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**Dogs, Cats, and Horses Searching for Forever Homes on Adoption Day at
Hampton Classic Horse Show**

Bridgehampton, NY – Aug. 30, 2021 – Animal Welfare and Adoption Day Presented by Gotham Enterprizes celebrated its 10th year at the Hampton Classic on Monday, welcoming dogs, cats, and horses from a variety of rescues on Long Island and beyond.

Animal Welfare and Adoption Day hosted nine dog-cat rescue groups from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. while the horses and mini donkeys of Equine Adoption Day Presented by the EQUUS Foundation took center stage in one of the main hunter rings from noon to 1:00 p.m.

Participating rescues and shelters included: Animal Rescue Fund of the Hamptons, Gimme Shelter Animal Rescue, Jake's Rescue Ranch, Last Chance Animal Rescue, Mustang Heritage Foundation, Nassau County SPCA, North Shore Animal League America, Retired Racehorse Project, Rising Starr Horse Rescue, Second Chance Rescue NYC, Southampton Animal Shelter Foundation, Storeybrook Farm, and Tyler's Rescue.



Gimme Shelter Animal Rescue participating in Animal Welfare and Adoption Day © Kind Media

Grand Prix rider Georgina Bloomberg, EQUUS Foundation “EQUUStar” and Sponsor of Animal Adoption Day, was on hand greeting visitors, as was fellow Grand Prix rider Brianne Goutal-Marteau, who adopted a pony for her daughter at Adoption Day in 2016. Both riders are featured in a new book, *Her Horse*, by noted “petographer” Jim Dratfield. A portion of the proceeds from book sales go to the EQUUS Foundation.

“Adoption Day is probably my favorite day here at the Hampton Classic,” Bloomberg said. “Finding homes for these horses is so important. Horses are the reason we’re here, and doing what we can to help the ones in need is our way of giving back to them.”



Grand Prix riders Georgina Bloomberg and Brianne Goutal-Marteau joined Animal Adoption Day in support of equine rescues © Kind Media

New this year was a \$30,000 donation matching campaign for America's at-risk horses, thanks to the prize money won by EQUUS Foundation Equine Ambassador Lafitte De Muze, one of the nation's leading hunter horses owned by Cheryl Olsten and ridden by Amanda Steege. EQUUS Equine Ambassadors are sport horses whose owners donate a portion of their winnings in equestrian sport competitions to help ensure that all horses are safe, healthy, and treated with dignity as partners.

"The Hampton Classic is thrilled to host Animal Welfare and Adoption Day every year," said Shanette Barth Cohen, Executive Director of the Hampton Classic. "We thank Georgina Bloomberg and the EQUUS Foundation for their support and commend every rescue and shelter for finding these animals forever homes."

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. The Hampton Classic features more than 200 classes in six 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 show grounds. This year's Hampton Classic features five FEI classes in its grass Grand Prix ring showcasing elite riders from around the world, including Olympic and World Equestrian Games veterans. There are also kid-friendly activities throughout the week including pony rides, petting farm animals, daily special attractions and more.

Daily admission to the Classic is \$20 per carload. Admission is free on Monday, and seniors are admitted free on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Grandstand tickets for the \$300,000 Hampton Classic Grand Prix on Sunday, September 5, are \$45 per person for reserved bucket seating, which are available for purchase on the Hampton Classic website.

The Hampton Classic is pleased to continue its relationship with ShowNet by offering its services FREE to all exhibitors. Services include: Orders of Go; Live Ring Status; Live Results; and Post Round Video.

For those who can't make it to the show grounds, complimentary live webcasts of all Grand Prix ring competitions air on the Hampton Classic website, produced by ClipMyHorseTV and courtesy of LONGINES. ClipMyHorseTV is also providing a complimentary live webcast of all Anne Aspinall ring competitions and archive video, all available on the Hampton Classic website. 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.