**When**
The program is scheduled to take place the first weekend in March 2018 (exact travel dates will be provided at a
later date)

**Where**
Wellington, Florida

**Program Objective**The Canadian Youth Equestrian Mentorship Program is designed to inspire Canadian equestrians between the ages of sixteen and twenty-one from the dressage and hunter/jumper disciplines by bringing them to the largest, competitive equestrian venue in North America, and providing opportunities for them to engage with leading, Canadian riders. The exposure that program participants will get to the daily routines, competition preparation, training, and horse management of top, international equestrians will be unique and impactful in helping to foster future equestrians in Canada.

**Program Outline**Twelve participants (6 Dressage and 6 Hunter/Jumper) will be selected via lottery to travel to Wellington, Florida the first week in March 2018. Wellington is the epicenter of both international dressage and hunter/jumper competition during the winter months, and is the seasonal home to some of the world’s top equestrians. Participants will be separated into two groups based on discipline, each group will focus on specific discipline related mentorship with top competitors and show grooms, educational discussions, barn tours, and networking activities. This program does not include any riding opportunity.

**Accommodation and ground transportation in Wellington**While in Wellington, FL, the participants will be guests at Canadian Equestrian Jill Irving’s private home. Sleeping accommodations will be on provided air mattresses and bedding. Daily supervision and all ground transportation will be provided by one chaperone per group. Chaperones will be onsite specifically to provide leadership and supervision for the group, and will accompany each group to activities and events throughout their stay.

**Expenses**
Each participant is responsible for his/her own airfare, meals and spending money. Ground transportation and accommodation in Wellington have been generously donated by Jill Irving. There are no costs associated with any of the activities, or attendance at any of the events planned for participants, outside of the food and spending money referenced above.

**Eligibility Requirements**Participants must be between the ages of 16 and 21
(no exceptions will be made);

* Participants must be a member in good standing of Equestrian Canada and of their Provincial Equestrian Association;
* Participants must have competition experience in the discipline (dressage or hunter/jumper) that they wish to participate in; competition may have been at any level;
* Participants must provide proof of travel insurance;
* Participants must have a valid passport for travel into the United States.

**Arrival and Departure Schedules**
Participants will need to make their own travel arrangements. Palm Beach International Airport is the closest airport to Wellington, FL. Fort Lauderdale International Airport is the next closest airport and is approximately 1 hour from Wellington, FL. Specific arrival and departure dates and times will be available at a
later date.

**How to apply**Interested participants must complete the provided application form and submit applications to rsvp@jdirving.com no later than 5:00pm on
November 30th, 2017.

Qualifying participants will be selected via lottery and will be notified of selection via email the week of December 1st, 2017. If a selected participant declines their invitation, another qualifying participant will be selected.

**Questions and Contact**
Please direct all questions to rsvp@jdirving.com

**Application Form**

Please email all completed forms to rsvp@jdirving.com

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Participant’s Name:**  | **Date of Birth: YY/MM/DD**  |
|  |  |
| **Address:**  |
|  |
| **Provincial Equestrian Association Membership Number:**  | **Coach’s Name:**  |
|  |  |
| **Parent Name:**  | **Parent Signature:**  |
|  |  |
| **Participant Biography** (please provide a short biography of yourself, including any equestrian related accomplishments, and your specific equestrian goals)  |
|  |