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USEF Network The riders for the 2015 George H. Mc

## NEWS

## Sydney Collier Wins 2014 Junior Equestrian of the Year Award

**RELEASE:** December 10, 2014**AUTHOR/ADMINISTRATOR:** Kathleen Landwehr

**Lexington, Ky.** - The United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) is pleased to announce Sydney Collier as the 2014 Junior Equestrian of the Year. Seventeen-year-old Collier is a talented Para-Equestrian who competed at the international level in 2014, including the Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games. A native of Ann Arbor, Mich., she was diagnosed at the age of seven with a rare congenital birth defect called Wyburn-Mason Syndrome. In spite of this challenge, Collier pursued her love of riding and has become a top equestrian athlete. A prime example of courage, sportsmanship, and dedication, Collier will be awarded the Ruth O'Keefe Meredith Memorial Trophy as the 2014 Junior Equestrian of the Year.

Having her biggest year to date in 2014, Collier earned Champion and Reserve Champion honors in the 1b division of the USEF Para-Equestrian Dressage National Championship, claiming a spot on the U.S. Para-Equestrian Dressage Team for the 2014 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games (WEG). She then traveled to Normandy, France, to represent her country in the FEI World Para-Dressage Championship, producing solid scores as the youngest competitor in the championship.

In addition to her riding accomplishments, Collier received several grants and scholarships this past year, including the Women's Sports Foundation Travel & Training Grant, the Courtney's Quest Scholarship, and the Jonathan Wentz Memorial Scholarship. She is an honor student in her senior year at Skyline High School. She spends time as a Volunteer Classroom Aid at the BOCES Salt Point Education Center. Collier also gave several keynote speeches and presentations in 2014, inspiring others with the fact that hard work and determination can help one overcome obstacles.

Collier will receive her award at the the Pegasus Awards Dinner held Friday, January 16, at The Hyatt Regency



Sydney Collier riding Willi Wesley  
(SusanjStickle.com)

Lexington in Lexington, Ky., during the 2015 USEF Annual Meeting.

For more information on the 2015 USEF Annual Meeting, visit <https://www.usef.org/convention/Default.aspx>.

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