

FOUNDATION FEATURE:



reaching the summit

2018 COACHES SUMMIT TO PROVIDE ATTENDEES WITH INFORMATION ABOUT EWD, HOH PROGRAMS

There is perhaps no greater example of the NSBA Foundation’s mission than the development of Equestrians With Disabilities and Heroes On Horses classes, which were introduced at the NSBA World Championship Show and have since been hosted at other events throughout the country.

EWD classes have grown exponentially since their introduction, and Heroes On Horses participation has also experienced increasing numbers since they began. “NSBA’s Equestrians With Disabilities and Heroes On Horses programs are a unique model of inclusivity, that other competitive venues do not offer to special needs riders,” noted Diane Helgeland, founder of Partners For Progress.

FOCUS ON EQUESTRIANS WITH DISABILITIES

During the past two years, the NSBA Foundation has placed a special focus on fundraising for its Sponsor A Rider initiative for the Equestrians With Disabilities and Heroes On Horses programs. Through Sponsor A Rider, donors are encouraged to sponsor a rider’s expenses to compete at the NSBA World Championship Show. These exhibitors do not pay for their entries or stalls to participate in the NSBA World Show.

In addition to classes at NSBA’s own World Championship Show, the NSBA Foundation has been a sponsor and collaborator with the Ohio Quarter Horse Association, sponsoring Equestrians With Disabilities classes, which began three years ago, as well as administering Heroes On Horses classes, that have now been held for the past two years, at the All American Quarter Horse Congress.

Through these programs, the Foundation has worked to increase awareness as well as collaborate with sponsors to show the value of these human-horse interactions.



A NEW SUMMIT

In 2018, the NSBA Foundation is expanding its programming even further. The Foundation is inviting all areas of the horse community to attend its inaugural Coaches Summit. The three-day Coaches Summit March 26-28 will bring together industry professionals with therapeutic riding centers and coaches, as well as show managers and any other interested individuals to learn more about starting or expanding riding programs, obtain best practices and available resources, as well as network and hear from sponsors about the powerful impact their donations have on individuals and organizations.

“The Coaches Summit is a direct result of the feedback from our membership,” noted Lynn Campbell, NSBA Foundation Development Director. “We have had so many people ask us how EWD and Heroes On Horses programs and competitions can be started, that it was time to bring everyone together. We’ve had a lot of interest in the Summit from several states, and we can’t wait to share it with everyone.”

FIVE PILLARS OF SUCCESS

The Foundation’s Equestrians With Disabilities is one of five pillars of focus the organization was founded upon. This program joins the association’s efforts to raise awareness about animal welfare, the Trainer Crisis Fund, an education focus that includes youth scholarships and the Youth of the Year award, and the Foundation’s Champion Fund. The Foundation also appropriates funds from the appropriate pillar for special projects that meet additional industry needs and further support the NSBA Foundation mission.

“The growth of the Foundation and its fundraising efforts has allowed us to expand services in all five areas over the last several years,” said Lynn.

The 2018 Coaches Summit will be held March 26-28 in Gurnee, Illinois. For additional information, please contact Lynn Campbell at lcampbell@nsba.com. ■

pillars — OF — focus

- 1 • ANIMAL WELFARE
- 2 • TRAINERS CRISIS FUND
- 3 • EDUCATION
 - Youth Scholarship Program
 - Youth of the Year award
- 4 • EQUESTRIANS WITH DISABILITIES
 - Heroes on Horses
- 5 • CHAMPION FUND

Donations can be made at www.nsba.com/foundation