



# ***Catie Carnes Memorial "Equine Enthusiast"***

## ***2017 BCHSA Scholarship Award***

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The Junior membership of the Baltimore County Horse Show Association proudly sponsors the Catie Carnes Memorial "Equine Enthusiast" Scholarship Award. The scholarships are awarded to Junior members in recognition of their outstanding interest in, enthusiasm for, and dedication to horses. The number and size of the scholarship(s) each year is determined by the amount of funds raised during the year from various fund raising activities of the BCHSA Junior membership, including most notably the Catie Carnes "Benefit Hack" that is held at each of the BCHSA shows.

In order to qualify for the scholarship, applicants must be Junior members (show age 11 to 17 as of December 1, 2016) of BCHSA and ride in *at least 3* of the "Benefit Hack" classes at the BCHSA shows during the year.

### **PURPOSE OF THE SCHOLARSHIP AWARD**

The purpose of the scholarship award is to recognize Junior members who have demonstrated a sustained enthusiasm for horses. The scholarship is intended to help support junior members in their pursuit of academic and/or equestrian-related educational activities. The award may be used for college or other school tuition, riding clinics, or other professional or vocational training. If participation in the educational activity requires travel, e.g., to an out of town clinic, the funds may be used to help defray the cost of travel and accommodations.

### **ABOUT CATIE CARNES**

Catie Carnes was a student at McDonogh School for twelve years, and horseback riding was the major theme of her career. She was at the barn as much as she could be, from the time she was little until she went off to college. She began to compete on the Baltimore County Horse Show circuit in the Mini-Short Stirrup division and rose through the ranks from that point. Catie would ride any animal put in front of her. "She was always fascinated with sort of the underdog horse," Streeet Moore said. If no one else wanted to mess with an animal, then it would become her pet project. As she grew older and became a stronger rider, her interest in the "underdog" still existed. She had an affinity for horses with challenges such as health problems, and competed with them even though it might have decreased her chances of winning. "Most kids wouldn't even want to start fooling with a horse with an underlying condition." But Catie saw these horses as so much more than just a nice ride in the ring. She believed that every animal deserved his or her shot to be a great show animal. From a one-eyed horse to one that was recovering from multiple colic surgeries, she always drifted toward these animals to ride and show. For Catie, horse showing wasn't just about the ribbons. It was about the journey of bonding with an animal and working with the animal for a positive experience. Friendships were also an important part of the horse show world to Catie. "She did try hard and won plenty of ribbons," Mr. Moore said. "But she was more of the type of person who was rooting for everybody."

Catie put in just as much effort in her daily routine as she did for competitions. She worked many weekends and school breaks at the barn to help pay her bills. When Catie's mom would come to pick her up at the end of the day, she was never sitting and waiting. Her mom would always have to hunt her down in the barn as she was helping out in any way she could. "She definitely was very concerned about making sure everyone

was taken care of," Mr. Moore said. "That's just the way she was." Catie was also a very considerate teenager, often helping with the younger children and their ponies.

It is hard to sum up all of Catie's great qualities in a few lines, but I hope that the description above can shed some light on the amazing young lady that she was. She was sadly taken from us in the fall of 2010 when she died suddenly of a brain aneurism while at college. In creating the Junior Scholarship, the BCHSA Board felt that Catie embodied all of the qualities that would make a young rider worthy of the scholarship- love of riding, love of horses, caring, hard-working, selfless, driven, and enthusiastic. Our hope is that by encouraging our Junior Membership to take part in the scholarship process, and by awarding deserving members for their efforts, that we can continue to honor the memory of Catie Carnes and all of the wonderful things she stood for.

### **APPLICATION**

To apply for the scholarship, qualified applicants must write an essay. This year, the applicant is asked to write an essay that answers the question "***Describe your perfect horse***" Please limit your essay to no more than 1,000 words (*previous scholarship award winners are not eligible*).

### **SELECTION PANEL**

Applications will be reviewed by a Scholarship Review Panel that includes a balance of Board members, BCHSA member volunteers, and other friends of the association as deemed appropriate and necessary.

### **DEADLINE:**

Essays must be submitted by email to [specialawards@bchsa.org](mailto:specialawards@bchsa.org). **Deadline is October 16, 2017.**

### **SCHOLARSHIP AWARD(S), AMOUNTS, AND PRESENTATION**

The Board hopes to award TWO Catie Carnes Memorial "Equine Enthusiast" Scholarship Awards in 2017. The determination of how many and the amount of each will be largely based on how much money the Junior membership can raise. Consideration will be given to making awards to both older and younger applicants. The final selection of the awardees, number of awards, and amount of the awards will be made by the Scholarship Review Panel, in consultation with the BCHSA Board, and will be announced and presented at the 2017 BCHSA Banquet of Champions held on November 18, 2017 at Martin's Valley Mansion.