

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** Contact: Marty Bauman, 508-698-6810; <u>marty@classic-communications.com</u>

## 2023 Hampton Classic Horse Show Helps Dogs, Cats and Horses Find Forever Homes

Bridgehampton, NY – August 28, 2023 – Animal Adoption Day Sponsored by Gotham

**Enterprizes** celebrated its 12<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the Hampton Classic Horse Show with great success on Monday, welcoming dogs, cats and horses from a variety of rescues. Championing efforts for adoptable horses, the EQUUS Foundation helped with one of many special connections; a lucky Mustang from Rising Starr Horse Rescue, *Abracadabra*, was officially adopted.

Animal Adoption Day hosted several dog-cat rescue groups from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Kids Area, while the horses and mini donkeys of the EQUUS Foundation Guardian Program stole the show in one of the main hunter rings from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The Rider's Closet offered visitors a Donation Trunk where they could drop off much-needed equestrian apparel to provide to riders in need. Other notable highlights for show attendees included HEART Equine Ambulance Tours, a blacksmith demonstration by Tim Fitzgerald, horse handling demos, a bouncy horse racing exhibit for kids, and horseless show jumping.



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Grand Prix rider Georgina Bloomberg, EQUUS Foundation "EQUUStar" and Sponsor of Animal Adoption Day, was on hand greeting visitors and spending time with the animals.

"This is probably the most important day for me at the Hampton Classic," Bloomberg said. "This is something I'm so proud of. I'm so happy Shanette (Barth Cohen) allows us to do it each year and that Valerie (Angeli) puts all this work in and makes it possible. It's so meaningful to give back to a community that has given me so much. I love being able to give back to the horses that have given me my entire life and happiness in my career."

Participating equine rescues included the Bergen Country Horse Rescue, Rising Starr Horse Rescue and Sunshine Horses, which are all EQUUS Foundation Guardian Charities. Other participating animal rescues included the Southampton Animal Shelter Foundation, Tyler's Rescue Inc., Jake's Rescue Ranch, Last Chance Animal Rescue, North Fork Animal Welfare League, and ARF Hamptons.



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"Finding our animals' next chapters is the heart and soul of what we are about," said Valerie Angeli, EQUUS Foundation VP of Engagement. "The Foundation was founded by a horse show mom in Fairfield, CT, in 2002 when her daughter's horse needed to retire and there weren't a lot of options that people knew about. We are all about second chances and safely transitioning horses between homes. It's wonderful to be here at the Hampton Classic, surrounded by other supportive, passionate horse lovers who also want to keep these horses safe."

The 48<sup>th</sup> annual Hampton Classic Horse Show takes place August 27-September 3 with a full schedule of world-class equestrian competition offering more than \$1 million in prize money. For live show results, visit the <u>Hampton Classic</u>.

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.

The Hampton Classic's FEI competition begins Thursday, August 31, with the **\$10,000 Citarella Open Jumper CSI2\*** and **\$39,000 Flecha Azul 5\* Speed Stake** and continues throughout the weekend with eight 2\*/5\* classes featuring courses designed by Ireland's Alan Wade. FEI competition also includes Friday's **\$39,000 Wölffer Estate 2\* Jumper Classic**, **\$78,000**  **Douglas Elliman 5\* Grand Prix Qualifier**, Saturday's **\$39,000 Open Speed Class CSI2\***, and the **\$78,000 The Agency 5\* Speed Stake**, and culminating with the **\$78,000 Hampton Classic 2\* Grand Prix** and **\$425,000 Longines Hampton Classic 5\* Grand Prix** on Sunday, September 3.

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, September 2).

Daily admission to the Classic is \$20 per carload. Admission is free on Monday; seniors and military are also admitted free on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Grandstand tickets for the \$425,000 Longines Hampton Classic Grand Prix on Sunday, September 3, are \$55 per person for reserved bucket seating. Grandstand tickets are electronic only; E-Tickets are provided thanks to support from Green is the New Blue.

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 <u>www.wvvh.tv</u>.

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