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Animal Adoption Day Takes Center Stage at the 2024 Hampton Classic Horse Show

Bridgehampton, NY – August 26, 2024 – The 49th Hampton Classic Horse Show highlighted Animal Adoption Day sponsored by international equestrian Georgina Bloomberg with an all-star lineup in the Grand Prix Arena on Monday. With the event celebrating its 13th anniversary, the EQUUS Foundation invited spectators to the Grand Prix Ring to learn more about animal adoption while showcasing adoptable horses from the Foundation's Guardian charities.

Welcoming spectators to the Grand Prix Arena was EQUUS Foundation representative Valerie Angeli, with animal welfare advocate, media personality, and best-selling author Jill Rappaport and Animal Adoption Day sponsor and Founder of The Rider's Closet Georgina Bloomberg. Joining them was Serena Marron, the EQUUS Foundation's newest EQUUSTAR. The EQUUS Foundation Founder, Lynn Coakley, was also onsite to educate visitors on the importance of adoption and bringing horses into their next chapter. The EQUUS Foundation was founded in 2002 to keep America's horses safe at all stages of their lives.



EQUUS Foundation representatives welcome guests to Animal Adoption Day sponsored by Georgina Bloomberg © RandolphPR

"It is a tremendous joy to be here at this renowned horse show with the top riders and horses in the world," said Valerie Angeli, EQUUS Foundation VP of Engagement. "Here we are with horses that fell through the cracks through no fault of their own. They are beautiful and valuable, and they deserve their chance to shine. Every horse has a story, and every horse is a champion waiting to happen."

Participating EQUUS Foundation Guardian charities included Rising Starr Horse Rescue, Endeavor Therapeutic Horsemanship and The Equus Effect. Rising Starr Horse Rescue presented adoptable horses, highlighting the impact of the horse-human bond. There was also a special presentation by Elena Moran, a New York State Mounted Officer and horse trainer.





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Adoption Day also hosted several dog-cat rescue groups from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Kids Area. Other notable events included HEART Equine Ambulance Tours, a blacksmith demonstration by Tim Fitzgerald, horse handling demos, a bouncy horse racing exhibit for kids, and a Q&A with the Long Island University Equestrian Team. The EQUUS Foundation Rider's Closet Donation Trunk was on hand accepting donations of new and gently used riding apparel for equestrians in need at the Der Dau tent in the Boutique Garden.









Photos by RandolphPR

For live show results, visit <u>HamptonClassic.com</u>. Photos from the event are <u>available via Dropbox</u> 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, <u>complimentary live webcasts</u> 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 <u>ClipMyHorse.TV</u>. 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.