

CWSF 2016 - Montreal, Quebec



Maren McIntosh

How Music Affects Horses

Challenge: Health

Category: Junior

Region: Calgary Youth

City: Cremona, AB

School:

Abstract: Stress can have negative impacts on performance and well being in many areas of human and animal life. My project explored the potential for different styles of music to reduce stress and increase performance in horses and riders. My findings could help improve quality of life and performance in areas of animal welfare, agriculture, and competitive and recreational sports.

Biography

Hi! I'm Maren McIntosh, and I'm in grade eight at Argyll Home School Center. That means I do schoolwork on a computer (and sometimes in my pajamas - don't tell my teacher!). Being home-schooled also means I have time to ride and take care of two horses, Dubh (pronounced DOO) and Thor, who were actually the inspiration for my project. They both perform really well when they hear music, and seem to enjoy themselves. Being able to test my observations in a Science Fair project was very exciting for me. Besides riding, I'm active in my church's youth group, I play piano and flute, occasionally tumble down a ski hill, and I'm also an avid reader and writer. I'm a loyal Carrie Underwood fan, and have several of her songs memorized. The lyrics are just in my head, though - I'm quite possibly the worst singer in existence. My advice to any students considering entering a science fair is to test something you're passionate about, and prepare to work hard! You might stay up typing until midnight some days, but at the end, it's totally worth the effort!

Awards

Value

Excellence Award - Junior - Silver Medal Sponsor: Youth Science Canada	
Western University Scholarship Silver Medallist - \$2000 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: Western University	\$2 000
Total	\$2 000