

Arabian Horses and Jockeys are Taking Over Children's Hospital Colorado for a Day in May

(**11-April-16**) **AURORA, COLO.** – The <u>Arabian Horse Association</u> (AHA), with the help of real horse racing jockeys from <u>Arapahoe Park</u>, will partake in a day of crafts, fun and laughs at <u>Children's Hospital</u> <u>Colorado (Children's Colorado), located on the Anschutz Medical Campus in Aurora</u>.

On Wednesday, May 18, AHA staff, along with two horse racing jockeys and track announcer Jonathan Horowitz, will participate in crafts and a fun photo booth activity with patients and families at Children's Colorado. AHA and Arapahoe Park also will be handing out personal invitations inviting the kids and their parents to the horse races in June where they can watch live racing and meet a real Arabian race horse!

"AHA volunteered last year at the hospital, and it was so much fun to interact with the kids and tell them about the Arabian horse. We always jump at the opportunity to give back to our community, and we are grateful Children's Hospital Colorado lets us do just that," said Julian McPeak, director of marketing at AHA.

The joint volunteer partnership between AHA and Arapahoe Park started as a way to share the Arabian horse with the public during Arabian Horse Month. The month of May was first designated "Arabian Horse Month" in 2015. Arabian Horse Month was started as an initiative to help bring awareness to the Arabian horse breed and give Arabian horse enthusiasts an opportunity to share their passion with others. AHA is planning other May events. For more information about Arabian Horse Month and other events, visit www.arabianhorses.org/arabianhorsemonth.

Children's Colorado has defined and delivered pediatric health care excellence for more than 100 years. The nonprofit pediatric health system is known for its nationally- and internationally recognized medical, research, education and advocacy programs, as well as comprehensive everyday care for kids throughout Colorado and surrounding states.

Arapahoe Park is a full-service horse race track that also includes horse and greyhound off-track betting amenities. Arabian horses, quarter horses and thoroughbreds race May through August on most Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. Arapahoe Park is located east of the Denver/Aurora metro area at 26000 East Quincy Avenue, Aurora, Colo. 80016. For more information on Arapahoe Park, visit www.mihiracing.com.

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AHA is a major equine association serving 84,000 Arabian, Half-Arabian and Anglo-Arabian horse owners across North America. AHA registers and maintains a database of more than one million Arabian, Half-Arabian and Anglo-Arabian horses. AHA produces championship events, recognizes over 400 Arabian horse shows and distance rides and provides activities, education, and programs that promote breeding and ownership.

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