

# COLORADO MUSTANG WEST

## BLM Adoption Event

June 25 – 28, 2025

Grand Junction, Colorado

EQUUS Film & Arts Fest

The Mustang Summit

Art of the Mustang



**Mustang Symposium**  
**70+ Adoptable Mustangs**  
**6 Gentled Yearlings**  
**EQUUS Film Screenings**  
**Art of the Mustang**  
**Equine Literary Fest**  
**Mustang Experts**  
**Equine Vendors**  
**Food Trucks**



[www.ColoradoMustangWest.com](http://www.ColoradoMustangWest.com)

Mesa County Fairgrounds

2785 US-50, Grand Junction, CO 81503 | ALL EVENTS FREE to the PUBLIC



Official Colorado Mustang West Artist: [Sloane Milstein](#)

## About the EQUUS Film & Arts Fest | The Mustang Summit

The EQUUS Film & Arts Fest takes place as both a Virtual and In-Person Event! It is the first event of its kind to offer a home to the storytellers of the horse world, with films, documentaries, videos, commercials, and shorts from around the world and cultural elements of fine equestrian art and literature.

The Mustang Summit has been added to the program as an educational platform to raise awareness and understanding about the American Mustangs in holding pens and available for adoption. A horse who has a safe and quiet start can be trainable and become a good partner. It is our mission to bring awareness to American Mustangs who need homes. Focusing on and highlighting the work taking place in the healing and equine assisted learning fields with Mustangs. Providing resources for all who want to learn about the Off-Range Mustang horse.

Founded in 2013 by Lisa Diersen, Director/Organizer, an equestrian, who has spent her life in the company of horses. Lisa's mission is to show the world how horses can bring everyone together regardless of race, age, gender, abilities or disabilities. She presently raises, trains and loves Lusitano horses in Saint Charles, Illinois with her Jack Russell, Amore.

Julianne Neal, Storyteller, Filmmaker, Author, Founder of JA Media Productions joined the team in 2016.

*Every horse has a story, it's our mission at the EQUUS Film & Arts Fest to share those stories, through film, art and literature.*

The EQUUS Film Fest [Channel You-Tube](#), streaming to all your devices.

Visit our website at: [www.equusfilmfest.com](http://www.equusfilmfest.com) and our [FaceBook](#) page.

Mustang Summit: [www.mustangsummit.com](http://www.mustangsummit.com)

### PR AND/OR SPONSOR CONTACT:

Lisa Diersen [lisa@equusfilmfestival.net](mailto:lisa@equusfilmfestival.net) +1-630-272-3077

**Additional Info:** Julianne Neal [julianneneal@me.com](mailto:julianneneal@me.com) +1-803-351-0223

Assistant to the Director: Julie Martin

### SOCIAL MEDIA

FaceBook: <https://www.facebook.com/EquusFilmFestival>

You-Tube: <https://www.youtube.com/@equusfilmfestival772/featured>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/equusfilmfest/>





# Visit Grand Junction, Colorado



**VISIT GRAND JUNCTION**

From breathtaking red rock scenery and thrilling outdoor adventure to cultural attractions and farm-to-table dining, Grand Junction is a premier destination for those looking for adventure. Don't miss the opportunity to experience nature by exploring local trails at the Colorado National Monument or Grand Mesa from a bike or horseback. Skiing, golfing, rafting and hiking abound in Grand Junction. Local wineries and produce growers supply restaurants and farm stands with seasonally fresh flavors. Explore all the activities and fun things to do that Grand Junction has to offer. The climate is temperate year-round, so visit any time of the year to experience outdoor recreation.

Whether you decide to visit us in winter, spring, summer, or fall, Grand Junction boasts a wealth of outdoor activities for every season. Try snowshoeing the Grand Mesa, hiking to a secluded waterfall, or trail riding on horseback. Any time of year, Grand Junction is the perfect Colorado family destination. Come visit and immerse yourself in all the great outdoors has to offer.

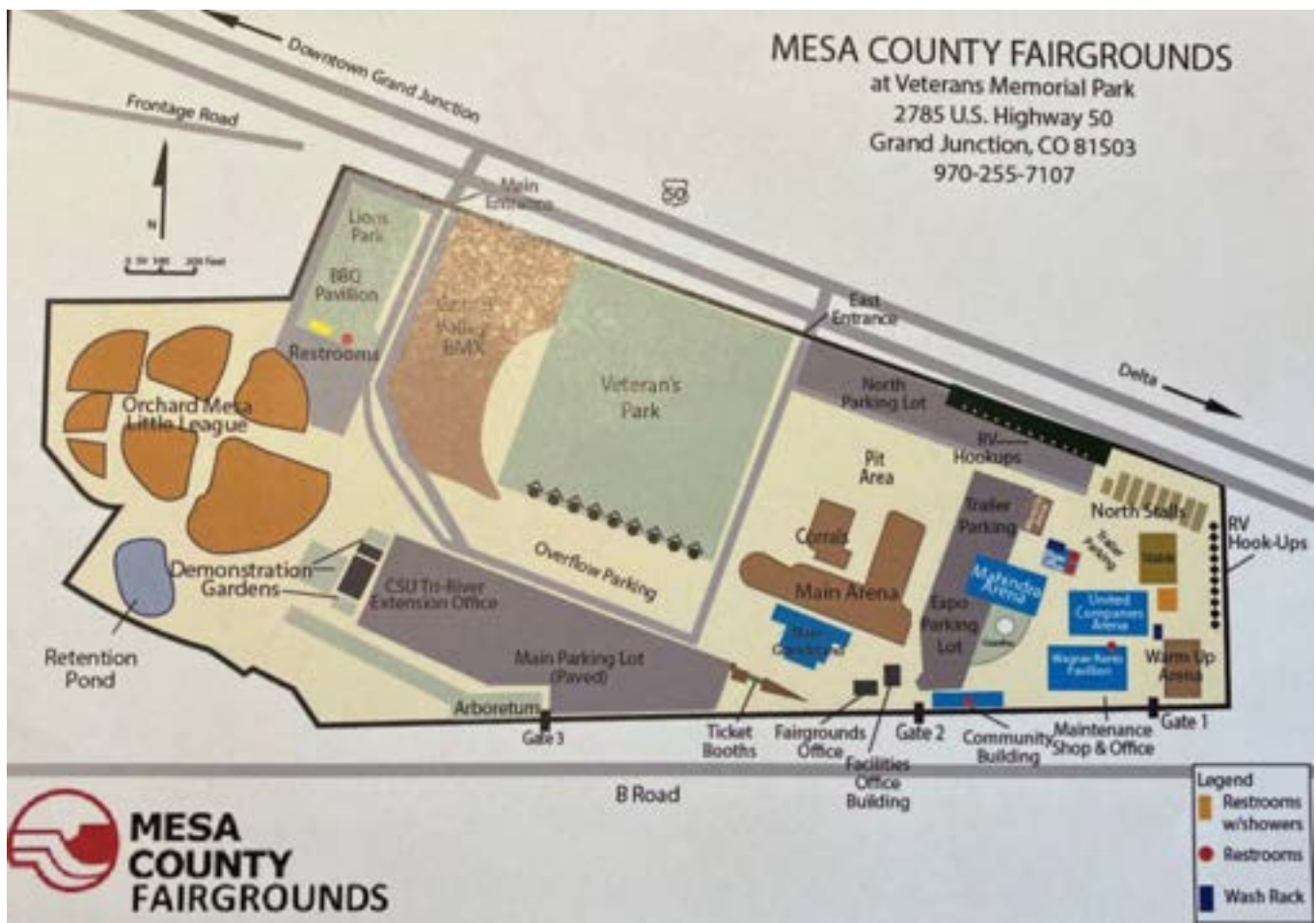


<https://www.visitgrandjunction.com/>

# Grand Junction, Colorado

## June 26 – 28, 2025

### Mesa County Fairgrounds







## **Colorado Equine Liability Act**

Warning - Under Colorado Law, an equine professional is not liable for the injury to or the death of a participant in equine activities resulting from the inherent risks of equine activities, pursuant to section 13-21-119, Colorado Revised Statutes.

# The Mustang Summit - Grand Junction, Colorado

## MUSTANGERS Schedule

**Thursday – June 26, 2025 – 9:00 am – 3:00 pm**

Time Block	Mustang Sessions Daily 60-minute sessions for 2 Days  Mustangs will be available for adoption!	Mustanger Trainers will be able to work their Mustangs before and after their Public Sessions. After all the other trainers are finished, for no more than two total hours.
9:00 am	<b>Macey Sanburg</b> Colorado	Yearling #
10:00 am	<b>Paige Burnham</b> Colorado	Yearling #
11:00 am	<b>Taryn Hillman</b> <b>Bree Thompson</b> Colorado	Yearling #
12:00 pm	<b>George Brauneis</b> Colorado	Yearling #
1:00 pm	<b>Tim McGaffie</b> Colorado	Yearling #
2:00 pm	<b>Alec Adams</b> Colorado	Yearling #



Schedule is Subject to CHANGE Without Notice

# The Mustang Summit Grand Junction Colorado

## Mesa County Fairgrounds

### Presentation Corral Schedule

**Thursday – June 26, 2025 – 9:00 am – 3:00 pm**

Time Block	Mustang Demo Sessions	Presenter
9:00 am	Mustangs and Yoga in the Morning	Alecz Adams
10:00 am	First Steps with Mustangs	Stefanie Schaefer
11:00 am	Prayer Drum for Veterans Drum Circle	Kami Sue Taylor
11:30 am	Year of the Mustang Riding Across America	Jake Harvath
12:30 pm	What the Heck is Burro Racing?	Alexis Knight
1:30 pm	In Working with Mustangs... Starting a Meeker Mustang	Eric Pflueger
3:00 pm	Science Based Horsemanship with Mustangs	West Taylor

**Alecz Adams**  
Colorado  
Alecz Adams Horse and Rider Training  
Lake George, Colorado  
10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Equine  
Author / Mustangs Advocate / Veterans Mustang Program



Alecz Adams, President and Director of Mustangs Colorado, is a 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Equine. He has been riding and training horses for over 30 years. He is a passionate advocate for the welfare of wild horses and has been instrumental in the development of the 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Equine program. He is also the author of the book "Mustangs: A Guide to the Wild Horses of the West".

His latest work is the book "Mustangs: A Guide to the Wild Horses of the West". This book is a comprehensive guide to the wild horses of the West, covering their history, behavior, and the challenges they face. It is a must-read for anyone interested in these magnificent animals.





**Kami Sue Taylor**  
Utah

**Mustangs and Yoga in the Morning**

Mustangs and Yoga in the Morning is a unique experience that combines the best of both worlds. Kami Sue Taylor, a professional yoga instructor and horse lover, leads a series of yoga sessions designed specifically for riders. These sessions focus on improving flexibility, strength, and balance, all while connecting with the horses.

Mustangs are known for their incredible strength and endurance. By practicing yoga with them, riders can learn to harness this power and use it to their advantage. This is a truly transformative experience that will leave you feeling refreshed and rejuvenated.





**Jake Harvath**  
Utah  
Year of the Mustang

Jake Harvath is a long-time rider and author of the book "Year of the Mustang". This book is a memoir of his year-long journey to ride across America on a wild horse. It is a story of adventure, discovery, and the power of the human spirit.

Harvath's journey was not without challenges. He faced many obstacles, from harsh weather to difficult terrain. But he never gave up. He persevered, and in the end, he completed his journey. This book is a testament to his courage and determination.







Schedule is Subject to CHANGE Without Notice



# The Mustang Summit Grand Junction Colorado

## Mesa County Fairgrounds

### Panels & Film Schedule

**Thursday – June 26, 2025 – 9:00 am – 8:00 pm**

Time Block	Panels / Films	Presenters
9:30 am	What the Heck is Skijoring?	Branden Edwards
10:30 am	How Horses Help Us Heal Wild Pines Wellness	Katherine Collins
11:30 am	Mustang Genetics	Laura Harper Dusty Pierce
12:30 pm	Colorado Mustangs: An Off-Range Conversation <b>Bureau of Land Management</b> <b>Mustang Champions</b> <b>Wild Horse Refuge</b>	Lynae Rogers Scott Beckstead Matt Manroe Stefanie Schafer
1:30 pm	Mustangs and Mental Health Veterans & First Responders	Russell Granger JJ Fletcher Hope N' Horses
2:30 pm	What Makes the Little Book Cliff Mustangs Special	Friends Of The Mustangs
3:30 pm	Mustangs: From Holding Pens to Show Ring	Inez Throm Paige Burnham
4:30 pm	<u><b>Film</b></u> HOOVES: Healing America's Veterans	
5:30 pm	BREAK – 30 Minutes	
6:00 pm	<u><b>Healing Horses Film Event</b></u> <b>*Healing In the Open</b> <b>*Where Horses Heal the Soul</b>	

# The Mustang Summit - Grand Junction, Colorado

## MUSTANGERS Schedule

**Friday – June 27, 2025 – 9:00 am – 3:00 pm**

Time Block	<b>Mustang Sessions</b> Daily 60-minute sessions for 2 Days  Mustangs will be available for adoption!	<b>Mustanger</b> Trainers will be able to work their Mustangs before and after their Public Sessions. After all the other trainers are finished, for no more than two total hours.
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# The Mustang Summit Grand Junction Colorado Mesa County Fairgrounds Presentation Corral Schedule

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Time Block	Mustang Demo Sessions	Presenter
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10:00 am	First Steps with Mustangs	Stefanie Schaefer
11:00 am	Prayer Drum for Veterans Drum Circle	Kami Sue Taylor
11:30 am	Year of the Mustang Riding Across America	Jake Harvath
12:30 pm	What the Heck is Burro Racing?	Alexis Knight
1:30 pm	In Working with Mustangs... Starting a Meeker Mustang	Eric Pflueger
3:00 pm	Brain Based Horsemanship with Mustangs	West Taylor

## Eric Pflueger Colorado

Since I was young, I've been fascinated by horses. I began my horse training at the age of 17. Over the years, I've spent most of my life with horses, helping them, and for me, it's all about the connection. The bond between horses and humans is something special. I have been fortunate to have been able to help many people in the Mustang training industry.

<https://www.ericpflueger.com/ericpflueger>  
<https://www.ericpflueger.com/ericpflueger>



## West Taylor Utah

Consulting Trainer and REHABILITATION  
Through Western-Based Horsemanship

West Taylor spent the first 17 years of his life growing up in the heart of the West, where he learned the art of horsemanship from his father, a professional horse trainer. He spent his childhood riding horses and working on the ranch, where he learned the art of horsemanship from his father, a professional horse trainer. He spent his childhood riding horses and working on the ranch, where he learned the art of horsemanship from his father, a professional horse trainer.

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<https://www.westtaylor.com>  
<https://www.westtaylor.com>



**WEST TAYLOR**

## Stefanie Schaefer Colorado

Wild Horse Outreach & Advocacy  
Mustang Heritage Foundation TIF Trainer

Stefanie Schaefer is a professional horse trainer and a member of the Wild Horse Outreach & Advocacy Foundation. She has been training horses for over 20 years and has a deep understanding of the horse industry. She has been training horses for over 20 years and has a deep understanding of the horse industry.

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<https://www.stefanieschaefer.com>  
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# The Mustang Summit Grand Junction Colorado

## Mesa County Fairgrounds

### Panels & Film Schedule

**Friday – June 27, 2025 – 9:00 am – 9:00 pm**

Time Block	Panels / Films	Presenters
9:30 am		
10:30 am	How Horses Help Us Heal Wild Pines Wellness	Katherine Collins
11:30 am	Mustang Genetics	Laura Harper Dusty Pierce
12:30 pm	Colorado Mustangs: An Off-Range Conversation Bureau of Land Management Mustang Champions Wild Horse Refuge	Lynae Rogers Scott Beckstead Matt Manroe Stefanie Schafer
1:30 pm	Mustangs and Mental Health Veterans & First Responders	Russell Granger JJ Fletcher Hope N' Horses
2:30 pm	What Makes the Little Book Cliff Mustangs Special	Friends Of The Mustangs
3:30 pm	Mustangs: From Holding Pens to Show Ring	Inez Throm Paige Burnham
4:30 pm	<u>Film</u> Mustang Collection Of Shorts	
5:30 pm	BREAK – 30 Minutes	
6:00 pm	<u>Mustang Film Event</u> *A Mustang Story: Episode 1 *Mustang of THE CARRACAS MESA *Short Break*  *The Mustangs: America's Wild Horses	<u>Filmmakers Attending</u> Laura Harper   Steve Latham

# **The Mustang Summit - Grand Junction, Colorado**

## **MUSTANGERS Schedule**

### **Saturday – Adoption Day**

<b>Time Block</b>	
8:00 am until 10:00 am	BLM Applications
9:00 am until 6:00 pm	Art & Vendor Fair
10:00 am	Yearlings Meet with the Mustangers and their Yearling
10:00 am	Adopter/Bidder - Meeting With BLM Staff
10:30 am	Competitive Adoption Begins with Sweet 16 & Yearlings
1:30 pm	Silent Auction Begins with Untouched Mustangs
Saturday 4:00 - 6:00 pm	Adopted Gentled Mustangs Load Out Begins
Sunday 7:30 am	Ungentled Mustangs Load-Out Begins



Schedule is Subject to CHANGE Without Notice

# Adopt

an American living legend

Colorado Mustang West

June 26-28, 2025

8 a.m.-5 p.m.

2785 US-50

Grand Junction, CO 81503



[BLM.gov/colorado](https://blm.gov/colorado)



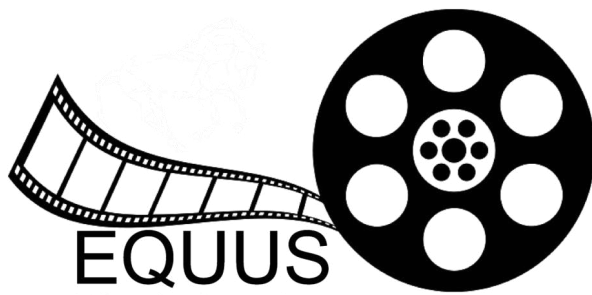


Meet Jake Harvath  
“Year Of The Mustang”  
Cross Country Rider



YEAR  
OF THE  
MUSTANG

[www.yearofthemustang.com](http://www.yearofthemustang.com)



presents

# Our Mustang Partners



U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management

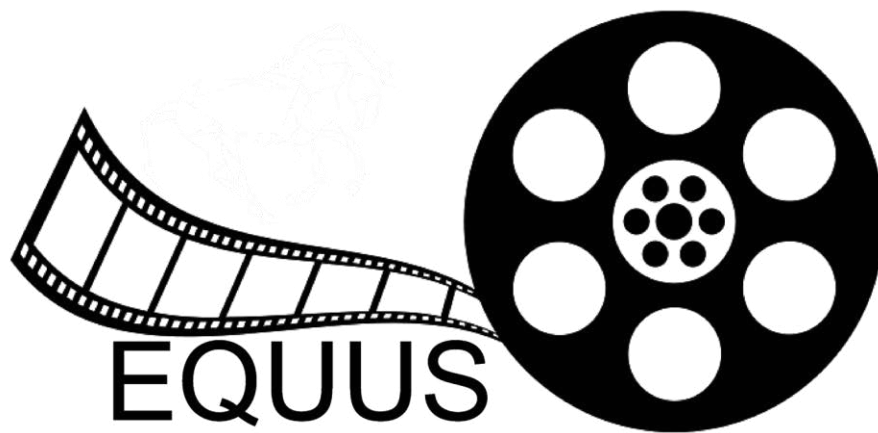


Adoption Academy



THE Cloud FOUNDATION





presents

# Our Industry Partners



HORSES FOR  
MENTAL HEALTH



CHATTANOOGA  
GIRLS LEADERSHIP  
ACADEMY  
UNLOCKING A WORLD OF POSSIBILITY







# WE ♥ MUSTANGS

We are proud to sponsor the **EQUUS Film Festival** & **Mustang Summit** on their mission to connect mustang owners & support this exceptional breed!



[www.etalondx.com](http://www.etalondx.com)

# 2025 EQUUS Event List



Month		Event	Date	City	State / Country
January		SGPL Film Fest	January 08	Sugar Grove	Illinois
April		Equine Affaire Ohio	April 10 - 13	Columbus	Ohio
April		Farmington Mustang Matinee	April 19	Farmington	New Mexico
May		SGPL Film Fest	May 14	Sugar Grove	Illinois
June		Western States Horse Expo Mustang Summit	June 6 - 8	Sacramento	California
June		Colorado Mustang West Summit	June 25 - 28	Grand Junction	Colorado
July		BreyerFest EQUUS Film Fest	July 10 - 12	Lexington	Kentucky
July		Mustang Challenge 2025	July 10 - 12	Las Vegas	Nevada
July		Barrington EQUUS Film Fest	July 26	Barrington	Illinois
August		Albuquerque Mustang Summit	2026	Albuquerque	New Mexico
August		Roaring Fork Valley HC - Private Films	Aug 2	Aspen	Colorado
		Walk-On Barrington EQUUS Film Fest	August 7	Barrington	Illinois
August		Author Cheryl Erickson Book Signing	Aug 14 - 16	Saint Charles	Illinois
August		ERAHC Virginia Classic	Aug 20 - 24	Lexington	Virginia
August		Maryland Mustang Mission Mustang Summit	Aug 28 - 31	Bel Air	Maryland
September		Mustang Classic KHP	Sep 4 - 6	Lexington	Kentucky
September		SGPL Film Fest	Sep 10	Sugar Grove	Illinois
September		Wild Kid Acres Maryland Mustang Summit	Sept 19 - 21	Edgewater	Maryland
September		GHS Devils Garden Mustang Challenge	Sep 26 - 28	Huntingdon	Pennsylvania

October	Yukon	TBD	Yukon	Canada
October	Liberty Fest	Oct 9 - 12	Lexington	Kentucky
October	IBERICON	Oct 17 - 19	Ocala	Florida
November	Mustang Summit -Carolinas in 2026	2026		
November	EQUUS Film & Arts Fest Maryland	Nov 14 - 16	Reisterstown	Maryland
November	EQUUS UK	Nov 15	Helmsley	York UK

[www.mustangsummit.com](http://www.mustangsummit.com)

[www.equusfilmfest.com](http://www.equusfilmfest.com)



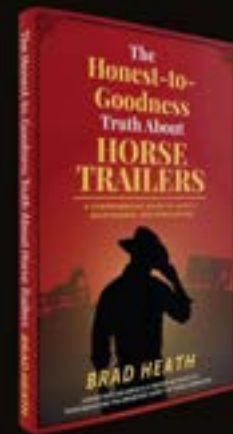


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Book  
Review

**Just Buy It!**  
Wonderful book! Highly  
recommend! Very thorough,  
clear and concise  
information about horse  
trailer safety. Get the book,  
you won't regret it!

★★★★★  
Blair M.





# Completed: Dates and Locations 2024

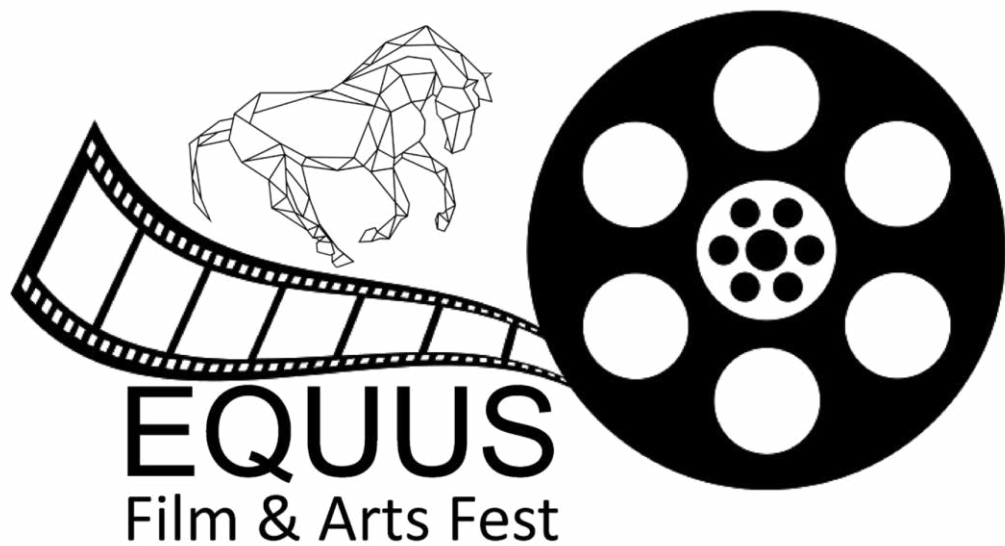
## 42 Mustangs (or more) in 2024

*Based on information from the BLM Website:*

*It costs BLM about \$27,500, on average, to provide lifetime care for a wild horse not placed into private care.*

- **March – Rocky Mountain Horse Expo – Denver Colorado - March 15 – 17, 2024**
  - Full Fest – EQUUS Film & Arts Fest | The Mustang Summit – 6 Mustangs – Adoption Event
- **June – Gateway Mustang Summit - Potomac, Illinois – June 7 – 9, 2024**
  - Small Event - 4 Mustangs & Films – Adoption Event
- **July – BreyerFest – Lexington, Kentucky – July 12 – 14, 2024**
  - Small Event – Films – Rescued Hearts
- **July – The Leanor - Aztec, New Mexico – July 26 – 28, 2024**
  - Small Event – Films & Art & Panels – Mustangs & Rescues
- **July – August – Adams County Fair – Brighton, Colorado – July 31 – August 4, 2024**
  - The Mustang Summit - Mustangers Event – 6 Mustangs – Adoption Event
- **August 25 – Mustang Symposium – Soulful Prairies – Woodstock, Illinois**
  - 1 Day Mustang Symposium
- **September – How Horses Help Symposium – Great Lakes – Oregon, Ohio – September 5-8, 2024**
  - Full Fest – EQUUS Film & Arts Fest | The Mustang Summit – 6 Mustangs – Adoption Event
- **September – Mustang Classic – KHP – Lexington, Kentucky – September 13-15, 2024**
  - Full Fest – EQUUS Film & Arts Fest
- **September – EQUUS Aiken – Aiken Equine Rescue - Aiken, South Carolina – September 19-22, 2024**
  - Full Fest – EQUUS Film & Arts Fest | The Mustang Summit – 6 Mustangs – Adoption Event
- **October – Liberty Festival – Kentucky Horse Park – October 11-12, 2024**
  - EQUUS Film & Arts Fest – Rescued Hearts Screening
- **October – Ibericon – World Equestrian Center – Ocala, Florida – October 17-20, 2024**
  - Small Event – Films
- **October – EQUUS BC – Anvil Center – New West Minister, BB Canada – October 26, 2024**
  - Small Event – Films
- **November – EQUUS Film & Arts Fest | The Mustang Summit Main Event – Albuquerque, New Mexico – November 14 – 17, 2024**
  - Full Fest – EQUUS Film & Arts Fest | The Mustang Summit – 6 Mustangs – Adoption Event





presents

# **The Colorado Mustang West Team**



**THE MUSTANG  
SUMMIT**

# Lisa Diersen

## **EQUUS Film & Arts Fest | The Mustang Summit** **Founder / Director**

Lisa Diersen is an equestrian; riding since she could sit in a saddle, Diersen has a great appreciation for all types of equestrian disciplines. She is the Founder and Director of the EQUUS Film Festival, now in its 12<sup>th</sup> season. The EFF empowers storytellers to show horses' rich history and diverse tapestry in human culture through equestrian content, film, art, and literature. The EQUUS Film Festival is the first film festival oriented around equestrian-themed content from all over the world that also travels the world. Screening feature films, documentaries, shorts, music videos, commercials, training educational materials, art, and literature, covering all equestrian disciplines, creating a home for the storytellers of the horse world.

Created for Horse Lovers... by Horse Lovers!

Her mission is to show the world how horses can bring everyone together regardless of race, age, gender, abilities, or disabilities. Lisa is passionate about the education and enlightenment of others to the wonderful world of horses and everything they can do to enrich our lives.

Producer and writer credits on the DOWN Syndrome equine documentary “A Pony And His Boy: The Story Of Berry & Josh” for the EQUUS Film Festival in New York City and the National DOWN Syndrome Congress 2019 with SPOTLIGHT Rescue Series partner and film director Julianne Neal. Working on additional SRS documentaries to add to the series she and Neal started in 2017. The Mustang Discovery Ride Project is now in production. Lisa is the Executive Director of the Mustang Discovery Foundation. Adding “The Mustang Summit” to the programming in 2022. With a focus on educating the general public about the American Mustang Horse and its importance in the world today.

She is a published equine author with many articles to her credit. Diersen spent the early part of her career with General Motors in engineering, then moving into the subdivision development and home/barn building market, winning an Illinois Home Builder Award, before returning to her first love..... working with horses! She spends her time, when not promoting equestrian film, having fun promoting Classical Dressage, Lusitano, and Mustang horses, and spending time with her faithful Jack Russell Terrier, Amore, and her Lusitano, Urano.

[www.equusfilmfestival.net](http://www.equusfilmfestival.net)

[lisa@equusfilmfestival.net](mailto:lisa@equusfilmfestival.net)

+1-630-272-3077





# Julianne Neal

## JA Media, Productions

### South Carolina



**Podcast Producer/Editor/Host Documentary Filmmaker**

**EQUUS Film and Arts Fest Director of Programming**

**CAMDEN, SC EQUUS Tour Stop Organizer**

WEBSITES: [www.jamediaconnections.com](http://www.jamediaconnections.com) [www.naturesview.us](http://www.naturesview.us)

[www.amustangstory.com](http://www.amustangstory.com)

<https://themarleyproject.org>

[www.equusfilmfestivalcamden.com](http://www.equusfilmfestivalcamden.com)

Julianne is the owner of JA Media Connections, LLC and the Producer/Director of A Mustang Story, the documentary/docuseries covering The Mustang Discovery Ride and other Mustang-related stories. She works in partnership with Bruce Anderson to provide Equine Assisted Services through Nature's View, Inc. and The Marley Project, Inc, a non-profit 501(c)(3) with a mission of providing equine education and public service. The organization connects horses with individuals, educational groups, law enforcement officers and management training professionals through Anderson's Natural Humanship™ work.

Julianne retired in 2022 after a 35-year career in Arts Education and K-12 Administration. A life-long horse lover, she owns and operates Thornfield LLC, a boarding and training facility in South Carolina. She combines her love of all things equine, educational experience and arts focus to bring clients and projects together through the boutique creative production company, JA Media Connections LLC. Julianne attended the Manhattan Film Institute in 2016 and began working with film production through a partnership with The Art of Storytelling (AOS), an international agency specializing in well-crafted, engaging stories designed to transform and inspire. Their first collaborative project, "THE EDGE: Bruce Anderson - Natural Humanship," is an award-winning documentary providing insight into Anderson's work.

JA Media Connections LLC produces a catalogue of podcasts. Julianne hosts Whinny Tales, featuring Anderson's work as a horse trainer and clinician. From "Horse stories and pony legends to unicorn yarns," the podcast has featured such organizations as the EQUUS Film and Arts Fest, Equitana USA, Horses and Humans Research Foundation and Creative Spirits UnLeashed. As a member of the EQUUS Film and Arts Fest Team, Julianne serves as Director of Production and Education, creating the Spotlight Rescue Series and the documentary film, A Pony and His Boy, as well as the festival podcast and WebChats. She recently produced a bi-weekly podcast for Brooke USA, On The Road, as well as Tiny Horse Talk and the Mustang Discovery Ride Podcast.

In her spare time, Julianne loves to ride her Warmblood/Shire cross, Winston.

**EQUUS Film & Arts Fest Podcast:** <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/equus-film-and-arts-fest/id1494713109>

**America's Horse on America's Trail:** <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/the-mustang-discovery-ride-americas-horse-on-americas/id1591933653>

**Whinny-Tales Podcast:** <https://www.stitcher.com/podcast/julianne-neal/whinny-voices>



# Sloane Milstein

## Colorado



My name is Sloane Milstein, and my journey as a photographer began with a family member, a manual camera, and a class. What started as a creative outlet has evolved into a unique path blending my love for photography, woodworking, and the Western lifestyle. As the founder of Mustang West Artists, I create work that highlights the beauty of mustangs, burros, and the rugged grace of the Western landscape.

Before turning to photography full-time, I had a long career as an equestrian professional. I was an elite competitor, NCAA coach, and United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) Steward. My expertise spans hunter jumpers, three-day eventing, side saddle, modern pentathlon, dressage, with additional experience in western reining and polo. This foundation informs my ability to capture the unique bond between horses and humans, emphasizing themes of freedom, strength, and connection. My creative journey began on Colorado's Western Slope, where I documented mustangs, rodeos, and landscapes. Through this work, I advocate for equine preservation and collaborate with local artisans, nonprofits, and galleries to make a positive impact in my community. I am also passionate about mentoring others, whether it's through photography lessons or hosting workshops to inspire creativity. When I'm not working, I love spending time outdoors—hiking, rock climbing, and paddling—with my dog, Slick, by my side.

I hope you enjoy my art as much as I have enjoyed creating it!

<https://www.sloanemilstein.com/>



# Colorado BLM Team

## Colorado



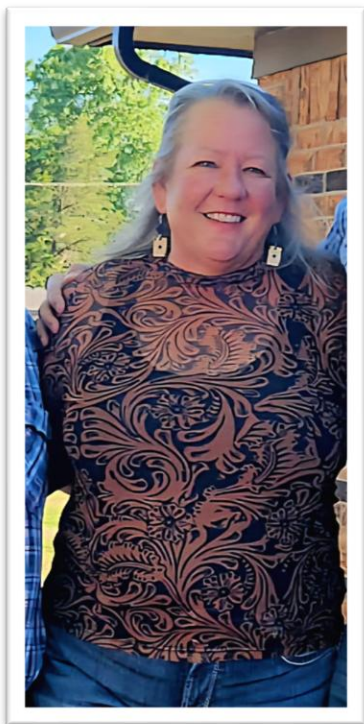
### Meet the BLM Team joining us in Grand Junction

**Vicky Franz**, started her career in the WHB program in 2019 retired in 2021, absolutely could not stay away and is now working as an experienced contract worker assisting with transfers, applications, reassignments, and adopter questions.

**Sam Tachera**, is the newest member of the team, joining in September 2023. Sam is a program analyst and will be overseeing daily office operations, data calls, and supporting off and on range wild horse operations.

**Wayne Tachera**, is the Wrangler for the CCI Short-Term Holding Facility, he started his WHB career in Ridgecrest CA, moving to Colorado in 2014. Wayne's duties include daily operation at the holding facility, along with overseeing horse care and wellness.

**Lyane Rogers (Separate Image)**, is the On Range Lead, WHB Specialist, BLM Colorado, she started her career in 1997 as a Rangeland Management Specialist, with WHB collateral duties. She has been with the program consistently since Jan. 2023. Her duties include coordinating on range projects, such as fertility control, gathers, on range partnerships, compliance, NEPA, etc.



<https://www.blm.gov/programs/wild-horse-and-burro/herd-management>  
<https://www.facebook.com/BLMNational>



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# THE MUSTANG SUMMIT

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## Mustangs

# Available for Adoption

Mesa County Fairgrounds, Grand Junction, Colorado

June 26 – 28, 2025

in partnership with

**Wild Horse and Burro Program**

**Bureau of Land Management**



U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management





## **Wild Horse and Burro Program Bureau of Land Management**

# **2024 Little Book Cliffs Area Wild Horse Gather**

The BLM Grand Junction Field Office concluded wild horse gather operations on the Little Book Cliffs Wild Horse Range Sept. 18, 2024. Approximately 140 horses from four areas of the horse range were gathered Sept. 11-18, 2024.

### **Purpose of Gather:**

BLM Colorado is committed to managing for healthy horses on healthy lands through appropriate management levels of the population. The removal of excess wild horses is necessary to achieve the AML of 90-150 horses on the range. It is important to find a balance that will preserve wild horses and their habitat, other wildlife like elk and deer, and natural resources.

BLM Colorado is committed to reducing the frequency of helicopter gathers. This outcome is dependent on having an effective fertility control program to reduce the rate of herd growth (15-20% annually if not managed), which is most successful when used to maintain a population that is within appropriate management levels.

### **Details of Gather:**

During a horse gather, safety is our priority – that of the animals, our employees, and members of the public. BLM is committed to the humane and ethical treatment of wild horses and ensures BLM and contractor staff adhere to guidelines set forth by the [Comprehensive Animal Welfare Program](#) in all gathers.

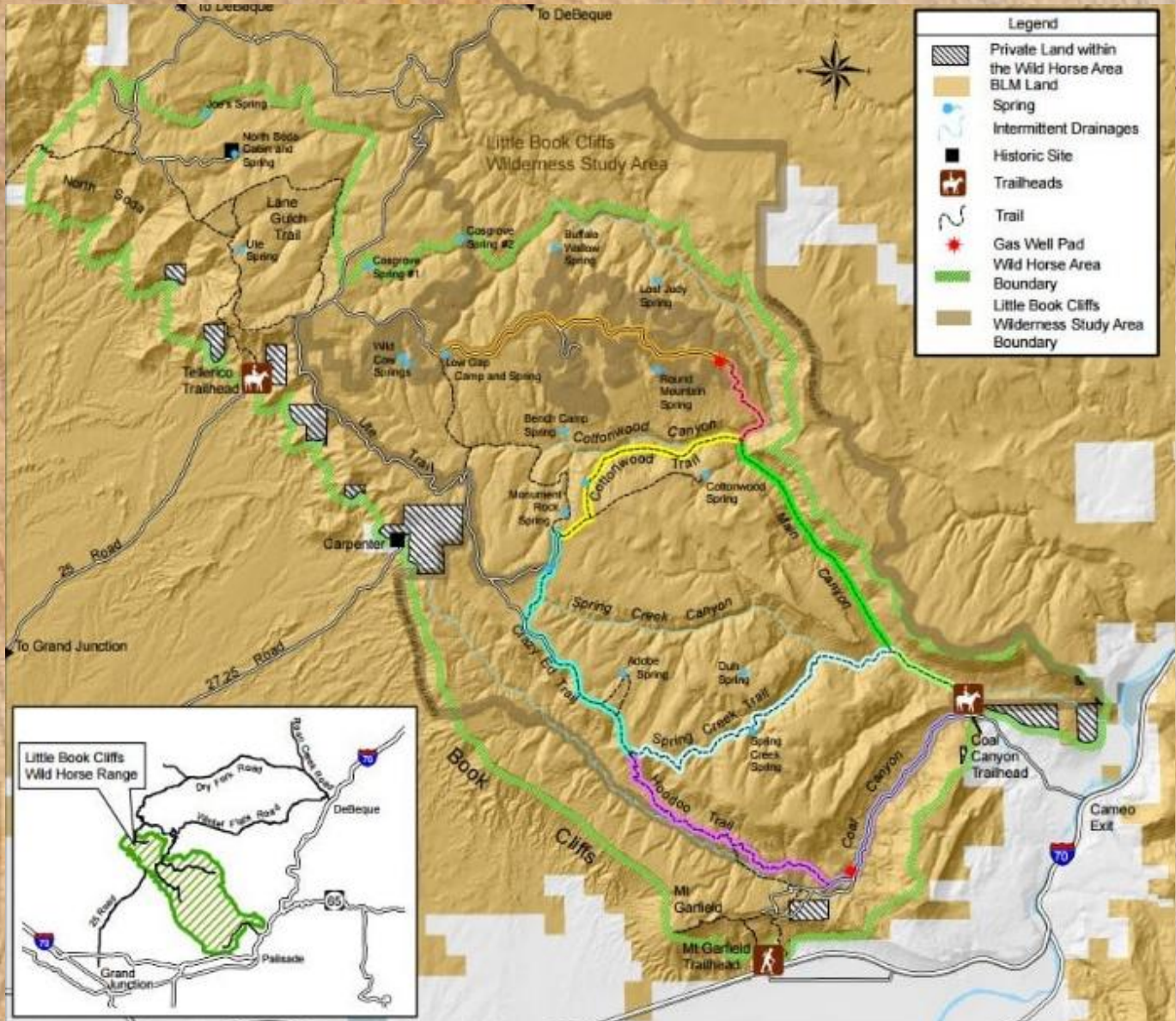
The Comprehensive Animal Welfare Program outlines required best practices and humane handling standards that prioritize the health and well-being of wild horses and minimize potential stress and injury.





## Wild Horse and Burro Program Bureau of Land Management

### 2024 Little Book Cliffs Area Wild Horse HMA





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**Grand Junction, Colorado**  
**June 26 – 28, 2025**



**Yearling - Available!!!**  
**Tag # 2539 Grulla - Filly**  
**Little Book Cliffs Wild Horse Range, Colorado**



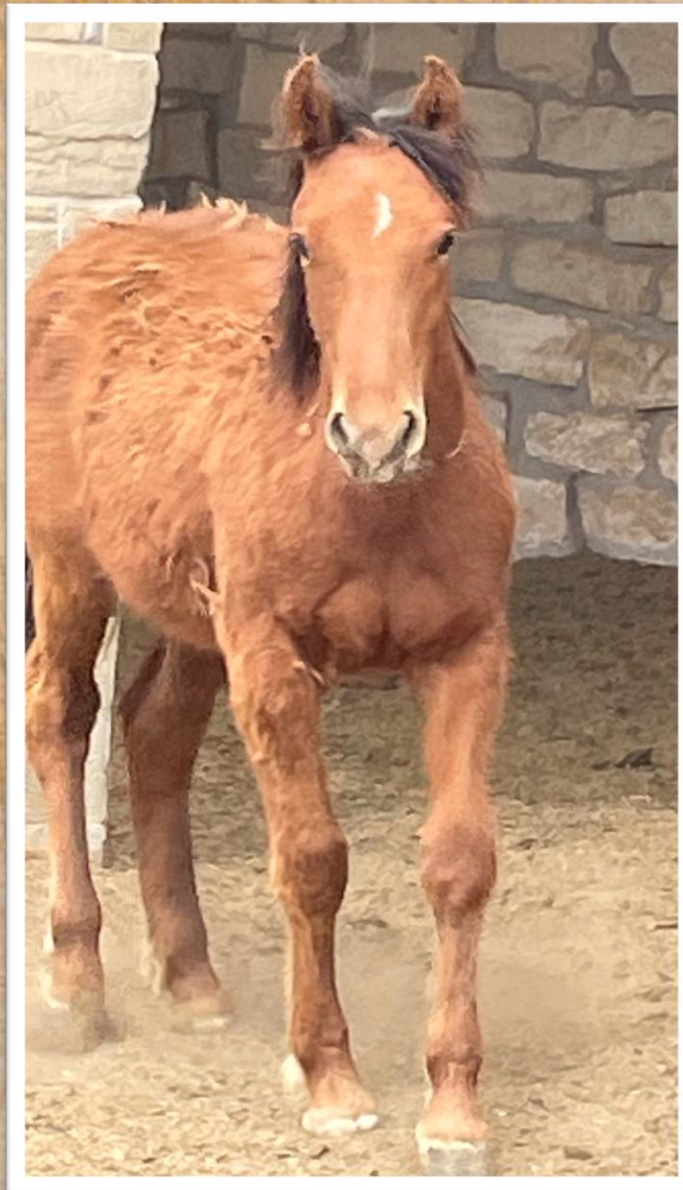


**Mustang Available For Adoption**  
**The Mustang Summit**  
**Mesa County Fairgrounds**  
**Grand Junction, Colorado**  
**June 26 – 28, 2025**



**Yearling - Available!!!**

**Tag # 2556 Chestnut - Gelding**  
**Little Book Cliffs Wild Horse Range, Colorado**





**Mustang Available For Adoption**  
**The Mustang Summit**  
**Mesa County Fairgrounds**  
**Grand Junction, Colorado**  
**June 26 – 28, 2025**



**Yearling - Available!!!**

**Tag # 2577 Palomino - Filly**

**Little Book Cliffs Wild Horse Range, Colorado**

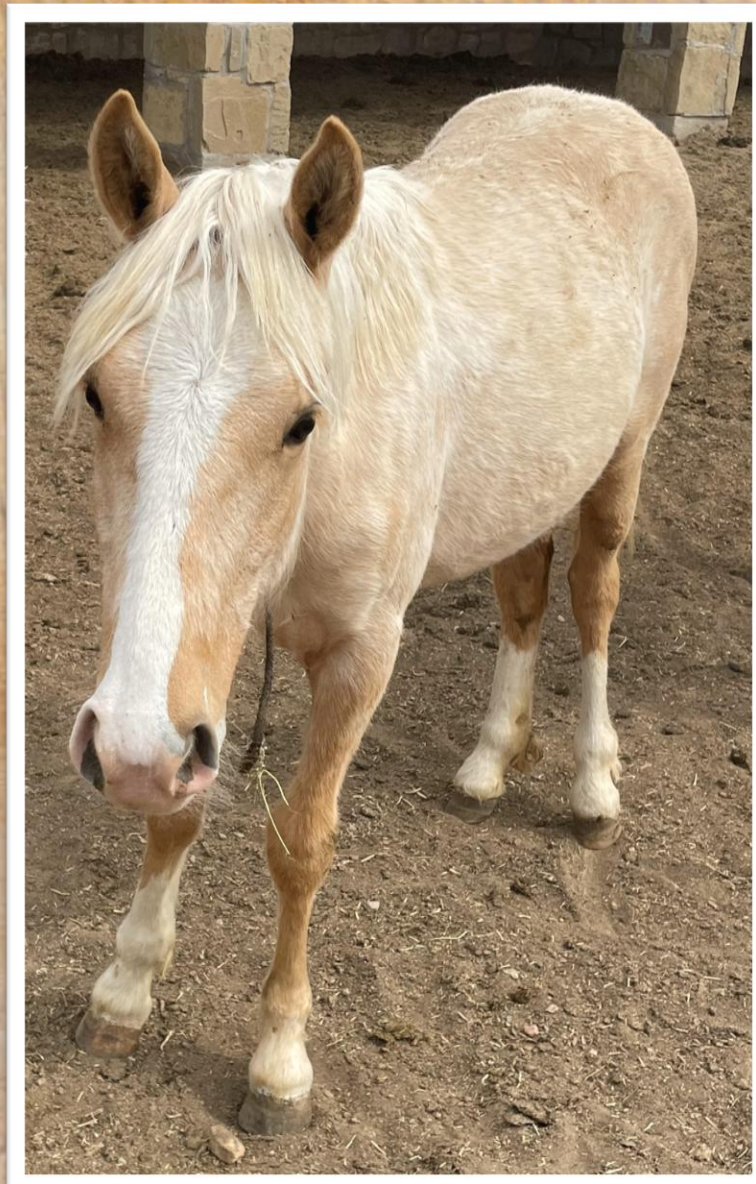




**Mustang Available For Adoption**  
**The Mustang Summit**  
**Mesa County Fairgrounds**  
**Grand Junction, Colorado**  
**June 26 – 28, 2025**



**Yearling - Available!!!**  
**Tag # 2596 Palomino - Filly**  
**Little Book Cliffs Wild Horse Range, Colorado**







**Wild Horse and Burro Program  
Bureau of Land Management**

## **2023 Bordo Atravesado HMA Wild Horse Gather**

**The Bordo Atravesado Herd Management Area wild horse gather concluded on June 24, 2024.**

### **Purpose of Gather:**

As of March 2023, the BLM estimated there were approximately 230 wild horses within and outside the herd management area, which is almost four times the number that is healthy for the land and the herd.

The purpose of the gather is to reduce wild horse overpopulation by removing excess wild horses from within and outside the Bordo Atravesado, and to reduce the wild horse population growth rates using a temporary fertility control vaccine.

### **Details of Gather:**

The BLM will conduct gather operations using water to attract animals into existing corrals in the area.

### **Background:**

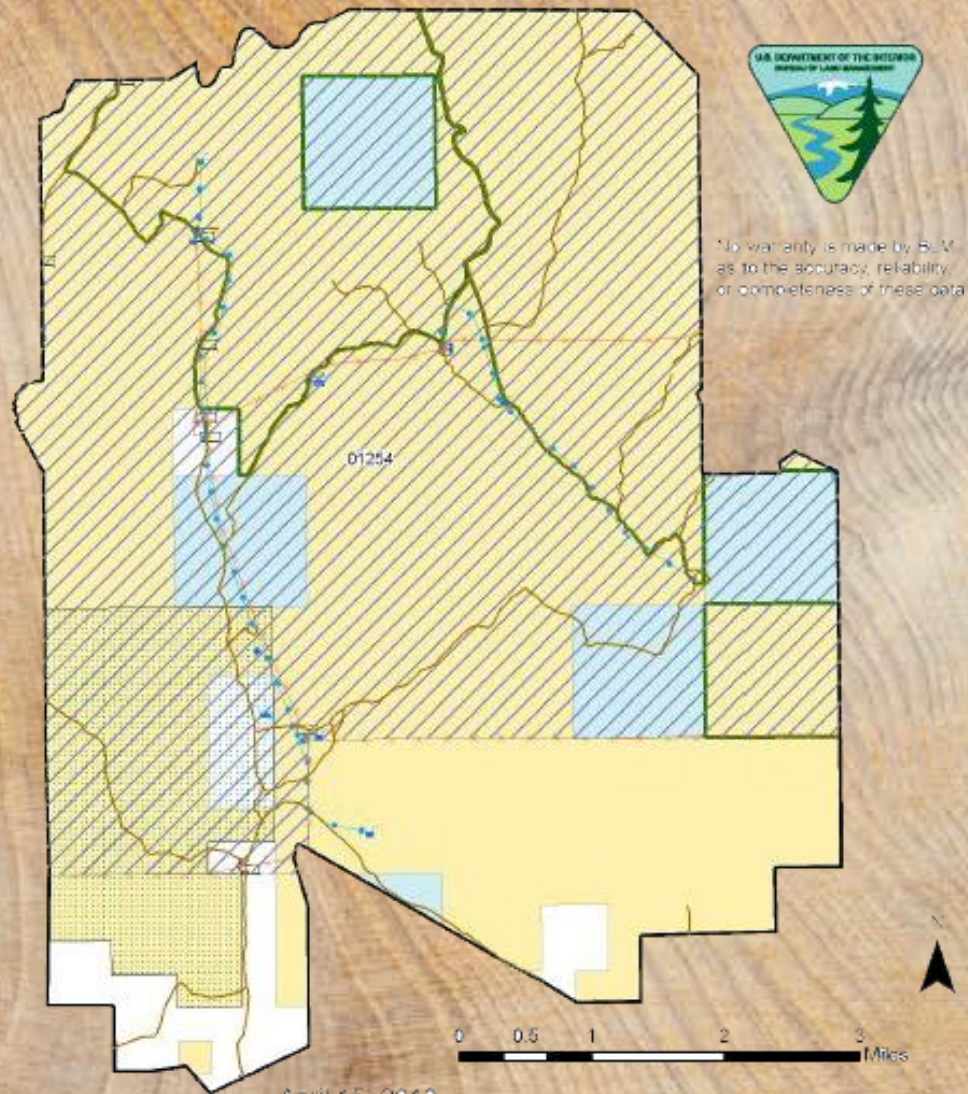
The Bordo Atravesado Horse Management Area is approximately 15 miles northeast of Socorro, New Mexico. A wild horse herd has been present in the area since at least the early 1950s. Bordo Atravesado horses come in an array of colors, which include buckskins, roans, grays, palominos, bays, sorrels, and a few black horses.





## Wild Horse and Burro Program Bureau of Land Management

### 2023 Bordo Atravesado Wild Horse HMA Area



Local Roads	Retention Dam	Trough	WSA	Bureau of Land Management
Barbed Wire Fence	Cattle Guard	Wildlife Catchment	Bordo Atravesado Allotment	Private
Water Pipeline	Coral	Storage Tank	Herd Management Area	State
			Stallion SMA	



# **Mustang Available For Adoption**

## **The Mustang Summit**

**Mesa County Fairgrounds**

**Grand Junction, Colorado**

**June 26 – 28, 2025**



**Yearling - Available!!!**

**Tag # 7451 Buckskin - Gelding**

**Bordo Atravesado HMA, New Mexico**





**Mustang Available For Adoption**  
**The Mustang Summit**  
**Mesa County Fairgrounds**  
**Grand Junction, Colorado**  
**June 26 – 28, 2025**



**Yearling - Available!!!**

**Tag # 7468 Blue Roan - Gelding**  
**Bordo Atravesado HMA, New Mexico**







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# The “Mustangers”





# Alecz Adams

Colorado

Alecz Adams Horse and Rider Training

Lake George, Colorado

10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Equine

**Author / Mustangs Advocate / Veterans Mustang Program**

<https://www.facebook.com/aleczadamshorseandridertraining>

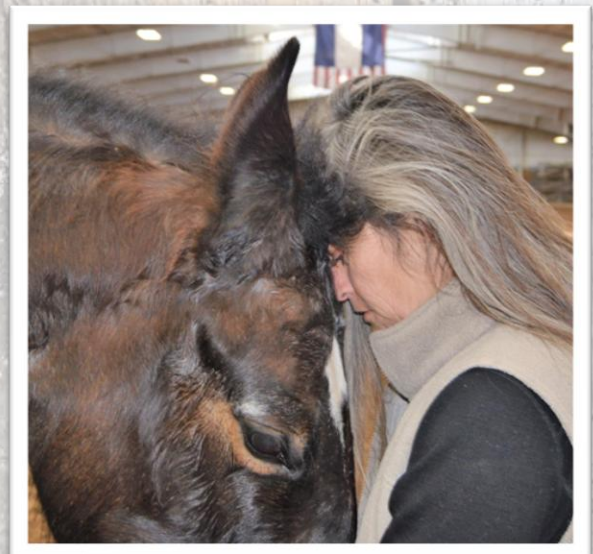
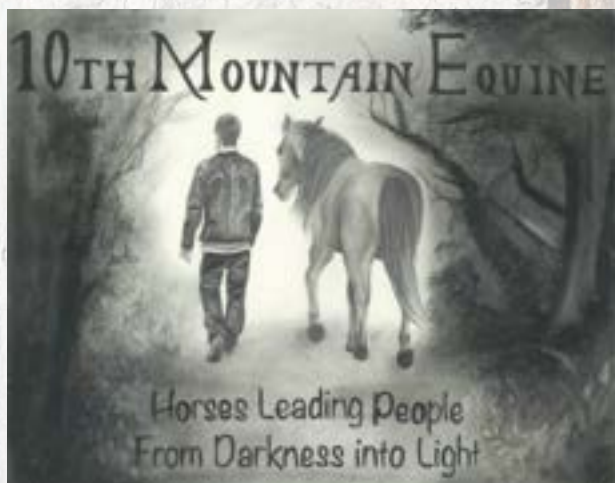


Alecz Adams, President and Director of Equine Operations at 10th Mountain Equine. Trainer at Alecz Adams Horse and Rider Training, she has been working professionally with horses for over 35 years internationally. A successful competition and pro rider in a variety of disciplines: Hunters, Jumpers, Eventing, Reining, Trail, English Equitation, Western Pleasure, and many Gymkhana Events, she currently works as a horse trainer, private riding instructor, Depth Hypnosis Practitioner, Equine Assisted Activity Facilitator, Ranch Manager, and Mustanger with the Mustang Summit.

Ms. Adams published the book *Mindful Horseback Riding*, and trains horses and individuals alike in methods from her book, from Trustwork to Yoga on Horseback, as well as teaching traditional riding disciplines, vaulting, and mounted archery. She also spent several years designing, creating and training both horses and staff for several companies in both North and South America, including the number one equestrian tour company in Peru, Mountain Lodges of Peru.

In 2019, Alecz co-founded the Colorado 501(c)3 nonprofit 10th Mountain Equine, with the mission to rescue horses and serve our community and country by providing proven, effective Equine Assisted Therapies and Activities to improve people's lives including children, veterans and those experiencing psychological trauma. Ms. Adams has been facilitating and providing Equine Assisted Therapies and Activities to people in need for over a decade. She has developed several new modalities, including the Equine Assisted Trauma Release and the Horse Guided Hypnotherapy methods which are becoming increasingly successful across the country.

<https://10me.org/>





# George Brauneis

## Grand Valley Horse Rescue

### Colorado



Back in 1971, George Brauneis was one of tens of thousands of children that wrote letters to Congress and our President in support of Wild Horse Annie's efforts to better protect our Wild Horses and Burros. He was in the saddle before he could even walk. He grew up with Taffy a beautiful Palomino mare and Old Ed, a scruffy and loveable Mammoth donkey. The love of horses and donkeys, Mustangs and burros runs deep.

After graduating college, he found his way to Long Beach, California where he worked in aerospace engineering. His fingerprints can be found on the International Space Station, the B2 Bomber, the Global Hawk drone, and the C17 to name a few. But, after September 11th, 2001, he had a change of heart and returned to rural Colorado. He came back full circle to his roots of his youth with horses.

George is a master at working with QiGong energy with horses. He has a way of being that mirrors a still lake in his Qi (energy) that helps the horses feel safe and cared for and seen without stressing them out or chasing them around to get them to connect. He calls this "Becoming Catchable To Your Horse."

George is a purely positive trainer who understands the deep energy flow of Qi running through him, the horses and burros and all of the animals at the Eagles and Wild Horses Ranch. His practice of QiGong led him to discover that Qi is a horse's natural language and by matching his Qi state with the horses amazing results were possible that allow the horse to shift their behaviors naturally and with very low stress.

George has come to develop his own unique style of "Slow Dancing" with the Mustangs which allows them to trust him based on their choice of being able to connect with him when they are ready. George's primary concern is the restoration of each horse's essence which so often becomes shut down at the hands of humans. Even though they may have experienced great trauma they can once again learn to feel safe in their own bodies and trust humans again.

<https://www.facebook.com/george.brauneis>





# Paige Burham

## Colorado



Paige has had a burning passion for horses for her entire life. She grew up riding and working with a variety of horses in a vast array of disciplines, and spending time building connections with her equine companions. After adopting her first mustang, Zyana, in late 2018, she found her place in life, building connections with mustangs. Since adopting Zyana, Paige has worked with mustangs from all walks in life, including spending 3 years as a MHF TIP trainer before the program closed, training for various mustang makeovers, and recently competing in the inaugural Mustang Classic, an English discipline makeover in the Rolex arena at the Kentucky Horse Park.

Paige has recently started her training program, Fantasia Horsemanship, and enjoys sharing her passion for these incredible horses with others. With a Masters of Science in Anthrozoology (the scientific study of human-animal interactions), she particularly enjoys developing the human-equine relationship, and educating people on LIMA, science backed training techniques where the well being of the horse is the top priority.

<https://www.facebook.com/p/Fantasia-Horsemanship-61567454819722/>

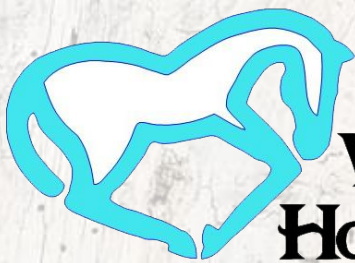




# Taryn Hillman

## Colorado

Born and raised in Colorado, Taryn graduated from CSU with a degree in Equine Science and Agricultural Business. She pursued her passion for horses from a young age and has been actively involved in both training horses and teaching lessons for over 20 years. She became a PATH Certified Instructor in 2007, helping individuals with special needs accomplish their goals while learning how to ride. She has participated in multiple Extreme Mustang Makeover competitions and several of those mustangs became partners in her therapeutic riding and lesson program. She has also competed in the Equine Comeback Challenge and several local TIP challenges, consistently placing among the top performers. When training horses she strives to do right by the horse, using natural horsemanship training methods to gain trust and respect while working with the horse to create a partnership with the goal of developing quiet, versatile horses that most anyone can ride



## Wild Hearts Horsemanship

<https://www.facebook.com/wildheartshorsemanship>  
<https://wildheartshorsemanship.wixsite.com/whhlc>  
<https://instagram.com/wildheartshorsemanship>



# Tim McGaffic

## Colorado



Tim McGaffic has studied with many of the great legends and to this day remains a student looking for greater knowledge and deeper understanding of stock dogs, horses and stockmanship. Tim was introduced to Ray Hunt during the 1980s while working with difficult horses on a Colorado Ranch. That experience changed his thinking about how to handle horses and set him on a journey to search out Tom and Bill Dorrance and horseman of similar philosophy.

He is well known for low stress stockmanship, his innovative work with wild mustangs most notably the Mesa Verde gather and horsemanship clinics. Tim has conducted horse clinics and taught low stress stockmanship around the country, predominantly in California, Colorado, New Mexico, Hawaii, North and South Carolina, Florida and Virginia. Tim became the ranch manager of two large ranches in Hawaii that had been abandoned for years. Tim's experience as a Holistic manager, ranch manager, horse and cow guy, made him an ideal candidate for the job getting the ranches under control.

Tim developed "The Nature of Natural", a philosophy based essentially on the principles of behavioral science.

You can access the Get The Mind and the Feet will Follow movie here

<https://johnsaintryanhorsemanship.vhx.tv/products>





# Macey Sanburg

## Colorado



I have been training mustangs on the western slope of Colorado since 2019. That year I picked up my very first mustang, a little black filly, and from there I was hooked! Since then, I have trained several mustangs and shown in different states. I thoroughly enjoy gentling and training mustangs from the ground up and sharing everything that I have learned with anyone who is willing to try!

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100011954284354>





# Bree Thompson

## Colorado



Wild Hearts Haven is a nonprofit 501c3 restart program committed to improving the lives of equines and humans through rehabilitative care and education, grounded in compassion and expertise. We offer equines in transition a second chance by providing superior training and dedicated rehoming services. We rehab, restart, and rehome horses of all types and backgrounds, with a focus on mustangs. We believe that investing in a solid training foundation is key to helping these horses live happy, successful lives back out in the community. 720-404-9032

<https://www.facebook.com/WildHeartsHaven>

<https://www.wildheartshaven.org/>





**BETWEEN HUMANITY AND THE HORSE IS ...**

**MUSTANG OF THE CARRACAS MESA**

**A History of the Jicarilla Mustangs and Mustangers**



**RAMBO'S STORY IS TOLD...**



# *The Sweet 16 Project*

presented by

**Friends of the Mustangs**





# Colorado's Herd Management Areas

HMA's are public lands where wild horses and burros are protected and managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Each HMA represents a unique landscape, history, and community working to maintain healthy wild herds and habitat balance. Colorado is home to four distinct HMAs, each supported by passionate volunteer groups. These groups play a vital role in monitoring herd health, documenting lineage, supporting adoptions, and working collaboratively with the BLM to maintain sustainable populations and preserve the wild spirit of the West.

**Little Book Cliffs HMA:** Western Colorado, near Grand Junction. Supported by: [www.friendsofthemustangs.org](http://www.friendsofthemustangs.org)

**Piceance-East Douglas HMA:** Northwest Colorado, near Meeker and Rangely. Supported [www.piceancemustangs.org](http://www.piceancemustangs.org)

**Sand Wash Basin HMA:** Northwest Colorado, near Craig  
Supported by Sand Wash Advocate Team (SWAT) and Sand Wash Basin Warriors. [www.sandwashadvocate.org](http://www.sandwashadvocate.org)

**Spring Creek Basin HMA:** Southwest Colorado, near Disappointment Valley and Dove Creek: Supported by [springcreekwild.wordpress.com](http://springcreekwild.wordpress.com)



# Meet the Sweet 16

**Arya:** Fostered by: Paige Burnham

BLM Horse ID #: 2587

**Born:** 2023

**Color/Markings:** Palomino filly with star, strip & snip.

**Description:** Arya was selected for her balanced conformation, soft expression, and calm presence.



A curious, intelligent filly, she quickly bonded with her handler and now seeks out scratches and learning. Her standout moment came when she shifted from nervous to relaxed during her first scratches—proof of her trust and try. With great movement and a trainable mind, Arya is suited for the show ring, trails, or anyone seeking a thoughtful, lasting partnership.

---

**Cajun:** Fostered by: Jerry Searcy and Sloane Milstein

**BLM Horse ID #: 2616**

**Born:** August 2022

**Color/Marking:** Chestnut Sorrel colt w. star.

**Description:** Cajun is a thoughtful and slightly apprehensive mustang who is slowly gaining



confidence through consistent and kind handling. While he's still learning to trust, he shows a deep desire to connect and be near his person. Cajun is making steady progress in understanding boundaries and appropriate interactions. He will thrive in a home with an experienced and patient handler



## **Freya:** Fostered by: George Brauneis

- BLM Horse ID # 2547:
- Born: June 6, 2023
- Markings:/ Color: black filly, with a star, strip, snip, left rear sock and a right rear pastern



Freya, a beautiful yearling mare from the Cameo area, accustomed to seeing people, has handled her transition with remarkable ease and charm. Standing 14 hands and still growing, she may mature to 15 hands or more. Gentle and social, Freya enjoys the company of both people and horses. Her calm, friendly nature makes her an ideal partner for someone seeking a soft-hearted, connected horse.

## **Glacier:** Fostered by: Peggy and Steve Elsmore

- BLM Horse ID # 2541:
- Born: May 2024
- Color/Markings: Palomino colt with s a blaze, left rear sock and left front sock



## **Habanero (Hobie):** Fostered by: Becky Diehl

- BLM Horse ID #: 2568
- DOB: May 3, 2024
- Color/Markings: Black/Brown colt, blaze, white on lower lip

Hobie to his friends—was chosen for his special lineage, being the grandson of a beloved mustang



named Kiva. From the first glance, there was an instant connection; it felt as if he told me to take him home. Hobie presents daily challenges that are met with his gentle spirit and willingness to try, revealing more of his thoughtful nature each day. Every small step is a milestone—from his curiosity to his growing trust. He is kind, responsive, and thrives when treated with patience and consistency. Hobie will be a loyal partner for someone who values connection and compassion in a horse.

---

## **Keno:** Fostered by: Georgia Manus and Josie Robinson

- BLM Horse ID # 2600:
- Born: June 2023
- Color/Markings: red dun filly with a blaze, 2 rear socks, and a left front sock.

Keno is a sweet, curious filly with beautiful doe eyes and a signature snort when exploring



new things. She's progressing well, enjoys company, and gets along great with other horses—especially her mustang buddy, Journey Man. She'll thrive in a home full of kindness, patience, and love.



## **Mischief:** Fostered by:Peggy and Steve Elsmore

- BLM Horse ID #:2561
- Born: March 2024
- Color/Markings: Bay colt with a star and snip.

Mischief immediately stood out with his cute snip and inquisitive expression.

Initially unsure of people, he's transformed beautifully—from avoiding contact to calmly accepting a halter and lead. Each day he's shown greater comfort, and one special moment was when he allowed himself to be haltered for the first time. Mischief's journey is all about building trust, and he now meets the world with growing confidence. He'll do best with someone who understands the power of patience and is ready to continue his gentle path forward.

---



## **Paintbrush:** Fostered by:Diana Shipley

- BLM Horse ID #:2588
- Year Born: 2023
- Markings: Paint

Paintbrush is a striking young filly—an athletic, curious, and willing partner with all the raw materials for a bright future. She

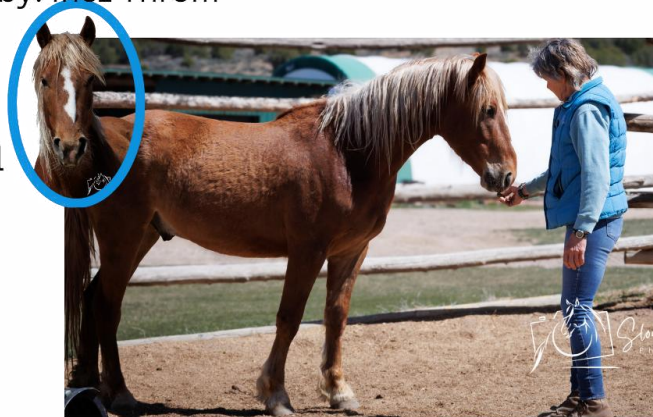


moves beautifully and approaches new situations with a combination of inquisitiveness and poise. A true diamond in the rough, Paintbrush has the potential to excel in a competitive career

**Prescott:** Fostered by: Inez Throm

- BLM Horse ID #: 2613
- Born June 2022
- Color/Markings: Sorrel gelding with an off-center star and a zig zag strip

Prescott immediately stood out in a photo and



confirmed that impression by being the first to step confidently off the trailer. His curiosity was evident from the start, taking in his surroundings with thoughtful awareness. Although initially cautious and reluctant to be touched, he has made tremendous progress—now enjoying full-body scratches and calmly accepting a halter. One especially meaningful moment was when he allowed the halter to be gently placed over his face, showing trust and comfort. Prescott is a curious and careful gelding, ideal for a smaller handler who enjoys trail or obstacle work and is looking for a thoughtful, loyal partner.

---

**Ransom:** Fostered by: Jerry Searcy

- BLM Horse ID #2620:
- Age or Year Born 2023:
- Markings/Color:

Chestnut, Stripe/Blaze, 2 socks and pasterns.

Ransom is an enigma—in the best way. From the very first step into his foster pen, he showed a genuine curiosity and a desire to be around



people. He has the heart of a golden retriever wrapped in the body of a mustang, always eager to engage and connect. Ransom happily accepts his halter, enjoys being brushed, and is learning to take short walks and pick up his feet. His sweet and gentle nature makes him a joy to work with, and with continued guidance, he'll grow into a loyal, people-loving partner ready to share adventures with his new person.



## **Relic:** Fostered by: John Boughton and Warren MacEvoy

- BLM Horse ID #: 2560
- Born 3-13-2024
- Color/Markings: Chestnut, wide blaze, apron face, 3 stockings,

Pinto/Sabino pattern

Relic was chosen for his striking markings, confident presence, and impressive lineage. From the start, he showed calm awareness and adaptability. He enjoys grooming, handles well from both sides. Curious and affectionate, Relic bonds quickly when treated with patience. With continued gentle guidance, he'll make a versatile and heartwarming partner.

---



## **Taboo (Felix)**

Fostered by: Macey Sandburg

- BLM Horse ID #: 2580
- Born April or May 2024 (1 year)
- Color/Markings: Palomino colt with blue eyes, blaze, and two hind socks

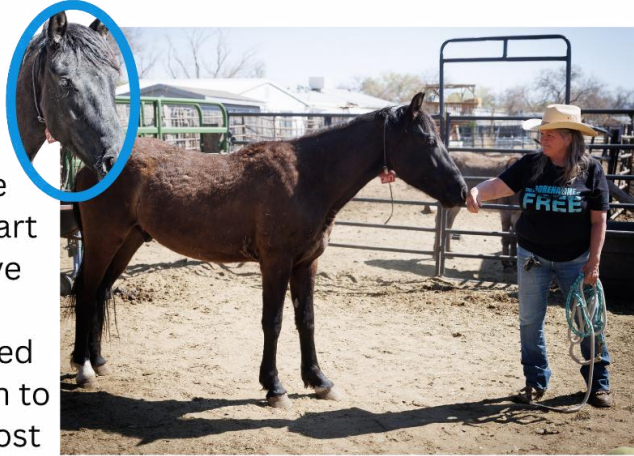


Taboo, affectionately nicknamed Felix, was originally a replacement choice but quickly won hearts with his sweet and easygoing nature. Though initially low on the pecking order and wary of human interaction, he has blossomed into a cuddly and curious companion. The first time he allowed a gentle touch on his nose was a pivotal moment—he melted into the connection and has been seeking affection ever since. Felix is playful, personable, and shows great potential for ranch work, trail riding, or even the show ring. He's looking for a home that will nurture his confidence and embrace his goofy, lovable personality.

## **Tuff (Kola):** Fostered by: Sharon Odneal

- BLM Tag:2617
- Born: 2023
- Color/Markings: Black

Tuff, affectionately called Kola, was not the original pick, but he quickly became a meaningful part of the journey. Initially defensive and wary of human contact, he required a patient, science-based approach that helped him begin to trust and engage. One of the most



rewarding moments was when he stood calmly nearby, curious and relaxed, then released tension with a series of deep yawns. Sensitive and intelligent, Kola continues to grow braver each day. He's ideal for someone who values emotional intelligence in a horse and is willing to provide consistent, thoughtful care to nurture his full potential.

---

## **Yucatan:** Fostered by:Dora Bensch

- BLM Horse ID #: 2582
- DOB: March 1, 2024
- Color/Markings: Sorrel colt with a star-stripe, flaxen mane and tail

Yucatan was chosen because of his shared lineage with a



beloved mustang adopted in 2019, and he immediately confirmed that choice by stepping calmly out of the trailer and taking in his new surroundings with quiet confidence. is fun and friendly energy. From the beginning, he has been responsive, eager to interact, and curious about everything around him. A standout moment was seeing him play gently with a ball and joyfully engage with children, showing both his playful side and his gentle nature. Yucatan is affectionate, smart, and adaptable. He would thrive in a home full of love and would especially enjoy the company of kids who can share in his fun and friendly energy.



## **Zander** Fostered by: Georgia Manus and Josie Robinson

- BLM Horse ID #:2598
- Age or Year Born: Spring of 2023
- Color/Markings:  
Palomino with one rear sock and a small blaze



Zander was chosen by chance—but it turns out she's the niece of a beloved mustang, Checotah, who was part of this family for over 20 years. Their connection feels meant to be. Zander is curious, affectionate, and quick to bond, happily accepting scratches and attention. She can be sensitive around new horses and may need extra time to adjust. With patience and love, she'll continue to blossom.

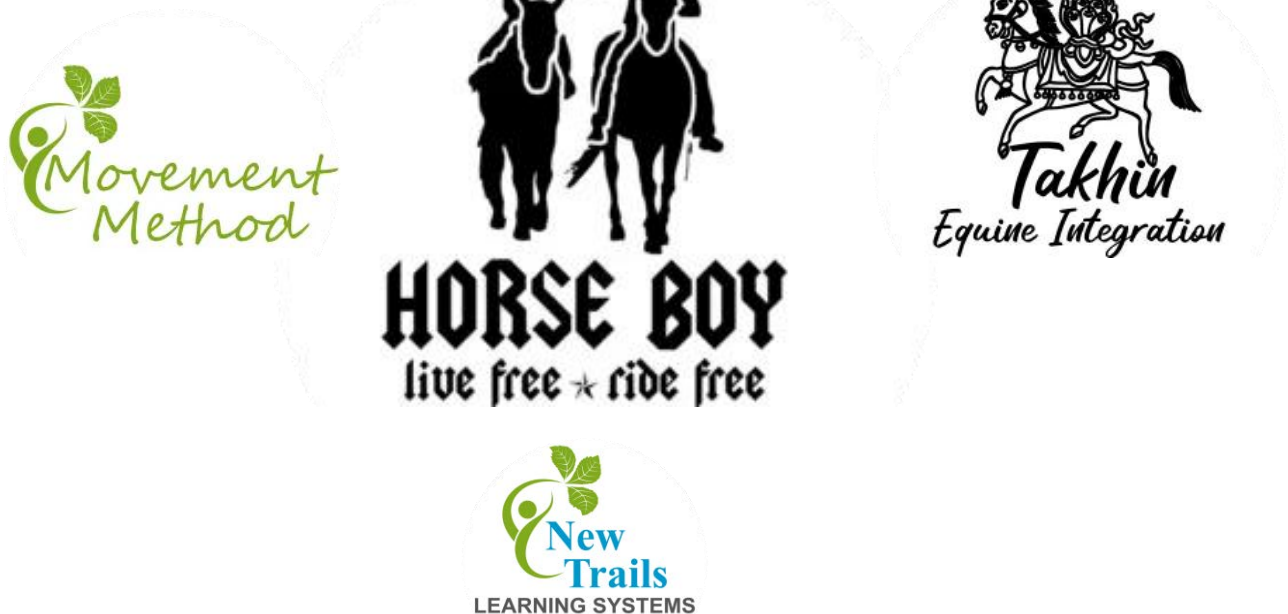
**For more information on  
ALL the Little Book Cliff Mustangs  
go to  
[www.FriendsoftheMustangs.org](http://www.FriendsoftheMustangs.org) and  
search for the horse by name**



# The Horse Boy Foundation

## The Movement Method

Germany/Spain/US



### Takhin Equine Integration

The training of the horse as it's own human therapeutic intervention.

If a horse is going to transmit well-being to a human, it must have well-being to give. This applies to both horses in therapy settings as well as horses in riding schools, and sport.

Takhin is the Mongolian word for the wild horse – it means “honored one” or “revered one”. The Takhin program honors the horse’s need for play, herd socialization, purpose, and bodily and mental development.

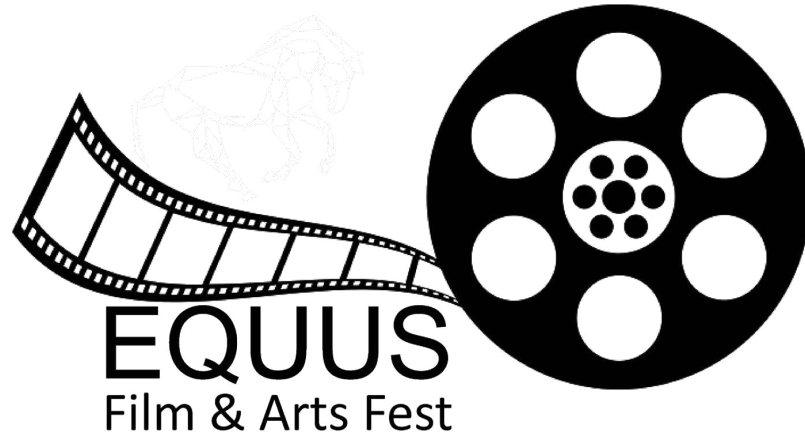
It also honors the equine professional who is trying to do their best for their horse and clients, but often lack the time to address both.

Takhin is a program that will enable you to teach your clients with trauma, depression and related conditions to work with equine play, lunging, in hand work and long reins, to not only ensure the horses’s well-being but to also empower themselves.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Nbr0aQf1cI>

<https://ntls.co/takhin/>





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**Clinicians  
&  
Guest Speakers,  
Filmmakers, Artists,  
& Authors**



# Scott Beckstead

## Wild Horse Refuge

### Colorado



Scott Beckstead, the Chief Equine Programs Director at the Wild Horse Refuge in Colorado. Developing a new standard for wild equine sanctuaries, the Wild Horse Refuge is a world-class sanctuary that is home to hundreds of wild horses and spans more than 23,000 acres and provides a safe, natural environment where horses can roam freely away from the threat of urban encroachment and human interference. The horses share this vast swath of rangeland with multiple native wildlife species, providing a balanced and diverse ecosystem for all. Attendees will learn about the sanctuary's comprehensive approach to wild equine care, land and wildlife stewardship, and the crucial role of community involvement and support. The Wild Horse Refuge not only aims to provide sanctuary for Colorado wild horses, but also to educate the public and promote sustainable coexistence with wild horses and the other wild denizens of the range.

<https://www.wildhorserefuge.org/>





# Patrick Craig

## Wild Horse Refuge

### Colorado



Founder and Executive Director – Pat Craig – Pat began saving captive wildlife after learning that thousands of “surplus” animals were being kept in tiny cages in the back of zoos all across the country – with many being euthanized on a daily basis. Pat set out on a mission to help save these animals by building a small rescue facility on his family farm outside Boulder, CO. At age 19, Pat became the youngest state and federally licensed person in the country, as well as the first person to build a sanctuary dedicated to saving large carnivores and other animals.

Pat’s vision has led 44 years later to the oldest and largest nonprofit sanctuary in the world dedicated to rescuing captive exotic and endangered large carnivores that have been abused, abandoned, exploited or illegally kept. Beginning in 2022, Pat saw the need for a wild horse refuge to be created in order to help wild Mustangs in Colorado. He subsequently created the largest wild horse sanctuary in the United States by opening a 22,500-acre facility in northwest Colorado for Mustangs that were being removed from their native ranges by the BLM.

Pat’s 44 years of experience in captive large carnivore rescue, transportation, animal behavior and sanctuary development have led to his becoming a leading expert in the field. He spent more than a decade rescuing PMU horses back in the late 80's and early 90's and has rescued hundreds of horses in need while also operating three separate large carnivore sanctuaries.

Pat lectures regionally and nationally on captive wildlife rescue and transportation, great cat behaviors and diets, and has worked tirelessly toward better protection for these animals. He works hand-in-hand with the USDA, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Colorado Division of Wildlife, and many other state and national organizations in the never-ending fight to rescue animals in need. Pat has also worked with Canadian, Mexican, Spanish, Bolivian, Uruguayan, Panamanian and Peruvian, Lebanese and Korean government agencies on large and extremely complicated rescues from within their countries.

Pat oversees and participates in all TWAS’ operations, including rescues, both within the United States and abroad. Pat has over 44 years of experience in designing, building and operating specialized rescue equipment for use in transporting large carnivores and wild horses and manages the largest fleet of rescue equipment in the country. His expertise in handling large rescues in demanding situations, as well as successfully covering great distances is well known among law enforcement agencies across the U.S.

Pat has a BS in Education from the University of Northern Colorado and has received recognition and awards from many sources including the United States Secretary of Agriculture Honor Award for service above and beyond to the USDA, the American Veterinary Medical Association, the American Humane Association and E-Chievement Award from E-Town Environmental Radio Show. Besides being featured as a modern-day Noah by 60 minutes news, Pat was also a finalist in Animal Planet’s “Hero of the Year” selections and currently has two Emmy Awards for educational videos he helped produce.

<https://www.wildhorserefuge.org/>



**PAT CRAIG**  
Executive Director

303.536.0118 | [pat@wildanimalsanctuary.org](mailto:pat@wildanimalsanctuary.org)  
[www.WildAnimalSanctuary.org](http://www.WildAnimalSanctuary.org) | [www.WildAnimalRefuge.org](http://www.WildAnimalRefuge.org)  
1946 county Road 53, Keenesburg, CO 80643

**THE WILD ANIMAL**  
*Sanctuary*

*Saving one animal may not change the world...But surely, for that one animal...The world will change forever!*



# Branden Edwards

## Skijoring Colorado

Branden Edwards is deeply immersed in the western sports industry. As a full-time Head Coach for the CMU Rodeo team and event announcer who specializes in rodeos, horse shows, and skijoring he travels over 32,000 miles a year and works over 100 performances annually. One of only 111 PRCA approved announcers in the country he has also spent the last decade working events for Clinton Anderson, the NIRA, and has been named the Colorado Professional Rodeo Association Announcer of the year 4 times in the last 6 years. A native to western Colorado, he also serves on the National College Faculty Board, the Mesa County Sheriff Posse, works with many non-profits and foundations that serve the western sports and agricultural heritage. When he's not travelling you can find him at his home in Grand Junction, Colorado with his wife Tia, and their two sons Grady and Austin.





# M.J. Evans

## AUTHOR

### Colorado

I am a graduate of Oregon State University and a lifelong equestrian. I am also a former teacher at the secondary school level. My husband, Tom, and I have 5 wonderful children, and twelve incredible grandchildren, and live in Colorado with our two horses and a standard poodle.

I have always loved writing and using my imagination to create stories and characters. For seventeen years I coached Odyssey of the Mind and Destination Imagination teams for my kids. It was so fun helping them learn to write one-act plays.

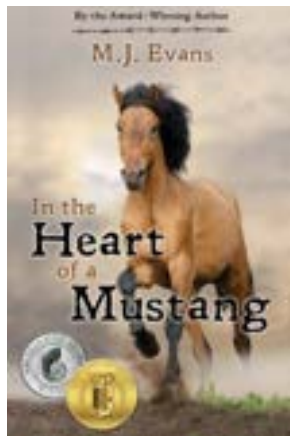
Because of my love for horses, this magnificent animal is the subject of most of my books...from the non-fiction equestrian trail guidebooks titled "Riding Colorado", "Riding Colorado II" and "Riding Colorado III" to my fantasy stories and novels.

I have known and loved many noble and great horses in my life, so I also decided to start a blog about them. You can learn about famous and loved horses at [www.themisttrilogy.blogspot.com](http://www.themisttrilogy.blogspot.com). I love riding on trails in the beautiful Colorado mountains and competing in Dressage. So, if I am not sitting at my computer writing a new story, you can find me sitting in a saddle!

<http://www.dancinghorsepress.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/margi.evans.98>

<https://www.instagram.com/mjevansbooks/>



#### **In The Heart Of A Mustang**

Hunter was told that his father was a brave soldier and virtuous man. Someone that Hunter needed to emulate. The only problem is that the whole story was a lie, all of it. The truth is that his father has spent the entirety of Hunter's life in jail, paying his sorry debt to society. Angry and hurt, Hunter gets into some serious trouble and is sent to Promise Ranch, a home for troubled teenage boys.

A wild mustang mare and her herd are rescued from certain starvation by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). In a sandy corral at Promise Ranch, Hunter and the mare meet. It takes a weathered, old cowboy to bring them together—a mentor for one, a trainer for the other. The bond that forms between boy and horse becomes one that saves the lives of both.



# Maryanne Fisco

**Wild Pine Wellness**

**Executive Director**

**Colorado**



I graduated with my M.A. in Counseling from The University of Colorado at Colorado Springs in 2017 then spent time providing international counseling and philanthropy work in the Philippines before moving to the Western Slope.

My services are a mixture of remote and in person opportunities to reach many clients in Rural Colorado. I have served a wide variety of populations in the Western Slope starting with my career as a school counselor at Delta County from Fall 2017-2019. I ran several types of group and classroom programs supporting mental health in children and adolescents in schools.

My passions lie in the shifting of ancestral patterns utilizing the cultural wisdom and history of my clients. I also use attachment theory, strength based techniques, and holistic grounding and release techniques through nature as clients process breakthroughs. EMDR(Eye Movement Desensitization & Reprocessing) is offered for assistance in processing significant life events.

I am also an Ayurvedic Counselor who studied and graduated at the Ayurvedic Institute in Asheville, NC in 2023. I offer Ayurvedic consultations for clients looking to focus on shifting their lifestyle to a more wholesome package of healing. I am dedicated to drawing out the true nature of how relationships interact and grow through the lens of my clients. I respect the complexity of unique human experiences and am driven to support my clients in gaining an empowered understanding of their lives.

<https://www.wildpinewellnessllc.com/>





# Kerry Ferguson

## The Cloud Foundation

### Executive Director

### Colorado

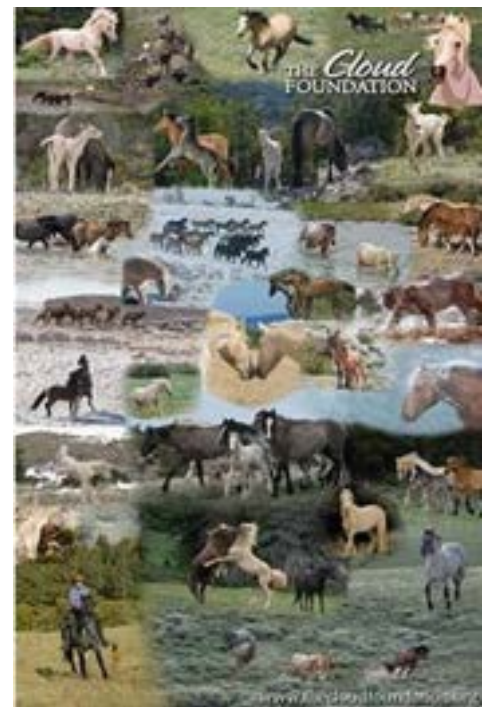
THE *Cloud*  
FOUNDATION



Kerry Ferguson joined The Cloud Foundation team in 2022. Originally from San Diego, she has enjoyed exploring Colorado from the back of her friend, Toby (The Wonder Horse), since moving to Colorado in 2012. A former educator, she came to The Cloud Foundation from a Regional Manager position working in the nonprofit sector. A lifelong lover of animals, and a horse geek, she is thrilled to be able to channel her experience and passions into this meaningful work.

[kerry@thecloudfoundation.org](mailto:kerry@thecloudfoundation.org)

<https://www.thecloudfoundation.org/>



# Russell Granger

Colorado

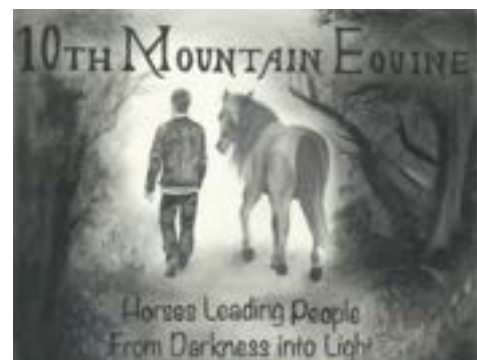
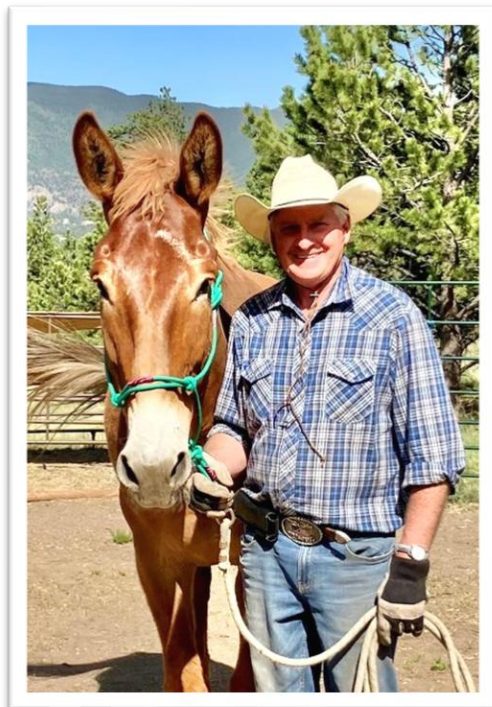
10<sup>th</sup> Mt Equine

## **PANEL: Mustangs, First Responders & Veterans Mustangs For Mental Health**

Russell Granger is a semi-retired Colorado District Court Judge who served in Colorado's 5th Judicial District for 25 years. He also lectured nationally for approximately 19 years to prepare students to take the bar exam.

Russell is deeply involved in the equine world and together with Alecz Adams, operates Granger Equine, a horse ranch located 6 miles off-grid high in the Colorado mountains at 9300 feet above sea level. He also serves as one of the founding directors for 10th Mountain Equine, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that provides a variety of Equine Assisted Services.

Russell continues to lecture, now mostly related to Equine Assisted Therapy. In 2019 Russell presented at the Colorado Judicial Conference regarding evidence-based support for equine therapy and how equines may be used in the Colorado Court System. In 2022 Russell presented at the Rocky Mountain Horse Expo on the evidence-based research supporting Equine Assisted Therapy. This research objectively verifies positive results from Equine Assisted Therapy utilizing the client's heart rate variable. This result is verifiable, repeatable, fully objective and is the subject of multiple peer reviewed scientific papers.





# JJ Fletcher

## Colorado



### **PANEL: Mustangs, First Responders & Veterans Mustangs For Mental Health**

I and Heather Aspy Cofounded Hope 'N Horses with a dream to bring Hope to our heroes, one trail ride at a time. We maintain our nonprofit on the Fletcher Ranch in Palisade Colorado. We take our Veterans and first responders out on a two-hour trail ride, through peach orchards and B.L.M land, much the way it was in the 1880's.

I mention the 1880's because my family came to Western Colorado to start a new way of life, they ranched and farmed in the mountains and deserts of Mesa County.

JJ Fletcher, elected as the Mesa County Commissioner for District 3, has deep roots in Mesa County, with his family first arriving in the 1880s. A proud resident of the Palisade area, J.J. embodies the “True Grit” of the past generations who laid the foundation for his success in building thriving businesses and nonprofits in Mesa County.

As Commissioner, JJ is dedicated to creating a sustainable future for generations to come while preserving the cherished Mesa County way of life. His priorities reflect his commitment to fostering growth, protecting local values, and ensuring a strong, vibrant community.

JJ and his wife Tammy are proud parents of three children and grandparents to five, all of whom continue to call Mesa County home, carrying forward their family’s legacy in the region they love.

<https://www.hopenhorses.org/>



# Jake Harvath

## Utah

### Year of the Mustang

Jake Harvath is a long-distance rider from Heber City, Utah. He is the founder of the Year of the Mustang project. A six-thousand-mile horseback journey that has taken Harvath and his mustangs from Utah to the Atlantic coast. Now they are headed west, with plans to pass through twenty-five states in total. Jake's mission is to show the usefulness and versatility of mustangs as working horses and to educate the public about the need for adoption. A trainer and farrier by trade, Jake is applying the skills he's obtained in life to the challenging journey.

While his horses; Denver, Bella, and Eddy are showing the world the qualities that mustangs possess, Jake found a voice by documenting his journey on YouTube and social media. Giving the world a unique look at what it's like to cross America on the backs of wild horses.

<https://youtu.be/88yPCT0gQpg?si=wDNcYHNjZSsxXWzr>

<https://yearofthemustang.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100095731503504>

<https://www.instagram.com/yearofthemustang>

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-support-the-year-of-the-mustang>



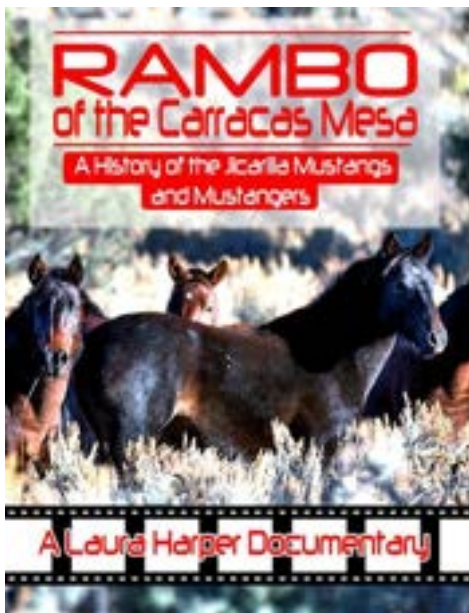


# Laura Harper

## Colorado

Laura lives in Dolores Colorado with her husband Greg and her horses, Dusty Dandy, RAMBO and Wendy. She currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Jicarilla Mustang Heritage Alliance, Editor of the Four Corners Equine Rescue newsletter publication and President of the San Juan County Historical Society, NM. She holds a MA in Organizational Management.

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61556884025662>



# Alexis Knight

## Colorado

### **Presentation: Burros**

#### **Colorado's Heritage Summer Sport: the art of compromise**

Alexis Knight is owned by her 7 burros, ranging in sizes from minis to mammoths, and together they tackle races across New Mexico, Arizona, and Colorado through terrain that even miners may have carefully planned to avoid. Burros are known for being stubborn, which is their superpower. Through trial, error, success, and defeat, she has learned the art of compromising with a burro.





# Steven Latham & Conrad Stanely

## The Mustangs: America's Wild Horses

Directed by: Steven Latham & Conrad Stanely

### Director - Steven Latham

Steven Latham is an award-winning filmmaker and the President of Steven Latham Productions.

Mr. Latham produced and directed the film, Saved By The Sun, for NOVA/PBS. He also produced and directed the feature documentary about the TED Conference, The Future We Will Create, with Daphne Zuniga.

Mr. Latham created and was the producer/director of the PBS series, The Living Century, which told the amazing stories of the 20th Century through individuals who were at least 100 years old. He produced this with Barbra Streisand and Cis Corman of Barwood Films. The project's board of advisors included Leonard Maltin, Art Linkletter, Dr. Tom Perls and 3-Time U.S. Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky.



# Matt Manroe

**Mustang Champions | Mustang Owner  
Executive Director / Creative Director  
Texas**

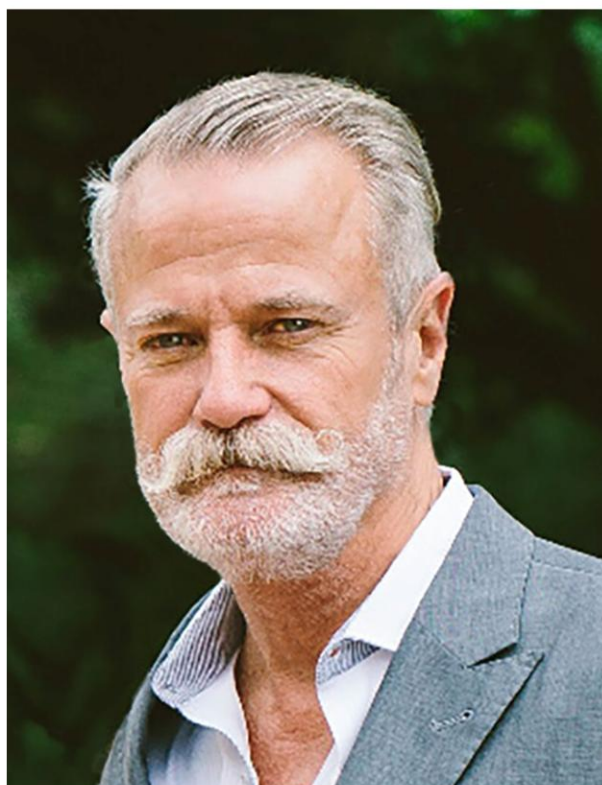


[matt.manroe@mustangchampions.org](mailto:matt.manroe@mustangchampions.org) / 512-415-5354  
[www.mustangchampions.org](http://www.mustangchampions.org)

As Executive Director of Mustang Champions, Matt is responsible for all aspects of program and event development and production as well as overseeing all marketing and advertising efforts. He was formerly the Director of Marketing for the Mustang Heritage Foundation and was responsible for the creation and successful execution of the Mustang Heritage brand, events, and programs.

Prior to that, Matt was an award-winning advertising agency art director in Dallas and Chicago. He worked at national advertising agencies on clients such as American Airlines, Frito-Lay, Pepsi, Coors Beer, Verizon, JCPenney, and Long John Silver's. He has been a Clio award winner, listed in "Who's Who in American Advertising", nominated to Adweek Magazine's Creative All-Star Team as National Television Art Director of the Year and is the recipient of numerous national ADDYs and best of show awards.

Matt lives in Austin, Texas and is the proud owner of two American Mustangs.





# Dusty Pierce

## New Mexico

A life-time of working with horses started my research on Pre-Columbian horses in the Americas.

Shortly after moving to Pagosa Springs, Colorado in the fall of 1978, I met Bob Browning, the iconic Horse Whisperer of San Juan County. I had been a horseback riding instructor since my youth, but it was with Bob Browning where I learned horsemanship through Ray Hunt, John Lyons and others. I worked with Bob Browning for 40-years using breed horses and the mustangs to improve attitude in youth of the Navajo Nation and other school, court, church, college, university, FFA, 4H and Boys and Girls club programs.

Special to my journey with horses and my research of them was working alongside Bob Browning in his 1990 initiative to revive the interest of the Appaloosa breed among the youth of the Nez Perce; riding the 1300-mile Chief Joseph Trail Ride where many oral history stories were told.

The Bob Browning Ranch became the number one mustang collection and adoption agency as he partnered with bait-trapper Dan Elkins in a contract with the Jicarilla Forest Ranger District; I had the honor to work with Bob and Dan to support an alternative to menacing all-terrain vehicles and helicopters to round up mustangs. It would be 2013 when Bob Browning and I introduced Laura Harper to Dan Elkins at a local café for her to learn his age-old but, at the time, novel method of bait and trap to be documented in Mustang of the Carracas Mesa.

I continue my research to answer the question Bob and I often entertained that continues to drive me back to the past to find the answer, “What came first in the domestication of the horse?”



# Ann Souders

## Texas

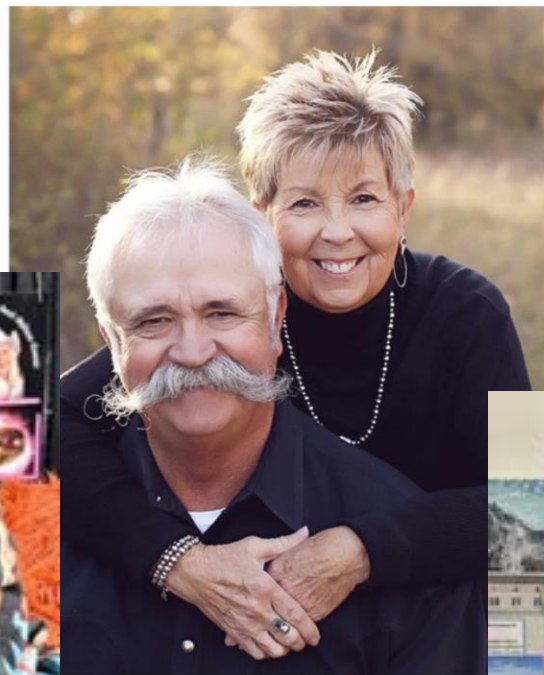
### Forever Branded



After many years in corporate America, Ann attended her first Extreme Mustang Makeover in 2007 which inspired both she and her husband to compete the following year. A member of several prominent activist groups, Ann began talking to the BLM and Mustang Heritage Foundation personnel at the EMM events and spending time with many knowledgeable horsemen and women throughout her time training for the EMM. These conversations opened her eyes to another view of the plight of America's wild horses and burros and led her to cut ties with the activist organizations and look for ways to educate others. The art of conversation comes easily to Ann so, in 2009, when Mustang Heritage Foundation invited her to join them, she jumped at the chance.

She began traveling the US with America's Mustang, MHF's educational initiative visiting schools, equestrian events and spreading the truth surrounding wild horse and burro management practices. Ann has attended BLM gathers, holding facilities and met with hundreds of trainers to gain firsthand knowledge to share with the public. Her name has become synonymous with America's Mustang, Mustang Heritage Foundation and now the Director of Outreach and Education for Forever Branded. She is frequently sought after as an expert on wild horses and has appeared as the subject of numerous podcasts, articles, and videos. Because of her unwavering desire to discuss mustangs and share her passion, 'Forever Branded' has a bright future concerning the education and outreach for the American mustang.

<https://foreverbranded.org/>





# West Taylor

## Utah



### Connecting humans and HORSES Through Science-Based Horsemanship

West Taylor spent the first 25 years of his adult life pursuing the success in life he believed only existed by getting things done, by building a business, by living within an image and structure that society told him to be. Have the right job, live in the right neighborhood, drive the right vehicles, do all the things to meet society's definition of happiness. After 25 years of trying to meet the outside world's perceived expectations of himself West finally crashed his life, lost his business, all of his money and the lifestyle toys that came along with "keeping up with the Joneses."

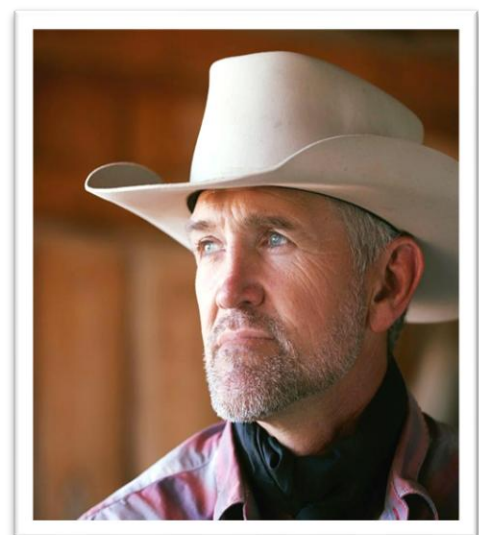
He found himself starting life over again at the age of 40, he moved his family back home to his grandfather's ranch to regroup and begin his new life.

"I don't know what I want to do, I just know it has something to do with horses" West told his wife Kami, This is the base of the next 15 years of his life. Learning and understanding how to train and work with Wild Horses. During this newly created version of himself West began to find the elusive happiness in life he was searching for, he found it in the wild horses. He found the value of patience, taking life at a much slower pace, he learned about himself and how to create an internal sense of safety for his life. West and his wife Kami of 35 years now host retreats for horse owners and individuals to experience his science-based Transformation Method at their ranch property in Southern Utah.

West is now known as an expert in his industry in proper training and handling of all breeds of horses. His scientific research has led him to developing his own training method known as West Taylor's Science Based Horsemanship and life lessons learned from horses.

[www.wildwesttaylor.com](http://www.wildwesttaylor.com)

<https://www.facebook.com/wildwestmustangranch/>



# WEST TAYLOR

# Kami Sue Taylor

## Utah

### MEET THE WOMAN BEHIND THE DRUM.

**Kami Sue Taylor** is a visionary artist, art and sound healer, and soulful relations mentor who weaves ancient wisdom into modern-day healing. She teaches the sacred craft of drum and rattle making—offering powerful, hands-on experiences that awaken creativity, connection, and spirit.

Kami lives on a wild mustang ranch in the heart of southeastern Utah with her beloved husband, West Taylor. Together, they are passionate advocates for America's wild horses and share their unique, science-based horsemanship at live events and through immersive online courses—often taught in partnership with the horses themselves.

At their sacred sanctuary in Fremont, Utah, Kami and West host transformational mountain retreats and facilitate drum circles, guided labyrinth walks, breathwork ceremonies, and experiential workshops for couples, individuals, and corporations seeking deeper alignment and renewal.

Kami's handcrafted hoop drums are more than instruments—they are ceremonial tools infused with intention and custom-painted artwork. Shipped to souls across the globe, each drum is a vibrant embodiment of her passion, purpose, and deep, rooted soul work.

[www.kamisuetaylor.com](http://www.kamisuetaylor.com)



### Native American style hand drums

I make rawhide drums in assorted sizes from 9" to 18" and I use an assortment of hides, depending on what's available. Buffalo, Elk, Moose, Bear, Red Stag, Horse.

### Drum making workshops

Imagine creating your very own authentic native style hand drum and drum stick out of the Majestic elk, sacred buffalo or ancient moose with Artist and drum maker Kami Taylor. This is an amazing spiritual experience for anyone who wants to learn this tradition

Fremont, UT, 84747 435-680-0946

[www.kamisuetaylor.com](http://www.kamisuetaylor.com)





presents

# The Partners



**THE MUSTANG  
SUMMIT**

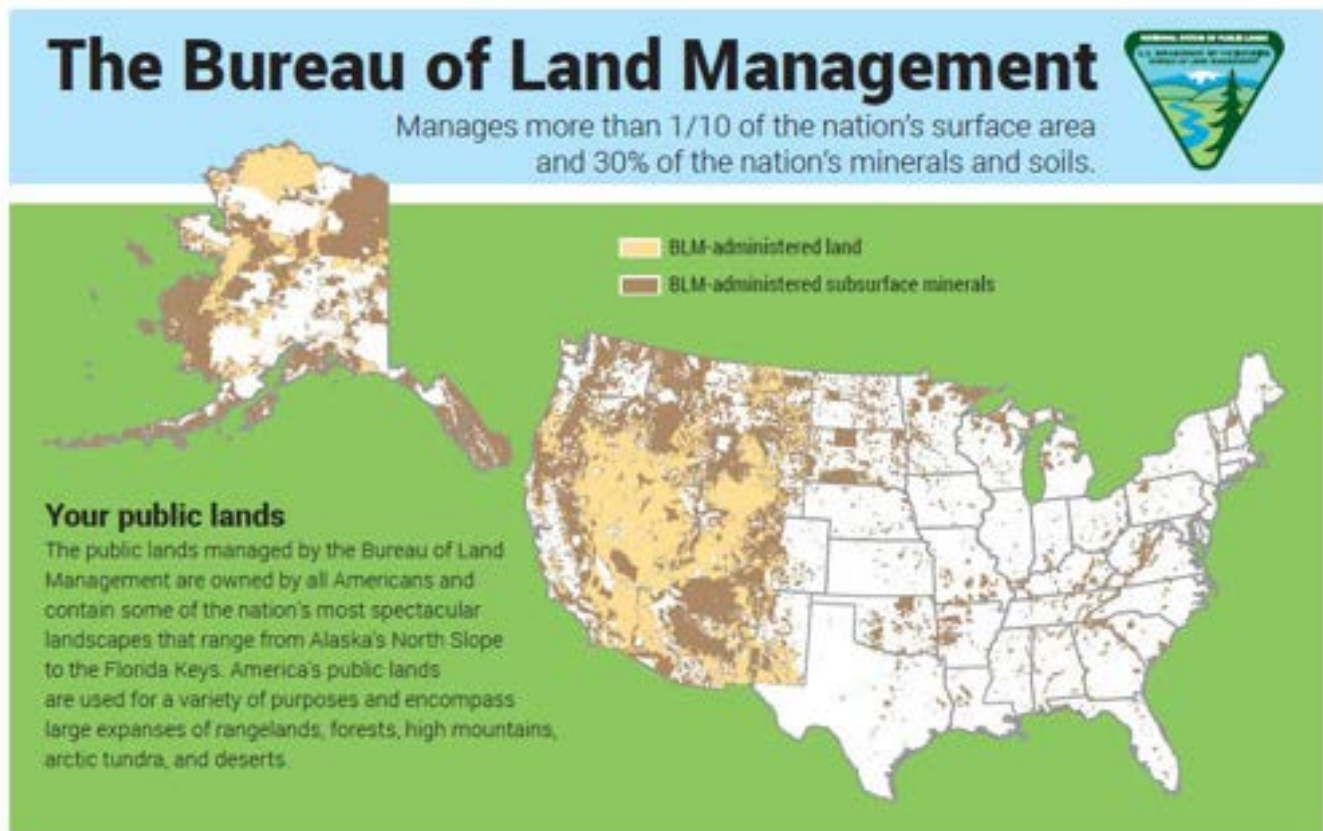
# Bureau of Land Management

The BLM works to place excess animals into private care through its Adoption and Sales Programs as well as successful partnerships with organizations across the nation. Many have found it personally challenging and rewarding to adopt or purchase a wild horse or burro. It is a chance to care for, and then own, a part of America's heritage.

The BLM has placed more than 300,000 wild horses and burros into private care since 1971. Many of those animals have become excellent pleasure, show, or work horses.

*Learn more about:*

- [How to adopt or purchase a wild horse or burro](#)
- [Off-range corral adoption and purchase locations](#)
- [Wild horse and burro adoption and sale events](#)
- [Visiting and adopting or purchasing from a public off-range pasture](#)
- [Sale Program](#)
- [Frequently asked questions](#)



<https://www.blm.gov/programs/wild-horse-and-burro/herd-management>

<https://www.facebook.com/BLMNational>



# Colorado Horse Source



Is an independently owned and operated print and online magazine for horse owners and enthusiasts of all breeds and disciplines in Colorado and surrounding areas. Our contemporary editorial columns are predominantly written by experts in the region, covering the care, training, keeping and enjoyment of horses, with an eye to the specific concerns in our region.

**Why Colorado?** Several years ago Karen visited Colorado Springs for an American Horse Publications Seminar. While riding through Garden of the Gods, she fell in love with the beautiful red rock formations and the desert landscape. The climate and riding opportunities were conducive to health conditions for both her family and her horse, April. When a best friend moved here five years ago, she kept urging Karen to move. The sunshine and year round riding was all it took to convince Karen it was time for a change. In April of 2021, Karen and her husband Mark moved the farm, business and home of over 32 years for a new adventure in Colorado. And so the Horse Source continues to expand.

## **The Colorado Horse Source Magazine**

a: 6165 Prospero Rd, Peyton, CO. 80831

p: 360.332.5579 • c: 360.220.5188 w: [coloradohorsesource.com](http://coloradohorsesource.com) e: [karen@coloradohorsesource.com](mailto:karen@coloradohorsesource.com)



## **Karen Pickering**

Owner/Publisher Karen's lifelong love of horses began at a very early age when she wore out a couple of rocking horses before convincing her parents to get her the real thing. That ill-tempered bay gelding, Brandy, was a challenge for the young horsewoman, but it drove her ambition to become a horse trainer. After attending Canyonview Equestrian College's Horsemanship Program, Karen realized she needed work that was a little more lucrative than training, so she took a job with Customs Brokerage to pay the bills. There, she discovered an affinity for computers and a talent for creating informative, entertaining newsletters. The Northwest Horse Source began as such a letter in December 1995, with a distribution of 1000 copies for its 12 black and white pages. Now, over 27 years later, it's grown into two print and online magazines and websites with a reach of over 20,000 per month and growing! Then the Colorado Horse Source Magazine and website launched in March of 2022. Not bad for the results of one woman's dream to work with horses! Learn about the new venture here.

Today, Karen remains involved with every aspect of the magazine and treasures the community of thousands who share a common passion.



**HORSES FOR  
MENTAL HEALTH**

### **Who We Are**

Horses for Mental Health is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded to increase awareness, public engagement, funds, and access to programs incorporating horses for mental health and personal growth.

We partner with nonprofit organizations, philanthropists, celebrities, influencers, and companies to realize our collective vision of a world where all mental health needs are met – together.

We seek to strengthen engagement to create a community of inclusivity and diversity while increasing access to quality mental health programs incorporating horses that serve all groups of people..

### **Our Team**

Our team consists of world-class thought leaders with expertise in varying disciplines ranging from: mental health, horsemanship, brand development and strategy, fundraising and awareness modeling, talent acquisition, sponsorship consulting, creative scripting and design, program management, impact reporting and analysis, among other engagements in the social impact realm.

Our team involves and engages with experts and leaders in the equine-assisted services industry, and specifically with psychotherapy and counseling incorporating horses, who help advise our work.

Horses for Mental Health (HMH) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization working to expand the role horses play in mental health and well-being to realize our vision of a world where all mental health needs are met.

At our foundation is our heart for the welfare of both horses and humans, and how they can impact each other to heal and thrive in incredible ways.

<https://horsesformentalhealth.org/>



Lynn Thomas, Co-Founder/President



# The Horse Boy Foundation

## The Movement Method

Germany/Spain



### Takhin Equine Integration

The training of the horse as it's own human therapeutic intervention.

If a horse is going to transmit well-being to a human, it must have well-being to give. This applies to both horses in therapy settings as well as horses in riding schools, and sport.

Takhin is the Mongolian word for the wild horse – it means “honored one” or “revered one”. The Takhin program honors the horse’s need for play, herd socialization, purpose, and bodily and mental development.

It also honors the equine professional who is trying to do their best for their horse and clients, but often lack the time to address both.

Takhin is a program that will enable you to teach your clients with trauma, depression and related conditions to work with equine play, lunging, in hand work and long reins, to not only ensure the horses’s well-being but to also empower themselves.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Nbr0aQf1cI>

<https://ntls.co/takhin/>

# Maryland Mustang Mission

## Maryland



Maryland Mustang Mission is a newly formed nonprofit 501(c)(3) that is devoted to spreading mustang awareness and education on the east coast by showcasing the American Mustang's versatility and ability to go from wild to mild.

### Picture

Did you know that there are over 58,000 wild mustangs in holding facilities across the United States?! We need your help to successfully accomplish our mission and help get these amazing horses out of holding facilities and into forever homes! With change comes new beginnings and we are taking a leap of faith with establishing this 501(c)(3) to keep these events going. Let's make the Maryland Mustang Extravaganza and Open Show a huge success in 2024! We cannot do either of these events without you. You can help make them possible by becoming a donor, prize sponsor, competitor, and spectator. Please click the tabs to learn more about the events that will be offered. You can also find lots of great information on our Facebook page, Maryland Mustang Mission, so be sure to pop over there when you get a chance.

<https://mdmustangmission.weebly.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/775340236733053/>



# Mustang Leadership Partners

Tennessee

Youth & Mustangs



Mustang Leadership Partners (MLP) was established in February 2009 to provide girls and young women with an opportunity to develop, practice, and improve relationship skills, responsibility, social accountability, self-awareness and self-confidence—all of which are mirrored in the mustang's behavior. Providing hands-on science experiences and equestrian training, the MLP program is grounded in the belief that horses are mirrors to our energy systems and teach us important life lessons. The MLP program requires a year-long commitment and dedication to several academic and citizenship standards.

To participate in the MLP program, CGLA students must complete an application and are selected based upon their commitment to the MLP standards and their current academic standing. The program serves up to sixteen students (eight middle school and eight high school).

1219 CARTER LAKE RD

Chattanooga, Tennessee 37405

<https://www.cglaonline.com/student-center/mustang-leadership-partners>



# Mustang Champions

## Texas

Mustang Champions is a nonprofit dedicated to the adoption and sale of American mustangs in BLM holding.

We share a deep belief that we can make a difference in the lives of American mustangs. Mustang Champions is a nonprofit dedicated to the adoption and sale of mustangs that have been gathered and are currently in BLM holding.

As a 501(c)(3) working in partnership with the Bureau of Land Management Wild Horse and Burro Program we can help to transition mustangs in holding into private care to lessen the burden of an abundance of animals, reduce the cost of care to the American taxpayer and help protect rangeland. Mustang Champions will create and manage programs and events that showcase the ability and diversity of mustangs with the sole purpose of getting mustangs adopted.

We are dedicated to the proper gentling, training, and treatment of mustangs. By enlisting qualified trainers, potential adopters, owners, and all Americans who want to support our efforts, we will prepare mustangs for homes outside of government holding. We provide educational and training resources to help those interested in and working with mustangs improve their skills and knowledge to ensure better handling and care of mustangs.

Mustang Champions will help educate the American public about wild mustangs, raising positive awareness for the BLM and the WH&B Program staff.

Our hope is that with our combined efforts and talents we can give American mustangs in holding an opportunity to demonstrate their abilities as a companion or a champion.

We want to hero the American Mustang.

We are Mustang Champions.

Mustang Champions is proud to be a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit.

[www.mustangchampions.org](http://www.mustangchampions.org)







The Wild Horse Refuge is a private sanctuary that was created entirely for rescued Wild Mustangs that were taken from BLM Herd Management Areas (HMA) located within Colorado. The Wild Horses living on this special property are now protected and have regained the freedom and independence they had prior to government interference.

With more than 29 square miles of contiguous land to run free, their wild and free spirit has been restored. With the Refuge being located just 30 miles from the Sand Wash Basin, the horses feel right at home as they roam freely across the vast open spaces of the Refuge!

There are no paddocks, stock pens, fenced pastures, or other smaller and more restrictive spaces in use here. Instead of being relegated to pens or smaller pastures where they might have an occasional opportunity to run one or two hundred yards - or possibly even a few thousand feet... the wild horses living at the Refuge continue to run until they choose to stop.

It is truly a beautiful sight to see when these wild horses are able to regain control of where they go and what they do completely on their own!

The Wild Horse Refuge is a completely new facility that was acquired in order to create a special home for Colorado's native Wild Horses.

Wild horses (Mustangs) are allowed to roam freely within the Refuge - which has more than 22,500 acres of land for the horses to roam freely.

<https://www.wildhorserefuge.org/>





JAMES AND GRETA, OWNERS OF THE WRIGHT SALVE.

A BRIEF STORY ABOUT HOW WE STARTED THIS JOURNEY:

WE MET AND BEFRIENDED A TRAVELING ALCHEMIST WHO SHARED A POWERFUL PAIN RELIEF SALVE WITH US.

WE SOON DISCOVERED WITH AMAZEMENT HOW MUCH THIS SALVE WAS HELPING OURSELVES AND OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY IN OUR DAILY LIVES.

TOGETHER WE DECIDED TO REFINE AND EVOLVE THIS INCREDIBLE PAIN RELIEF SALVE BY ADDING EVEN MORE POTENT INGREDIENTS AND BRING IT TO MARKET. NOW EVERYONE CAN HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPERIENCE THE MULTIPLE BENEFITS FOR REJUVENATION OF SKIN CONDITIONS, MUSCLE AND JOINT INFLAMMATION ISSUES, AND FEEL THE RESULTS AND RELIEF LIKE WE HAVE!

[HTTPS://THEWRIGHTSALVE.COM](https://thewrightsalve.com)







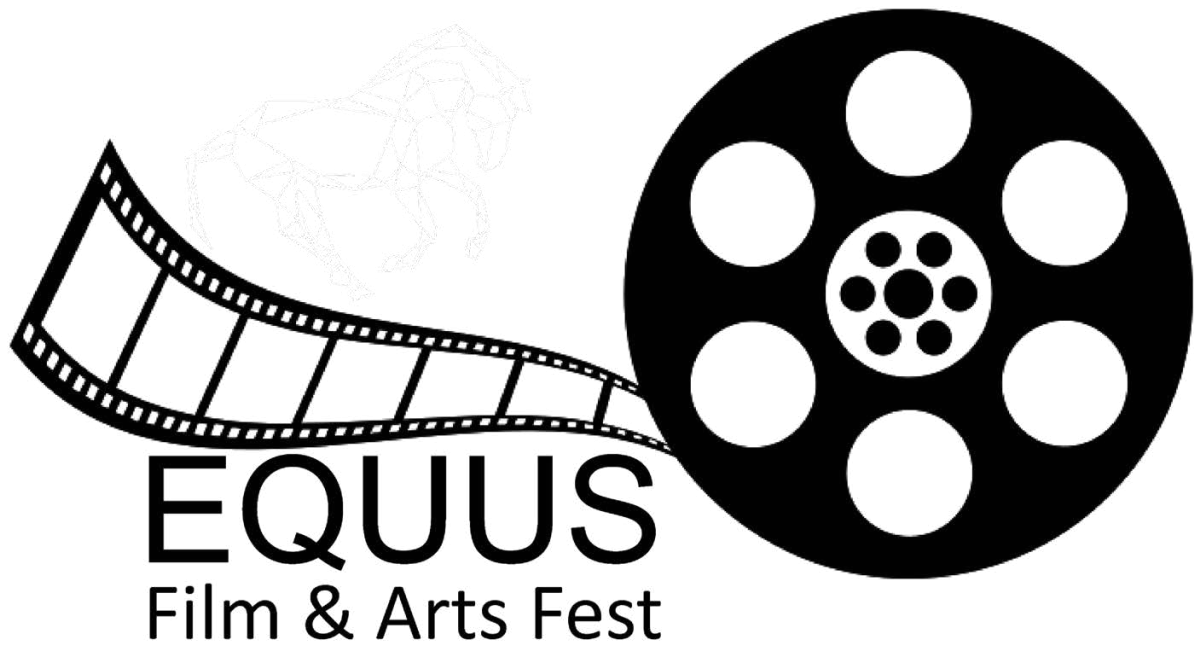
**Our mission is to create heartwarming video tributes, honoring the special bond between pets and their owners.**

**Furever Films was founded by a lifelong pet lover with over 40 years entertainment media experience.**

**A subsidiary of EPJ Productions, LLC.**

<https://www.fureverfilms.com/>





Presents

# The Films



# A Mustang Story

Directed by: Julianne Neal

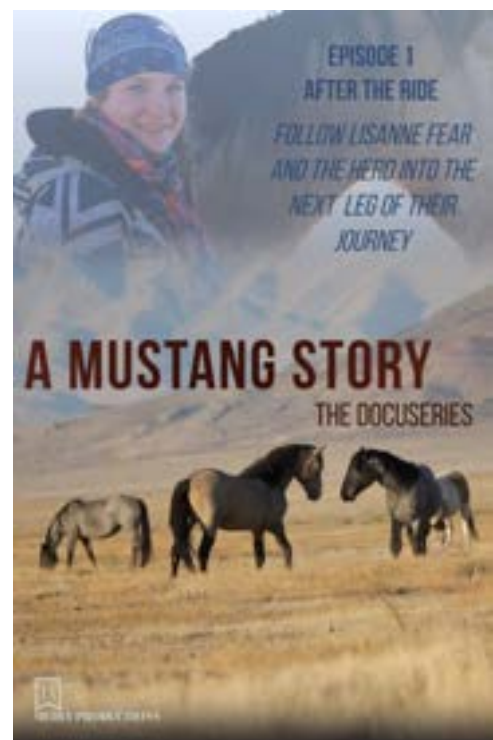
## 10:00 Promo

Take a young woman with a passion for horses looking for a grand adventure, add American Mustangs and a host of guest riders and you have the ingredients for the “Mustang Discovery Ride.” This documentary project will tell the story of a journey across the United States on the American Discovery Trail (ADT) featuring Mustang TIP trainer, Lisanne Fear, along with her Mustangs, dogs and support team. The team is covering 12 states, coast to coast from Delaware to California, riding previously wild Mustangs while packing, camping and speaking about the power of these amazing animals. Lisanne rode out from Delaware’s historic Cape Henlopen State Park on September 28, 2021, with members of the team and is continuing her adventures through Maryland, West Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, Colorado, Utah, Nevada, and California. The documentary will detail the struggles and triumphs that she encounters, most attributed to the kindness of strangers met along the journey. We will also feature aspects of the ADT in each state, Mustang adoptions inspired by the project, college and university equine programs utilizing Mustangs, Veterans Programs in existence and other Mustang-related stories. The goal of the ride is to cover 5,000 miles across the country while inspiring the adoption of 5,000 Mustangs into appropriate homes. Through the documentary film, related podcast/vodcast and documentary-series, we are trying to reach as many people as possible to make it happen!

There are currently 53,000+ wild horses in holding pens across America. Each and every one deserves a loving home. Have we inspired you to want to adopt one of these living legends? Join us if you’re inspired to adopt and want to find out more!

Julianne Neal, JA Media Productions, will direct a Documentary and Docuseries as the journey progresses. A team of EQUUS photojournalists and videographers will contribute to the film, each adding individual creative perspective of the ride. Sponsors Mustang Heritage Foundation, Espana Silk, Crypto Aero Feeds and Omega Fields are joining the Mustang Discovery Foundation in supporting the team along the way. Follow the team's progress on social media or visit [www.mustangdiscovery.com](http://www.mustangdiscovery.com) to learn more about the ride. To keep up with progress on the film project, visit [www.jamediaconnections.com](http://www.jamediaconnections.com) [www.equusfilmfestival.net/mustang-discovery-ride.html](http://www.equusfilmfestival.net/mustang-discovery-ride.html)

Trailer: <https://youtu.be/n38CtylRIcw>



# The Mustangs: America's Wild Horses

**Directed by: Steven Latham & Conrad Stanely**  
**90:00 mins**

"The Mustangs: America's Wild Horses" is a feature documentary that is executive produced by Robert Redford, Patti Scialfa Springsteen and Jessica Springsteen.

The film features songs by Bruce Springsteen, Emmylou Harris, Willie Nelson and an original song written by Diane Warren and performed by Blanco Brown.

"The Mustangs" takes audiences on an odyssey throughout America to places few people have seen or even know about. There are more than 80,000 wild horses on our public lands and more than 50,000 in government corrals.

This film will make you fall in love with America all over again and understand why the protection of our wild horses and our public lands are worth fighting for.

<https://themustangsfilm.com/>

Trailer: <https://youtu.be/SSWEC0buBq0>



## Director - **Steven Latham**

Steven Latham is an award-winning filmmaker and the President of Steven Latham Productions.

Mr. Latham produced and directed the film, *Saved By The Sun*, for NOVA/PBS. He also produced and directed the feature documentary about the TED Conference, *The Future We Will Create*, with Daphne Zuniga.

Mr. Latham created and was the producer/director of the PBS series, *The Living Century*, which told the amazing stories of the 20th Century through individuals who were at least 100 years old. He produced this with Barbra Streisand and Cis Corman of Barwood Films. The project's board of advisors included Leonard Maltin, Art Linkletter, Dr. Tom Perls and 3-Time U.S. Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky.



# Healing In The Open

31:00 mins

Directed by: Dewi Marquis



[www.gatewayhorseworks.org](http://www.gatewayhorseworks.org)

Healing in the Open is a documentary short capturing the power of incorporating horses for the mental health treatment of people.

Gateway HorseWorks' vision is to make the incorporation of horses for the mental health treatment of people accessible to all by prioritizing access for our most marginalized and vulnerable communities. Through the development of groundbreaking programs, education, and a community-driven approach, Gateway HorseWorks aims to further research in this field of practice and be a leader in innovative mental health solutions.

As individuals, we maintain a deep curiosity about ourselves. We cannot expect to help others on their journey of self-discovery, growth, and learning unless we are committed to knowing ourselves and owning our stories, choices, and actions. This requires vulnerability, courage, and accountability.

## Director: Dewi Marquis

Déwi (dae-wee) is a mixed-race Native Bornean and independent film director, and editor based in Louisville, Colorado. Déwi has directed, cast, produced, filmed, and edited for a wide range of clients, including the BBC, The Discovery Channel, Exposure Labs, ProPublica, and nonprofit organizations like Rare. She is a proud member of the Asian American Documentary Network, Brown Girls Doc Mafia, Cine Fe, Film Fatales, and Kin Theory. She loves collaborating on Indigenous-led film projects that uphold sovereignty both on and off camera, and push the creative boundaries of documentary.

<https://amymarquis.com/pages/about>



# Herstory- Side Saddle

Directed by: Victoria McFadyen

22:00 mins

A short film on the side saddle, the history and the modern women bringing the sport back

<https://www.atomic10.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/realcowboyfilms>

Trailer: <https://youtu.be/kUpkZ3csck0>



Director – **Victoria McFadyen**

I have been directing and working behind the camera for over 2 decades. I specialized in filming high goal horse polo around the world. I moved back to Canada to raise my daughter. I am focusing on directing and producing compelling, educational, entertaining and fresh content for audiences in broadcast and documentary film.

I feel as a film maker and content creator I have a responsibility to audiences to speak honest, compelling stories that entertain, educate, surprise and are cinematically beautiful



# HOOVES: Healing America's Veterans

**Directed by: Josh Nagel**

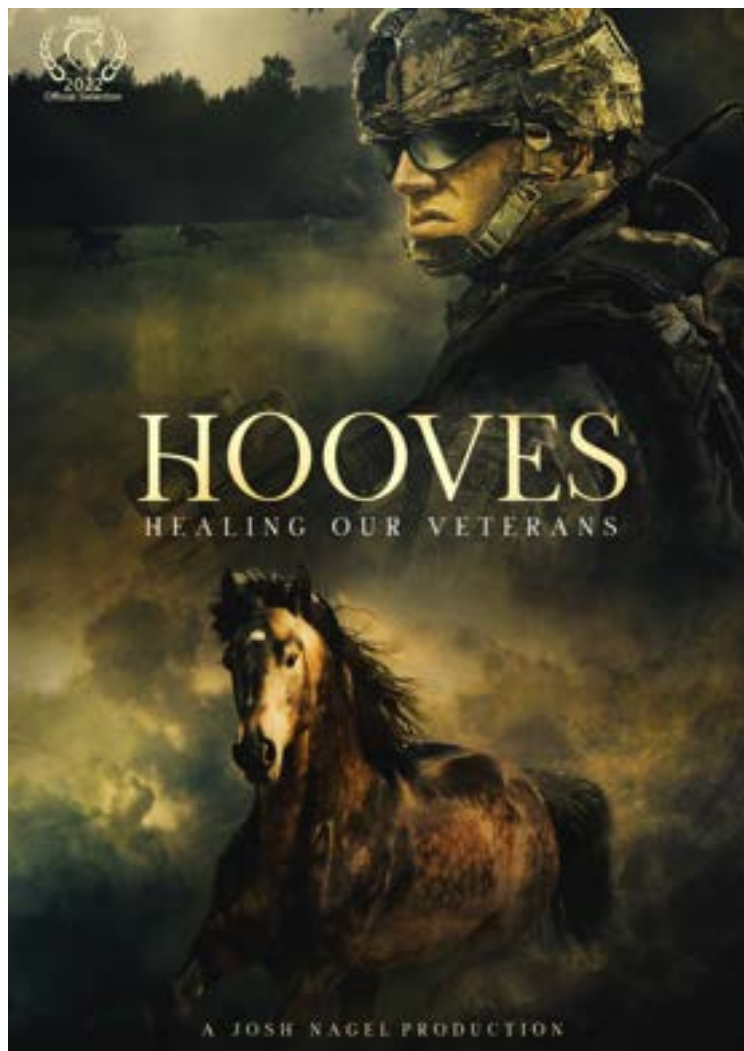
**60:00 mins**

This film speaks to the need of mental health as it brings to life the journey of 9 veterans completing a transformational process that liberates them from the demons in their head, allows them to intrinsically connect to a new purpose, and ultimately find peace of the heart and mind.

This mission of this documentary is to bring hope to those struggling with the effects of trauma and to help those who support our veterans understand what they experience at a deeper level.

<https://www.joshnagelproductions.com/>

Trailer: <https://youtu.be/O7QADH9Y1cE>



Directed by: **Josh Nagel**

Josh Nagel Productions is an award-winning video production company located in Toledo, OH. Josh Nagel is the Founder and Lead Cinematographer of this company, and he has over 11 years of experience in the video production industry. Since then, Josh has developed his dynamic, compassionate video storytelling style through experience, unique vision, and personal connections Josh forges with people. He has a highly skilled team of creators who are passionate about the video production process. Josh offers various videography styles, combined with abundant creativity, ensuring clients a professional and reliable service with the best end product.

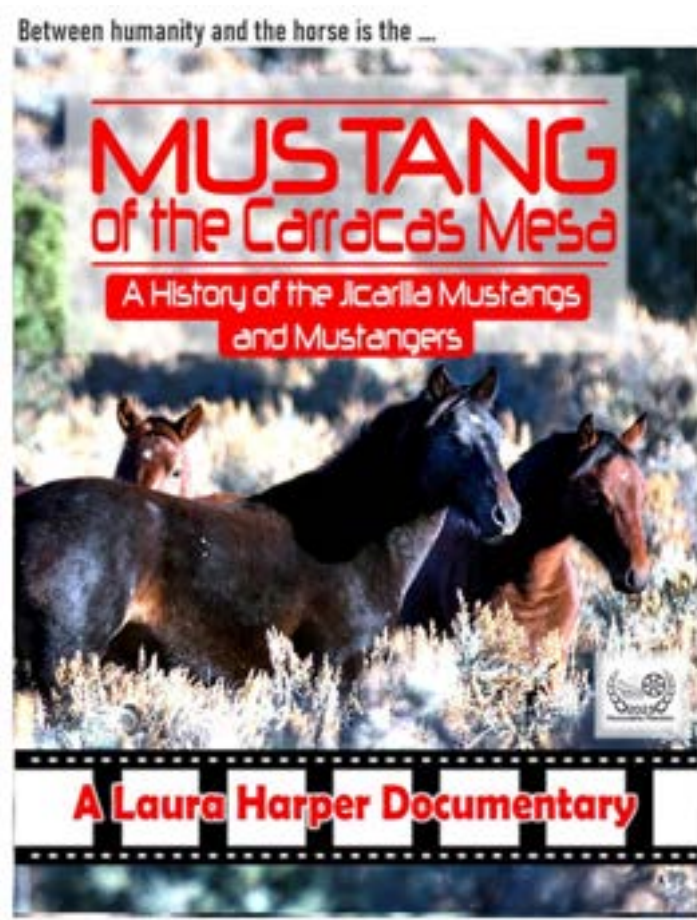
# **Mustang of THE CARRACAS MESA: A HISTORY OF THE JICARILLA MUSTANGS AND MUSTANGERS - USA**

**Directed by: Laura Harper**

**30:00 mins**

More than three years ago, Laura Harper began work on a film script about her once-wild mustang, Rambo. As she delved into his life, she found Rambo's story connected the evolution of the horse to New Mexico's history and her own life here in San Juan County. Laura discovered that the horses used by the Conquistadors more than five hundred years ago to traverse New Mexico had an ancient bloodline that is found here today. Amazingly, a 2013 genetic analysis conducted by Dr. E. Gus Cothran, Department of Veterinary Integrative Bioscience, concluded the Old-World Iberian breed is conclusively a genetic marker present in the Jicarilla mustangs of Northern New Mexico and Rambo's DNA as well. By tracing the mustangs' bloodline, a wonderful history of New Mexico—its wild horses and its people— is revealed and vibrantly retold in Laura's film, "RAMBO of the Carracas Mesa: A History of the Jicarilla Mustangs and Mustangers."

The film features local families that represent the diverse culture of Northern New Mexico and their personal relationships with the Jicarilla mustangs. It is through their individual stories that we learn the Jicarilla mustang's historic value to Northern New Mexico's culture. The documentary concludes with the idea that by joining nature, horsemanship, community, science, and technology, there can be a positive future for the mustangs and the approach of the mustangers.



## **Laura Harper**

Laura lives in Dolores Colorado with her husband Greg and her horses, Dusty Dandy, RAMBO and Wendy. She currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Jicarilla Mustang Heritage Alliance, Editor of the Four Corners Equine Rescue newsletter publication and President of the San Juan County Historical Society, NM. She holds a MA in Organizational Management.





# Where Horses Heal The Soul

**Directed by: Twila LaBar**

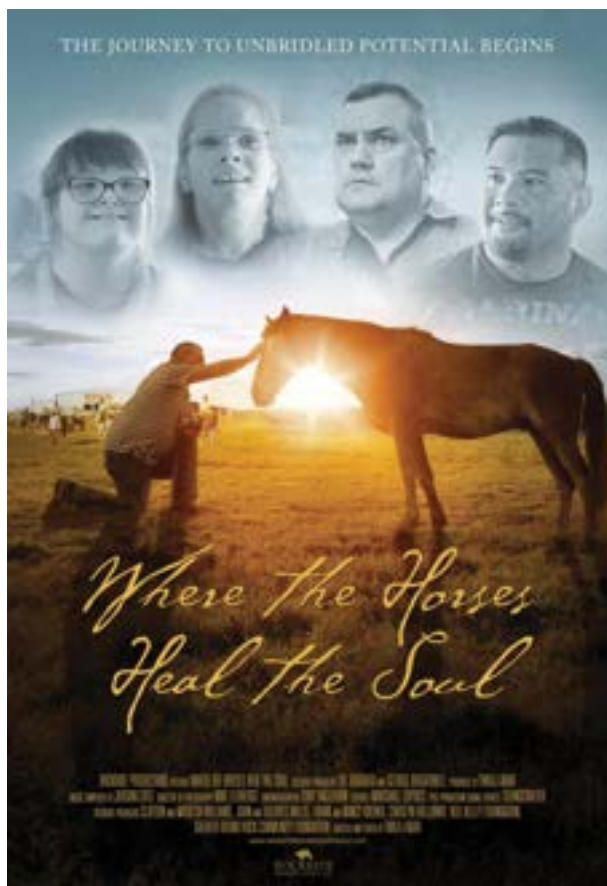
**93:00 mins**

Located in the heart of Texas, ROCK - Ride On Center for Kids stands as a beacon of hope and healing. For 27 years, guided by its visionary founder, Dr. Nancy Krenek, ROCK has been instrumental in transforming the lives of individuals—children and adults alike—confronting physical, cognitive, developmental, or emotional challenges. Through the aid of therapy horses, these individuals have conquered seemingly insurmountable obstacles and unearthed newfound purpose.

For veterans navigating the aftermath of combat-related injuries and PTSD, the path to healing can be daunting. Yet, at ROCK, they discover a newfound sense of hope and purpose through their connection with therapy horses.

In the documentary "Where the Horses Heal the Soul," audiences are drawn into stories that exemplify the transformative power of therapy horses. It vividly demonstrates how the simple act of riding and the profound connection with these horses can significantly change lives. At ROCK, participants acquire vital life skills, foster independence, and discover renewed purpose through their relationships with these extraordinary animals. This bond enables them to unlock their full potential and embrace a brighter path forward.

<https://wherethehorseshealthesoul.com/>



**Director Twila LaBar**

**Twila LaBar is an award-winning songwriter and filmmaker known for her directorial debut, *Blanche*, a narrative film set in West Texas. She composed the background music and recorded two songs for *Blanche*, including "Saddle Up" and "The Miles Don't Even Matter," featuring Jordan Kirkdorffer from The Voice 2018. Twila recently directed and produced *Ten in Texas*, which premiered at the Paramount Theatre in Austin and is available on Amazon Video. Her upcoming documentary, *Where the Horses Heal the Soul*, set for a 2024 release, explores the transformative effects of Equine-Assisted Services on various communities.**

# Wild Heart

**Directed by: Ariana Noel Sakaris**

**11:00 mins**

This is a true story about a girl and her Mustang. It's a story of a girl that never gave up on her horse, no matter how challenging it was. It's a story about two souls, terrified of each other, yet longing for connection. It's a story about how they both brought out the greatest parts of each other behind their deepest fears.

<https://www.arianasakaris.com/>

[ariana@arianasakaris.com](mailto:ariana@arianasakaris.com)

<https://www.facebook.com/arianasakaris>

Trailer: <https://youtu.be/VPIKOpROQBw>



**Director : Ariana Noel Sakaris**

Over the years, Ariana traveled the world to work with renowned mentors studying the art of Dressage, Liberty, Groundwork, and Horsemanship.

Ariana's journey with horses began at the young age of 5 years old, where she became fascinated with horses and the interactions humans share with them. This led her into a lifelong passion of learning and growing, both in her horsemanship and in her own personal life. She committed many years to traveling both within the U.S. and overseas to gain valuable hands-on experience, and to be mentored by world renowned professionals. She has trained with several respected USDF Gold Medalists and Grand Prix trainers in Dressage, earning her USDF Silver Medal. She has spent time overseas learning about Classical Dressage and spent time learning from greatly valued Horsemanship and Liberty professionals. These experiences helped her gain valuable insight into the love, patience and compassion that goes into bringing horses and people to a point of better understanding both on the ground and in the saddle.

Ariana is based in the horse capital of Lexington, Kentucky with her mares "Mermaid" and "Wild Heart." She teaches, trains, and travels for clinics, focusing on Dressage, Groundwork, Liberty, and Horsemanship. She offers online education and coaching in her "Student of the Horse" Membership, offering over 650 training videos. Her intention is to inspire and help people gain a better understanding of themselves and the connection they have with their horses. Her goal is that this connection helps to grow a greater acceptance of people and animals worldwide.





# Woodrow and My Dad

Directed by: Ivy E Schexnayder

06:13 mins

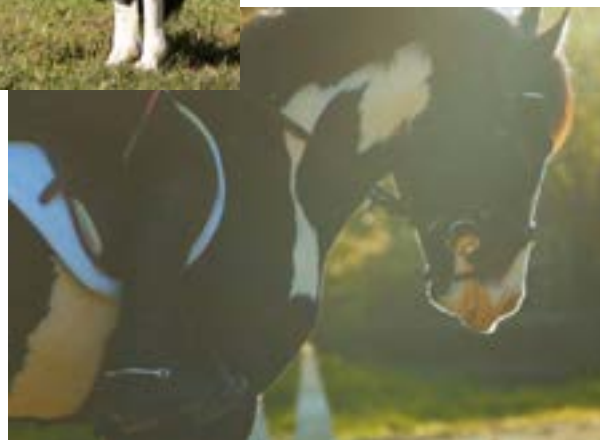
Maryland

Woodrow the Mustang helps a woman feel closer to her dad.

Hi, my name is Ann Hanlin, and I am the owner of SBF Mustang Eventing and the host of the Maryland Mustang TIP Challenge. My journey with mustangs began in February 2018 after winning the bid of a black and white pinto Mustang named Woodrow. Now, I'm proud to say I've personally gentled 1 Mustangs (#20 coming end of April) and helped over 60 get out of holding and into forever homes. This journey has been life changing and has set me on a mission to help as many of our American US Mustangs as possible! So, that's why I decided to host the Maryland TIP challenge!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/775340236733053>

<https://mustangheritagefoundation.org/tip/>



Director: Ivy E  
Schexnayder

# EQUUS at BreyerFest 2025

## Film Fest & Fun



CHEERS TO  75 YEARS!  
BreyerFest 2025

July 11-13, 2025

Kentucky Horse Park

NEXT STOP  
BreyerFest!!!

**EQUUS Films Sunday 11 am – 2:30 pm**

**Meet the Filmmakers & Stars all Weekend**

- Matt Cohn "Freedom Reigns"
- Julianne Neal "A Pony and His Boy" & "A Mustang Story"
- Scott Beckstead – "Wild Horse Refuge"
- Claire Staples – "Blue Zeus" [www.bluezeusmovie.com](http://www.bluezeusmovie.com)
- Tammi Jo Regan and Hank "For Hanks Sake" Author & Star
- Soul Harbour Ranch Team & Minis Horses the stars of "Hope"
- Suzanne Moskow "Li'l Herc" Film & Books
- Ginger Kathrens "Cloud" Documentary Series



They will be at the Equus film table located in the Vendor Marketplace on Friday and Saturday to chat with guests leading up to the screenings!



# EQUUS

Film & Arts Fest

The Mustang Summit

Mustang Symposium



CHATTANOOGA  
GIRLS LEADERSHIP  
ACADEMY  
UNLOCKING A WORLD OF POSSIBILITY



HORSES FOR  
MENTAL HEALTH

HORSE  
WEEK

MUSTANG DISCOVERY RIDE  
5000 MILES. 5000 MUSTANGS.



MUSTANG  
HERITAGE  
FOUNDATION

