



The Inaugural Recipient of the Annie Goodwin Rising Star Grant, Isabelle Bosley
photo provided by Isabelle Bosley, courtesy of US Eventing

**FOR IMMEDIATE
RELEASE**

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CONTACT

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Isabelle Bosley & Night Quality competing at Houghton Hall CCIO4*-S Nations Cup
photo provided by Isabelle Bosley, courtesy of Libby Law

AIKEN, SOUTH CAROLINA: The Annie Goodwin Rising Star Grant Committee & the Aiken Horse Park Foundation are pleased to congratulate Isabelle Bosley on being selected as the inaugural recipient of the Annie Goodwin Rising Star Grant.

Isabelle Bosley has been riding her entire life, and started eventing at age eight. She has worked for 5* rider, Lillian Heard, for the last eight years and is slowly building up her own business. With Lillian's guidance, Isabelle has hopes of being at the top of the sport one day. Isabelle has competed through the 4* level and has three main competition horses, all at different levels, that she has produced with the help of Lillian.

On being informed that she was selected as the recipient for the 2023 grant, Isabelle commented:

"I am incredibly honored and grateful to receive this grant. Annie was a fantastic horsewoman in this sport, and someone I looked up to not only as a rider but also as a person. I feel very privileged to be chosen as the inaugural recipient, and am looking forward to the opportunities this grant will present in the 2024 season!"

The Annie Goodwin Rising Star Grant provides financial support for young professional equestrians establishing the early years of their business and wishing to continue their equestrian education and competition.

Twenty-seven applications were received for the 2023 grant. All applicants had to meet the following criteria:

- Professional member in good standing with their respective national governing body
- US citizen or legal resident
- Demonstrate financial need
- Reside in Aiken, SC for a minimum of three (3) months annually
- Between the ages of eighteen (18) and thirty (30) years of age by January thirty-one (31) of application year

This year's applicants represented four prominent disciplines in the Aiken area; Eventing, Hunter/Jumper, Driving, and Dressage. Their applications, additional responses, and letters of recommendation, were diligently reviewed, with a primary focus on the applicant's strong connections to Aiken, substantial experience in the equestrian profession, well-crafted future plans, and, most importantly, the candidate's demonstration that they share a kindred spirit with Annie. Ultimately the candidate chosen was someone who consistently extends support and encouragement to others while simultaneously pursuing their own journey to the upper echelons of the sport.

While the grant funds will be made available to Isabelle in early 2024, we will formally celebrate her during the 2024 \$100,000 Conceal Grand-Prix Eventing Showcase at Bruce's Field, presented by Taylor, Harris Insurance Services. For more information on how you can attend, see the information at the bottom of this email.

We hope everyone will join us!



Isabelle Bosley & Night Quality competing at the Bramham International 4*-L
photo provided by Isabelle Bosley, courtesy of 1st Class Images

In the spirit of Annie's vision and legacy, the Aiken Horse Park Foundation established the Annie Goodwin Rising Star Fund, to foster, support and develop Aiken's young equestrians who embody Annie's character and dedication in their respective sports.

Please consider making a donation to the **Annie Goodwin Rising Star Fund**, so that we can continue to grow the impact of these annual grants.

[DONATE](#)

Thank you to all of Annie's friends and family who have already donated to the **Annie Goodwin Rising Star Fund**. To date we have raised \$135,000.00. These funds will serve as the initial corpus to provide for the annual grant program.

We encourage everyone to continue to donate to this fund in support of Annie's memory so that more aspiring young professionals may experience the impact of Annie's gift.



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Gene "Tiger" Kneece - Polo Professional

Boyd Martin - Olympian, Eventing Professional

Catherine Stumberg - Hunter/Jumper Amateur

Caitlin Silliman - Eventing Professional

Robert "Bobby" Stevenson - FEI Judge, Eventing Professional

Each Member of the selection committee had a strong connection to Annie that transcended sport, friendship, and family. Together with a thoughtfully crafted application, the committee is poised to successfully chose a worthy candidate.

Annie Goodwin was a fixture of the Aiken Equestrian community. She served on the GPE Planning committee and could often be found in the ring during our Tuesdays in the Park winter schooling series or at a number of our hunter/jumper shows throughout the year. In 2021 she made her debut start at the Grand-Prix Eventing Showcase at Bruce's Field, finishing 13th overall.

In 2022 we awarded the inaugural Annie Goodwin Sportsmanship award (Amanda Beale Clement 2022, Will Fuadree 2023). Boyd Martin and Fedarman B, a.k.a. Bruno, won the 2022 GPE in front of an emotional crowd including Annie's closest friends and family.

Annie's memory has strong ties to the GPE, and as such the Annie Goodwin Rising Star Grant will hold a formal award ceremony at the 2024 event. We invite everyone to attend and share this special moment with us.



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Established in 2013 by the late R. Bruce Duchossois, the Aiken Horse Park Foundation received its IRS 501(c)(3) tax exempt status in November 2014, with a mission to promote Aiken's equestrian way of life and to encourage the community's civic, educational, and charitable endeavors

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