The Arabian Horse Association Awards $9,250 to Youth Judging Contest Winners

(November 1, 2018) – AURORA, COLO. – The Arabian Horse Association awarded $9,250 to winners of the 48th annual Arabian Horse Youth Association (AHYA) Judging Contest at the 2018 U.S. National Arabian and Half-Arabian Championship Horse Show in Tulsa, Oklahoma, from October 25-26, 2018. Erin Garlock from Colorado State University was the High Individual Overall, winning a $750 scholarship, a trophy saddle sponsored by Awards Recognition Concepts, and had the opportunity to judge the HA/AA English Pleasure Junior Horse Championship at U.S. Nationals from center ring.

In addition, this was the first year of the Arabian Horse Hippology Contest. Eight teams with 29 individuals from across the U.S. competed for their chance at a National title. The youth were asked to solve a team problem, complete stations that tested their equine knowledge, complete a written exam and judge 2 halter classes and two performance classes.

At the AHYA Judging Contest there were 26 teams and over 105 individuals participating for their chance at a National title. The youth were asked to judge six performance classes, four halter classes including Half-Arabs and purebreds and present four sets of oral reasons. The classes judged included Showmanship, Hunter Pleasure, Western Pleasure, Ranch Riding, Country English Pleasure, Purebred Geldings, Half-Arabian Stock Hunter Geldings, Purebred Stallions, and Purebred Mares.

Scholarships were awarded in the following divisions:

**Hippology Contest**
High Individual Overall: Olivia Charles, Midwest AHC, $750 Scholarship
Reserve High Individual Overall: Liz French, Boulder County 4-H, $500 Scholarship
High Team Overall: Indiana 4-H, $250 Scholarship to each team member

**Judging Contest - 4/H/FFA Division**
High Individual Overall: Marty Kacsh, Colorado 4-H, $750 Scholarship
Reserve High Individual Overall: Claire Deplazes, Virginia 4-H, $500 Scholarship
High Team Overall: Virginia 4-H, $250 Scholarship to each team member

**Judging Contest - Jr. AHA Division**
High Individual Overall: Melanie Hansen, Jr Colorado AHC/Region 8, $750 Scholarship
Reserve High Individual Overall: Olivia Charles, Midwest AHC, $500 Scholarship
High Team Overall: Jr. Colorado AHC/Region 8, $250 Scholarship for each team member

**Judging Contest - Sr. Division**
High Individual Overall: Erin Garlock, Colorado State University, $750 Scholarship
Reserve High Individual Overall: Morgan Offutt, Colorado State University, $500 Scholarship
High Team Overall: Colorado State University, $250 Scholarship to each team member

The Arabian Horse Association and Arabian Horse Youth Association would also like to thank all of the U.S. National exhibitors who provided horses for the contest. Without them and their beautiful horses, this contest would cease to exist.

Congratulations to all of the teams and participants. Complete results can be found at http://www.arabianhorses.org/youth/contests/.

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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 champion ship events, recognizes over 400 Arabian horse shows and distance rides and provides activities, education, and programs that promote breeding and ownership.