



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Denver Bronco's Mascot is Highlight of Arabian Horse Association Convention

(16-Nov-17) AURORA, COLO. – The [Arabian Horse Association](#) (AHA) located in Aurora, Colo. is a member organization designed as the official voice and registry for the Arabian horse breed. Every year, AHA holds an Annual [Convention](#) where organization members come together to discuss current issues and plan out the next year. All AHA members are welcomed to attend from November 15 - 18, but this year, one Convention attendee is creating quite the buzz.



[Thunder, the Denver Bronco's official mascot](#) and an Arabian horse, will be greeting Convention guests during General Session on Saturday, November 18 at the [Denver Marriott Tech Center](#). Thunder, along with trainer and rider Ann Judge and owner Sharon Magness-Blake will greet guests in the ballroom of the hotel and give a short presentation about being ambassadors on the world stage for the Arabian horse breed. Denver is the home base for AHA, which represents the Arabian horse, a century's old breed of horse that is the foundation for virtually all light horse breeds today.

In conjunction with Thunder's in person appearance, unveiled for the first time at the weeklong Convention is the life-sized replica of an Arabian horse commissioned to honor the famous Bronco's mascot, and his owner, Sharon Magness-Blake. Sharon has not only been a life-long supporter of the Arabian horse, but is a staunch patron of many Denver based charities. The Thunder statue will be donated to one of these Denver charities to raise funds for a soon-to-be-announced cause. The statue will be displayed at various community events throughout the next several months prior to being donated to the charity to be auctioned off at their year-end gala.

The Thunder statue is a founding rendition of a nation-wide arts-based community project called [Arabian Horses for Humanity](#), which used these life sized statues of the world's oldest breed as artistic pieces designed to promote awareness and raise funds for various charitable causes. The Thunder statue will be only the second statue to be built and donated to a charity from this program. Earlier this year, the first one, Silver, was auctioned off in Oklahoma City to benefit the [Leukemia and Lymphoma Society](#) (LLS) in conjunction with the [Warrior Horses for Warrior Kids](#) program started by an Arabian horse youth, Ryan Melendez. An outstanding equestrian, Ryan was diagnosed at age 17 with Juvenile Leukemia. As soon as he entered remission, Melendez started the Warrior program, which pairs juvenile LLS victims with a Warrior Horse that is nominated to the program. Raising over \$300,000 within a few

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short months, Ryan went on to become the LLS Man of the Year, and continues this program today as an example of another way that horses can change lives.

To learn more about Arabian Horses for Humanity, or to become a sponsor of a horse, contact Mary Trowbridge by calling 860.354.8926, emailing mary@trowbridgesltd.com or visit www.arabianhorsesforhumanity.com.

For AHA's Convention information, visit www.arabianhorses.org/convention. Please direct all media inquiries to AHA's Director of Marketing – Mikayla Boge at 303.597.8251 or mikayla.boge@arabianhorses.org.

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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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