



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

**Recipient of the 2013 Equine Industry Vision Award,  
sponsored by Zoetis and presented by American Horse Publications**

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### **Two PATH Intl. Members Awarded Certification Scholarships Through APHF**

**Denver**—Through an innovative partnership between the Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International (PATH Intl.) and the American Paint Horse Foundation (APHF), two PATH Intl. members have been selected to receive scholarships to continue their education toward certification. Chosen from several well-qualified applicants, Anvia Hampton of Billings, MT, and Pamela Jeffers of Albany, OH, have been named the 2014 winners of these unique scholarships. Each receives an \$800 scholarship after completing PATH Intl. certification courses.

Already a PATH Intl. Certified Registered Instructor, Anvia intends to use this scholarship for a certification course in equine-facilitated psychotherapy, expanding her range of knowledge to more effectively serve her community. She already has more than five years of experience as a center volunteer and instructor, and she hopes to graduate from Rocky Mountain College with a bachelor's degree in therapeutic riding. Her completion of these studies will allow her to work in a variety of centers and eventually start her own center.

Pamela is co-owner and program director of Natural Freedom Equine and Outdoor Experiential Center. A recreation therapist, Pamela and her husband are certified through PATH Intl. as equine specialists in mental health and learning.

"We are interested in adding a partnership with the School of Rehabilitation and Communication Sciences at Ohio University. They have expressed an interest in a collaboration with us to offer services and as an educational opportunity for their physical therapy students," Pamela said. "Attending the Registered Riding Instructor workshop and certification will provide the necessary requirements needed to expand our services into the physical rehabilitation area of specialty. I am committed to providing the utmost professional services and eager to obtain this certification milestone."

The average cost of registration for a PATH Intl. certification workshop and test, which takes place over three days, is \$800. APHF seeks to assist individuals interested in certification through the application and acceptance of one-time, \$800 scholarships.

The APHF scholarships are open to first-time applicants, and all applicants must be APHA members and PATH Intl. members in good standing. Additionally, candidates must meet the criteria to become a PATH Intl. Registered Instructor In Training and complete at least 10 hours volunteering at a PATH Intl. Premier Accredited Center.

Learn more about how the APHF benefits the lives of American Paint Horses and their enthusiasts at [apha.com/Foundation](http://apha.com/Foundation). Applications for the 2015 PATH Intl. scholarships will be accepted by the foundation until March 1, 2015. For more information or an application, [email](mailto:email) Jan Anderson or call (817) 222-6414.

Learn more about PATH Intl. Certifications at <http://www.pathintl.org/resources-education/certifications>.

**About PATH Intl.:**

Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International (PATH Intl.) was formed in 1969 to promote safety and optimal outcomes in equine-assisted activities and therapies for individuals with special needs. The association certifies professionals and accredits centers that each year help 56,000 children and adults with physical, mental and emotional challenges find strength and independence through the power of the horse.

Currently 850 member centers offer therapeutic riding, and other therapeutic horsemanship activities including hippotherapy, equine-facilitated mental health, carriage driving, interactive vaulting, trail riding, competition, ground work and stable management. Through a wide variety of educational resources, and under the direction of the PATH Intl. Standards for Certification and Accreditation, the association helps individuals start and maintain successful programs. There are nearly 52,000 volunteers, 4,232 instructors, 7,503 equines and thousands of contributors from all over the world helping people at PATH Intl. Centers.