



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: AHA

303.696.4500

## The Arabian Horse Youth Association selected for the USEF Youth Sportsman's Award Recognized Affiliate Grant Program

**(18-May-15 – AURORA, CO)** – The Arabian Horse Youth Association (AHYA) is proud to announce that the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) has awarded them a Youth Sportsman's Award Recognized Affiliate Grant.

The grant awarded to AHYA will be instrumental in supporting this year's Total Arabian Interaction and Learning (TAIL) tours at each of our National Shows. The TAIL program was established as a way for current Arabian horse owners and lovers to share their love for the breed with youth and children.

During our National shows these tours allow hundreds of youth who are not involved in the horse industry, a chance to meet and experience the beauty of the Arabian horse. With the support of the USEF grant, participants in the TAIL tours will be provided with information that will be instrumental in promoting the breed and getting new individuals involved.

Some of this information will include handouts describing the different disciplines seen at the show, coloring books, patches for the Girl Scouts, and fact cards about the Arabian horse. We will be able to purchase new signage for each of our events at our Nationals Shows as well as materials for a special event at this year's U.S. Nationals.

"The youth of today provides a pool of athletes and leaders for our sport in the years to come. Supporting youth at the Affiliate level allows us to strengthen our national sport structure and to connect the knowledge of the past to the vision of the future," says Mary Babick, USEF National Breeds and Disciplines Council Chair.

For the past several years AHYA has nominated an outstanding member for the USEF Youth Sportsman's Award. In 2014, AHYA nominated Ryan Melendez, an accomplished rider and a true sportsman. Though Ryan did not win the award, AHYA was honored that one of their Youth Board Members, McCamey Kimbler, nominated by AERC, was the recipient of the award. AHYA is very proud of both of these accomplished young people.

As AHYA's governing body, USEF is an active supporter of youth initiatives. For many years they have sponsored the AHYA convention and encourage the youth to have a say in how AHYA governs itself and the activities it organizes.

All these activities aim to support the growth of youth in the Arabian horse breed and encourage involvement. AHYA would like to thank United States Equestrian Federation for their grant and support of Arabian horse youth!

### ARABIAN HORSE ASSOCIATION<sup>SM</sup>

10805 East Bethany Drive  
Aurora, Colorado 80014  
[www.ArabianHorses.org](http://www.ArabianHorses.org)

Phone 303-696-4500  
Fax 303-696-4599  
[info@ArabianHorses.org](mailto:info@ArabianHorses.org)