

The Bridges Family *Sinful* Memorial Award



We first met Sinful (barn name Darryl) in December of 2011. He came to us on trial with some known issues which had prevented him from being successful in other programs along the way. For Grace it was love the moment he stepped off the trailer. His kind eye was a window to the loving heart of this beautiful animal who had such a difficult past. Darryl had lost trust in humans and most of his confidence in the show ring. He didn't trust enough to accept a treat when we first met him. With love, understanding and patience Darryl thrived with Grace and under the care of Four Seasons Farm and Kat Mulkey. The pair re-entered the show ring together for the first time at HJ Fox Classics in April 2012. We spent months having to lead him into the ring and then trot-cantering the lines, always taking it slowly and at whatever pace made Darryl comfortable and trusting. As a family we always put Darryl's well-being first above ribbons and progression in divisions and it paid off. There were setbacks along the way for sure which we took in stride until Darryl became to know we would never give up on him. He began to bravely make incredible strides in the show ring with his trusted partner Grace. He even became a decorated Junior Hunter on the AA circuit. Those early HJ Fox shows, as well as all the HJ Fox shows we did along the way, provided the perfect opportunity for Darryl and Grace's bond to grow.

Darryl was an important part of our family and Grace's best friend. He learned to greet us with his signature nicker the moment he could hear our voices and would politely ask for his treat after every performance in the ring. Grace was blessed to find her "forever horse", something many never do. Many say he was blessed to have our family but we were more blessed to have him. He taught us the true meaning of unconditional love, how to trust without knowing what was to come and how to celebrate the small victories, not just the large ones.

Darryl tragically and suddenly passed away on June 24, 2016 while at a show. The hole left in our family is devastating, but we remain thankful for being trusted with such a special horse. Because of how special he was and what he meant to Grace and our family we want his memory and his journey to live on in some small way. We hope others find the joy we found with Darryl.

The primary goal of the **The Bridges Family Sinful Memorial Award** is to identify and celebrate a bond between rider and horse or journey experienced by a rider/horse combination in memory of one special horse, Darryl (aka Sinful). The \$500 annual award will be distributed through HJ Fox Classics Show Management and can be applied to any show related expenses at HJ Fox shows that calendar year for the rider and/or horse recognized. This equestrian award is not dependent upon show record, points accumulated, rider age or experience level.

To qualify for this award applicants must:

1. Horse/rider must be a member in good standing with HJ Fox Classics Show Series.
2. Submit a complete application and required paperwork no later than December 15th each year by email or regular mail.
3. All applications must be signed by applicant or parent if applicant is under the age of 18.
4. Provide letter of recommendation from equestrian trainer/professional.
5. Write an essay in your own words explaining the bond/journey the rider and horse have experienced in the past or are experiencing presently and how that bond/journey has affected your outlook on life.
6. Essays may be typed or hand written but must be signed by applicant.

All submissions will be reviewed by committee which will consist of no less than 2 members of the Bridges Family, 1 member of HJ Fox Classics Show Management and 1 equestrian professional/judge. The committee reserves the right to include other non-biased persons as seen fit. Annual award will be presented at the HJ Fox Annual Banquet each year.

Submit your completed application and essay to:

Beth Bridges

132 Country Lane

Eatonton, GA 31024

Brid8655@yahoo.com

Name: _____ Age: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Horse's Name(s) _____

Name of your Trainer: _____

Barn Name: _____

Division(s) you currently show in: _____

Signature

Date