



“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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***PATH Intl. Strides Magazine* Receives Top Honors From AHP**

Denver—The Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International (PATH Intl.) is proud to announce that American Horse Publications awarded *PATH Intl. Strides*, the association’s quarterly publication, three awards, including general excellence, at its annual conference June 19-21 in Charleston, SC.

The article “Riding Into the Wild: Program Brings Youth In Touch With Nature” (Fall 2013) by Garry Stauber and Martha McNiel, both of PATH Intl. Premier Accredited Center DreamPower Horsemanship in San Martin, CA, won third place for feature single article (circulation under 10,000). The article delves into the Equine Journey Wilderness Program at DreamPower, a unique adventure for students with special needs to experience horses, fishing, camping and hiking—many for the first time. According to the judges, this is “a great article about a great program. The thorough reporting shows through in rich details.”

Winning second place for Editorial Human-Animal Bond Photograph was a photograph from Rainier Therapeutic Riding, a PATH Intl. Premier Accredited Center in Yelm, WA, illustrating the Spring 2013 article “Treating Trauma Through an EFP Program” by Stewart Canter. Many military veterans experience long-term post-traumatic stress disorder, and Canter talks about the efficacy of equine-facilitated psychotherapy (EFP) at PATH Intl. Centers to treat veterans. The photo illustrates beautifully the bond formed between these sentient, empathetic creatures and the humans who look to them for help in physical and emotional healing. As one judge said, “The photo seems to capture the essence of a man’s early relationship with a horse. He reaches out to the horse, hoping that the horse can help him.”

The General Excellence Award is a much-coveted honor for print publications, and *PATH Intl. Strides* received the award in the Association Publication circulation under 15,000 class. The judges agreed with what PATH Intl. members have long felt: “Very, very nice and informative publication that covers a very important area of endeavor.”

“We are thrilled to be honored in this way,” said Kaye Marks, managing editor. “We thank all the judges, and thank especially American Horse Publications for their work on behalf of the equine publishing industry.”

PATH Intl. congratulates the *Strides* staff for its continued excellence in furthering the knowledge and promoting the awareness of the equine-assisted activities and therapies industry throughout the world: Kaye Marks, managing editor; Joan Pacos, graphic designer; Karen Karvonen, editor; Lesley Shear, technical editor; Cher Smith, proofreader.

Past issues, including these award-winning issues, can be viewed on the [Strides archive page](#) on the PATH Intl. website.

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, cognitive 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.