



*"Ensuring excellence and changing lives through equine-assisted activities and therapies"*

**For more information, contact:**

Cher Smith, Communications Coordinator  
(800) 369-7433 x 123  
csmith@pathintl.org

**November 2012**

**2012 International Equestrian Award Winners Announced by PATH Intl.**

**Denver**—The Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International (PATH Intl.) Award Winners were honored November 2, 2012, at the annual PATH Intl. Awards Banquet, the highlight of the 2012 PATH Intl. Conference, Annual Meeting and Horse Expo, at the Hyatt Regency in Bellevue, WA. The banquet featured an excellent dinner, punctuated by cheers and happy tears for the people who exemplify the best of the wonderful population of participants, certified professionals, veterinarians, volunteers and equines who work together to change the lives of people who live with physical, mental, emotional and learning challenges.

The following people received 2012 PATH Intl. Achievement Awards

*PATH Intl. Premier Accredited Centers are shown in red.*

**James Brady Lifetime Achievement Award** (*sponsored by Equus Foundation*): Sandy Webster, **Giant Steps Therapeutic Equestrian Center**, Petaluma, CA

**PATH Intl. Adult Equestrian Recognition Award** (*sponsored by Purina*): Katelyn Parry, Region 2, **Maryland Therapeutic Riding**, Crownsville, MD

**PATH Intl. Child Equestrian Award** (*sponsored by Purina*): Isaac Raske, Region 7, **Friends for Therapeutic Equine Activities**, Warrenville, IL

**PATH Intl. Independent Adult Equestrian Recognition Award** (*sponsored by Purina*): Cliff Uber, Region 10, **Hearts and Horses, Inc.**, Loveland, CO

**PATH Intl. Youth Equestrian Recognition Award** (*sponsored by Purina*): Robert Wells, Region 5, **Saddle Up!**, Franklin, TN

**PATH International Equine Services for Heroes of the Year** (*sponsored by Bimeda/Equimax*): Cathy Davis, Region 2, **Maryland Therapeutic Riding**, Crownsville, MD

**PATH Intl. Sis Gould Driving Award**: Orphy Beattie, Region 6, River Valley Riders, Bayport, MN

**PATH Intl. Equine of the Year Award** (*sponsored by American Quarter Horse Association*): Champagne, Region 7, **Therapeutic Horsemanship**, Wentzville, MO

**PATH Intl. Certified Professional of the Year** (*sponsored by Purina*): Carrie Bunge, Region 7, **Friends for Therapeutic Equine Activities**, Warrenville, IL

**PATH Intl. Volunteer of the Year** (*sponsored by AIM/Equine Network*): Shane Clarke, Region 11, Partners Therapeutic Horsemanship, Lakeside, CA

**PATH Intl. Volunteer Veterinarian of the Year** (*sponsored by Luitpold Pharmaceuticals*): Dr. Mark Fitch, Region 10, **Colorado Therapeutic Riding Center**, Longmont, CO

**PATH Intl. President's Award:** Ross Braun, PATH Intl. Board of Trustees member, New Haven, MO

[Click here](#) for more information on these winners as well as all the region winners.

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About PATH Intl.:

*Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International (PATH Intl.), formerly NARHA, was formed in 1969 to promote equine-assisted activities and therapies for individuals with special needs. At more than 800 member centers, more than 54,000 children and adults find a sense of independence through involvement with horses. These member centers range from small, one-person programs to large operations with several certified instructors and licensed therapists. In addition to therapeutic equitation, a center may offer any number of equine-assisted activities including hippotherapy, equine-facilitated mental health, driving, interactive vaulting, trail riding, competition, ground work or stable management. Through a wide variety of educational resources, the association helps individuals start and maintain successful equine-assisted activities and therapies for individuals with special needs. There are more than 45,000 volunteers, 4,300 instructors, 6,300 therapy horses and thousands of contributors from all over the world helping people at PATH Intl. centers.*