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**Olympic Gold Medalist Carl Hester Coming to
2020 New England Dressage Association Fall Symposium**

Save the Date for Hester's Only U.S. East Coast Appearance!

(New England) – February 13, 2020 – The **New England Dressage Association** (NEDA) is thrilled to welcome back Olympic gold and silver medalist **Carl Hester MBE**, to headline the **2020 NEDA Fall Symposium** on **October 17-18** at the Mount Holyoke College Equestrian Center in South Hadley, Massachusetts. The event marks Hester's second visit to New England, and it will be his *only* U.S. East Coast appearance in 2020.



"We are delighted that Carl Hester will be joining us again for this year's NEDA Fall Symposium," said NEDA President, Iris Berdrow. "Our 2017 Symposium with Carl received rave reviews by the sold-out audience. He is great at moving horses of all levels forward, and makes his teaching accessible enough for auditors to take home implementable lessons. Be sure to save the date!"

Hester is the most successful British dressage rider in history and one of the most revered in the world. A five-time Olympic veteran, he was an integral part of the gold medal-winning British Team that made history at the 2012 London Olympics by clinching the nation's first-ever Olympic medal in dressage. He took to the podium again at the 2016 Rio Olympics, winning a Team silver medal and now has his sights firmly set on the 2020 Games in

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Tokyo this summer. Last fall he was crowned the British Dressage National Champion for the tenth time.

“The spectators were very welcoming and attentive at my last NEDA Symposium, and it was wonderful to have so many talented horses and riders to work with,” said Hester. “I’m really looking forward to returning to New England this year.”

Hester has also competed at four FEI World Equestrian Games™ (WEG), winning a Team bronze medal at the 2018 WEG in Tryon, NC, and Team silver medals at both the 2014 WEG in Caen, Normandy, and at the 2010 WEG in Lexington, KY. He has competed at 10 European Championships and claimed six medals, including Team gold and double Individual silver medals at the 2011 championships in Rotterdam, The Netherlands; Team silver medals at both the 2015 and 2009 championships in Aachen, Germany and Windsor, Great Britain; as well a Team bronze in 2013 in Herning, Denmark.

The legendary maestro has also brought countless horses and riders to the elite Grand Prix level including his teammate Charlotte Dujardin, who won three Olympic gold medals and set four world records aboard her famed mount *Valegro* under Hester’s coaching. Dujardin made her first trip to New England to headline the sold-out 2018 NEDA Fall Symposium.

In 2016 Hester was awarded the Global Dressage Visionary Award and the British Horse Society (BHS) bestowed him with an Honorary Fellowship, their highest honor. He was also named the first-ever Honorary Patron of British Dressage for his nearly 30 years of service to his sport.

In 2015 he received the BHS Queen’s Award for Equestrianism, while the highly regarded French equestrian yearbook *L’Année Hippique* named Hester ‘Best Rider of the Year’ and ‘Best Trainer of the Year’ in back-to-back editions. In 2013 Queen Elizabeth awarded Hester with an MBE, Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, for winning the Team gold medal in London. In 2011 the British Olympic Association named him the Equestrian Athlete of the Year. Hester has also penned several top-selling books and has released excellent training videos.

Tickets will go on sale in advance to NEDA members on June 6, so [join NEDA today](#) for maximum benefits. Non-member tickets will go on sale July 6 if any are remaining.

Further information on ticket pricing, sponsorship and demonstration rider information will be announced shortly. For more details about this exciting educational event, visit the NEDA website at www.neda.org/event/2020FallSymposium.

About the New England Dressage Association

NEDA is the largest single chapter American Dressage Organization and the United States Dressage Federation's (USDF) largest single-chapter GMO. NEDA offers its members top quality educational, competitive and scholarship opportunities. The mission of NEDA is to promote and support the Art and Sport of Dressage to the equestrian community for the purpose of fostering individual and collective growth by providing leadership, education, exhibitions, publications, competitions and to enhance greater public awareness, understanding, and appreciation for the discipline of Dressage. There are many membership options and NEDA welcomes all equine enthusiasts to participate or volunteer. NEDA belongs to USDF Region 8. For more information, visit www.neda.org.

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