



AHYA Youth of the Year

2025 AHA Youth of the Year: Mikayla Clement, Region 12

2025 Convention

Youth of the Year Presentation to General Assembly

Delivered November 21, 2025

Presentation by Hanah Hiiva

Hello Everyone, My name is Hannah Hiiva and I am the 2024 Youth of the Year. It is my honor to give this Youth of the Year presentation. I would like to begin by thanking the Arabian Horse Foundation for generously sponsoring a \$5,000 Scholarship for our 2025 Youth of the Year. I would also like to recognize those who served in selecting the 2025 winners:

Cindy Howey, Youth Committee Vice Chair

Annaliese Himmel, Region 9

Hilary Hoffman, Region 10

Jennifer Goslin, Region 9

Shannon Bedell, Region 5

AHA youth members are anything but average! The Youth of the Year award honors annually one outstanding youth member. Criteria for this prestigious award is based on his or her achievements and contributions to the Arabian horse industry, to AHA and lastly to their community. Our past winners have been outstanding ambassadors for the breed and have gone on to represent us exceptionally well – not just in the Arabian horse industry but in the equine industry as a whole.

Each year, the committee is privileged to review these applications, giving them a chance to learn about some of our brightest youth members and then personally interview the final candidates. Each of the finalists presented their own strengths, passions and insights in various areas. They continue to be amazed each year with the quality of the youth members that are a part of this organization.



Region 13 has reason to be proud of a particular young lady named Madelyn Frendo. Madelyn has been involved with the Arabian Horse industry and found success in the show pen. She is a hard worker, compassionate and determined in all that she does. We congratulate Madelyn on her many achievements and as the Second Runner-up for Youth of the Year.

Region 11 was also well represented this year by a bright and charismatic young woman by the name of Jatelyn “Bug” Burcham. Bug has been a big part of AHYA as the AHYA President for the past 2 years. She has grown to be an amazing leader on the AHYA Board, standing up for changes to be

made and the youth to have a voice in our association. Bug's future plans are driven by a desire to be a voice for families who are too often left unheard. Bug wishes to pursue her doctorate and specialize in family law. The first runner up for the Youth of the Year will be awarded a \$1000 scholarship sponsored by the Arabian Horse Association. Congratulations Bug for being the 2025 first runner up for the Youth of the Year and being the recipient of the \$1000 scholarship.

With so many bright futures placed before us, it was certainly difficult to choose a single winner. This year, one candidate distinguished herself, with her passion for the Arabian horse breed; her desire to help others, and bring people in the industry together. It is now my distinct honor to describe to you an outstanding youth from Region 12.



Passion, determination, and hard work are the foundation of this young woman's approach to life. She currently takes on a lot of leadership roles within her school and community, especially within 4-H. Giving back to her community has always been one of her core values.

Moreover, our Youth of the Year is an important part of the Arabian Horse Youth Association. She has served multiple years as the Region 12 Youth Director and Vice Director, planning events and encouraging youth involvement. Beyond this she is involved in helping grow new programs at their local and regional shows to keep youth involved and grow the community.



Her passion, pursuit of excellence, personality, and support of the Arabian horse are just some of the attributes that we, as Arabian Horse Association members want to represent us as our Youth of the Year. We would like to present her with the Youth of the Year perpetual trophy as well as a \$5000 scholarship sponsored by the Arabian Horse Foundation.

Ladies and gentlemen, I am proud to present to you, from Eustis, Florida and Region 12, your 2025 Youth of the Year, Miss Mikayla Clement.