12, 2007) Having passed both her Rider 1 and Rider 2 exams with high marks. She is working toward her Coach Level 1 as soon as she reaches 18 years of age. In the meantime she will continue to train both Galeano and Glastonbury for their owners and will be doing First Level in National shows in 2008.

It is a great pleasure to nominate such a deserving young horsewoman.

Monique Fraser
Level 2D - Coach
Rosewyn Stables
Langley

