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Contact: Marty Bauman, 508-698-6810; marty@classic-communications.com

83 Emerging Equestrians Launch the 2024 Hampton Classic Horse Show in Style

Bridgehampton, NY – August 25, 2024 – The 49th annual **Hampton Classic Horse Show** embarked on a fun-filled week of world-class equestrian competition with a strong performance from budding athletes. Eighty-three riders in age groups of 2-4 and 5-7 gathered in the Grand Prix Arena for the **Leadline division presented by Brennan's Bit and Bridle**, with three-time Olympic medalist Joe Fargis judging.

The Hampton Classic, August 25-September 1, is one of the world's most prestigious horse shows, featuring competitors from young children in leadline to Olympic, World, and World Cup Champions. Rated USEF Premier-6 with designated FEI 5* and 2* show jumping classes, the Classic also has competitions for riders with disabilities.

A fan favorite to the Hampton Classic, Olympic double gold medalist and Show Jumping Hall of Famer Joe Fargis of Middleburg, VA, returned as the division's judge, taking time with each leadline competitor. He also highlighted the importance of being part of the Classic and having fun while in a competitive setting.

"It's important to me (to participate at the Hampton Classic) because it's a lot of fun. I've been consistent with this for a long, long time, and it's just enjoyable for the day," said Fargis. "The kids love it, the parents love it, and it's a nice part of the whole show that's low-keyed. It's just wonderful. This is what sports are about: competing and having a good time, not taking it too seriously. All these kids and parents are great sports."

Section Champions of Leadline 2-4 years presented by Brennan's Bit and Bridle:

1. Zoe Bensimon of Bayville, NY, riding *Batteries Not Included*

1. Esmeralda Sanampudi of Sagaponack, NY, riding *CMS Brother Bear*

1. Lenox Rottenstreich of Greenvale, NY, riding *Carousel's First Steps*



Esmeralda Sanampudi and CMS Brother Bear won their section of the Leadline 2-4 years presented by Brennan's Bit and Bridle © KindMedia

Section Champions of Leadline 5-7 years presented by Brennan's Bit and Bridle:

1. Piper Goldberg of Medford, NY, riding *Caramel & Cookies*

1. Hailey Romeo of Flanders, NY, riding *Oopsie Daisy*

1. Aine' Bykov of Flanders, NY, riding *Oopsie Daisy*

1. Scarlett Calame of Greenvale, NY, riding *Pixie Dust*



Hailey Romeo and Oopsie Daisy won their section of the Leadline 5-7 years presented by Brennan's Bit and Bridle © KindMedia

The official **Opening Day** ceremonies followed in the afternoon with the introduction of officials and special guests before moving into the afternoon's highlight classes, the \$30,000 Hampton Classic Open Jumper Challenge presented by BrainJuice, LLC, and the \$10,000 Marders Local Hunter Derby.

The Hampton Classic's official community partner, Stony Brook Southampton Hospital, was brought to the field to kick off the festivities. Partnered with the Hampton Classic since the show's inception in 1976, Stony Brook Southampton Hospital has received more than \$2 million in contributions from the show during that time.

Heidi Earle of Southampton, NY, received the 17th annual **Long Island Sportsmanship Award**. A beloved fixture in equestrian sports for decades, Earle has been running her own business on Long Island for more than 15 years. Universally respected as a skilled and successful trainer, Earle places a high priority on the well-being of her students and horses.



Heidi Earle received the 2024 Long Island Sportsmanship Award © KindMedia

Other festivities included a showcase of horses participating in Monday's Hampton Classic Adoption Day Sponsored by Georgina Bloomberg and the EQUUS Foundation. EQUUS Foundation representatives included renowned animal welfare advocate, media personality, and best-selling author Jill Rappaport. Joining Rappaport in the ring was international equestrian, Founder of The Rider's Closet and sponsor of Animal Adoption Day, Georgina Bloomberg, as well as the EQUUS Foundation's newest EQUUSTAR, Serena Marron. The EQUUS Foundation, founded in 2002 to keep America's horses safe at all stages of their lives, was presented with a \$5,000 donation from Vice President and Business Development Officer of Connect One Bank, Tara Fordham. The EQUUS Foundation was also joined by Superhero Rescue Horses of Goshen, NY, and Rising Starr Horse Rescue of Wilton, CT.

For live show results, visit HamptonClassic.com. Photos from the event are [available via Dropbox](#) with credits to KindMedia (unless otherwise noted in the folder name).

Each year approximately 50,000 people – including many A-list celebrities – come to watch the nation's best equestrian athletes compete at the Hampton Classic. Rated USEF 'Premier-6' for hunters and jumpers with designated FEI 2* and 5* classes, the Hampton Classic features more than 200 competitions in six spectacular show rings, the Agneta Currey Boutique Garden with more than 70 vendors, and a wide selection of dining options, all on its world-class 60-acre showgrounds.

FEI competition begins Thursday, August 29, with the **\$10,000 Citarella Open Jumper CSI2*** and **\$32,000 CSI5* Speed Stake** and continues throughout the weekend with eight 2*/5* classes featuring courses designed by Nick Granat. FEI competition also includes Friday's **\$32,000 Wölffer Estate 2* Jumper Classic** and **\$70,000 Douglas Elliman 5* Grand Prix Qualifier**, Saturday's **\$32,000 Open Speed Class CSI2*** and **\$70,000 CSI5* Winning Round**. The Classic culminates with the **\$75,000 Hampton Classic 2* Grand Prix** and the **\$400,000 Longines Hampton Classic 5* Grand Prix** on Sunday, September 1.

Other competition highlights include the **\$30,000 Open Jumper Challenge**, **\$10,000 Stomp Capital 1.40m Open Jumper**, **\$10,000 Lugano Diamonds Junior/Amateur Welcome Stake**, **\$10,000 Hermès Equitation Championship**, **\$10,000 Junior/Amateur-Owner Hunter Classic**, **\$25,000 Agneta & Brownlee Currey High Junior/Amateur Jumper Classic**, and the new **\$50,000 Kristen Baran Hunt Team Stake**.

Outside the show rings, families can enjoy unique shopping; hands-on activities, pony rides and petting zoo animals at the Kids Exhibition Tent; and many more fun activities during News 12 Long Island Kids Day (Saturday, August 31).

Daily admission to the Classic is \$20 per carload. Admission is free on Monday. Seniors and military are admitted free on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, as are those who bring three or more non-perishable food items for the Sag Harbor Food Pantry. Grandstand tickets for the Longines Hampton Classic Grand Prix on Sunday, September 1, are \$60 per person (including fees) for reserved bucket seating. Grandstand tickets are electronic only.

For those who can't make it to the show grounds, [complimentary live webcasts](#) of all Grand Prix and Aspinall Ring competitions air on the Hampton Classic website. Produced by ClipMyHorse.TV, the Grand Prix Ring livestreams are sponsored by Longines and the Aspinall Ring livestreams are sponsored by [ClipMyHorse.TV](#). In addition, WVVH-TV, Hamptons Television, broadcasts up to five hours of competition and highlights each day during the Classic. These broadcasts can also be seen online at www.wvvh.tv.

For more information on the Hampton Classic Horse Show, please visit the Hampton Classic website at www.hamptonclassic.com or call 631-537-3177. Hampton Classic Horse Show, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) charitable corporation.