



MARYLAND HORSE WORLD EXPO

December 1, 2011

301-916-0852 / 301-916-0853 Fax

Horse World Expo in Timonium, January 20-22, 2012

**Family Fun & Entertainment, International Riders, over 100 Educational Seminars, Exhibits and More
Create the “Mane Event” for All Ages at the Maryland State Fairgrounds**

(Bel Air, MD) – From Tee-Shirts to Thoroughbreds, if it’s got a horse theme you can find it at the Maryland State Fairgrounds when the 16th Annual Horse World Expo comes to Timonium January 20–22, 2012. Horse World Expo has become the region’s “mane event” for horse lovers (and those looking for fun, family entertainment), bringing tens of thousands of people from throughout the Mid-Atlantic region for outstanding seminars, shopping, entertainment and more.

“The Expo has grown every year beyond what we could have dreamed,” says Denise Parsons, President of Equestrian Promotions, the company that produces the event. “We fill many of the buildings at the Fairgrounds. Our roster of seminars and clinics has become more impressive each year, and it makes the Expo an incredible value whether you’re a competitive rider, someone who likes horses, or someone looking for wholesome family entertainment.”

Show visitors can choose from outstanding **family entertainment and activities**, like the **Daily Roping Contests**; come try your hand at cowboy skills and learn to rope from The American Cowboy, Trey Young; **Equi-tainment!** A Musical Equine Variety Show will make its debut; watch as beautiful equines and their human partners perform precise maneuvers, tricks and spins and dance their way into your heart. There will be activities for kids too, including a Girl Scout Scavenger Hunt, open to all girls school age K-12; expanded 4-H activities and even **pony rides!**

For the horse enthusiast and those wishing to learn more about horse ownership, there are **over 125 seminars, clinics and demonstrations** featuring some of the most recognized names in the equine industry. New for 2012, are two new competitions. The **Trail Champions Challenge** will include some of the East Coast’s best trail obstacle riders and their horses. They will be required to negotiate a course of demanding obstacles and prove the bond and trust they have with their horses; winners will receive cash and prizes. Be sure to watch as three area trainers embark on a journey to help three fresh-off-the-track Thoroughbreds gain the skills needed for new off the racetrack careers. This exciting new event, the **Retired Racehorse Trainer Challenge**, was created by Stuart Pittman, a local Eventing trainer and top competitor. The trainers in the Challenge will chose their new equine students, and then be critiqued and graded by an esteemed panel of judges. The audience will then be invited to follow these horses on their five-week journey to a second competition held at the Pennsylvania Horse World Expo, February 23-26, 2012. During the PA Expo trainers will again appear before a new panel of judges and compete to show who has accomplished the most with their equine students.

One of the best parts of Horse World Expo is that **all activities are included in the daily admission fee!** There’s something for everyone – whether you own a horse or not – with seminars on topics as diverse as equine health care to farm safety, equine law and liability, money matters, horse training and show ring strategy for competitive riders of all disciplines. Some of the outstanding clinicians include (full roster of clinicians and bios available at www.horseworldexpo.com):

- **Nick Karazissis:** A staple in the West Coast Hunter/Jumper scene
- **Stephen Bradley:** Gold Medalist and Horseman of the Year in Eventing
- **Gigi Nutter:** Grand Prix Dressage competitor
- **Diane Eppers:** World Champion Western Rider and Judge
- **Kenny Harlow:** The Trainer of Trust
- **Colleen Kelly:** Rider Biomechanics Expert

The Expo occupies the Cow Palace and the Exhibition Hall at the Fairgrounds, plus the barn space. Visitors can stroll down **Stallion Avenue and Breed Row** and see an exceptional variety of breeds or attend the many **daily exhibitions, Parade of Breeds, attractions and live equestrian entertainment.** With over 200,000 square feet of exhibit space, the Expo has over **450 exhibit booths** displaying everything from horse-themed home décor and giftware to saddles, jewelry,

clothing, horse trailers and so much more. “If it’s about horses, goes on horses or just has a horse on it, it’s here,” says Parsons.

Daily admission ticket costs are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children 7-12 (under age 7 are admitted FREE). Each Daily Admission ticket includes all seminars and exhibitions at no additional charge. Parking is free; there are no multi-day passes and pets are prohibited. Hours are *Friday, Jan. 20* Noon–8pm, *Saturday, Jan. 21*, 9am–7pm, *Sunday, Jan. 22* 9am–5pm. For more information and a complete list of seminars and events, visit our website at www.horseworldexpo.com.

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NOTE: Interviews with clinicians and photos are available upon request. Please call Denise Parsons at 301-916-0852 or email: info@horseworldexpo.com.