



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

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**August 2016**  
**And the Winner Is ...**  
***PATH Intl. Announces 2016 Award Winners***

**Denver** – PATH Intl. takes great pride in the exceptional equines, certified professionals, volunteers and veterinarians who serve at PATH Intl. Member Centers and the quality of equestrians whose lives—and horsemanship—have been enriched through equine-assisted activities and therapies (EAAT). PATH Intl. is pleased to announce that the region award winners (equines, certified professionals, volunteers and veterinarians) have been posted on the [PATH Intl. Conference website](#) along with the 2016 PATH Intl. Paul Spiers Independent Adult, Youth and PATH International Equine Services for Heroes® Equestrian Award winners.

All award winners will be recognized, and the 2016 PATH Intl. equine, certified professional, veterinarian and volunteer of the year and the James Brady Professional Achievement award recipient will be announced at the 2016 PATH Intl. Conference and Annual Meeting Awards Banquet in Williamsburg, VA, Friday, November 4.

Every year it becomes more difficult for industry judges to select the PATH Intl. award recipients because of the large number of outstanding nominees. PATH Intl. thanks the judges who selected our award winners and offers congratulations to everyone who was nominated.

(PATH Intl. Premier Accredited Centers are shown in red.)

**2016 PATH Intl. Winners**

**Paul Spiers Independent Adult Equestrian of the Year:** Karissa Peterson, **Hearts & Horses, Inc.**, Loveland, CO

**Youth Equestrian of the Year:** Matthew Scotella, **High Hopes Therapeutic Riding, Inc.**, Harvard, IL

**PATH International Equine Services for Heroes® Equestrian Recognition Award:** Paul Hoiland, **Freedom Farm**, Waverly, MN

**2016 PATH Intl. Regional Winners**

***Equine, Certified Professional, Veterinarian and Volunteer of the Year***

## Region 1

**Equine of the Year:** Once in a Blue Moon, "Mr. Blue," **Pegasus Therapeutic Riding, Inc.**, Greenwich, CT; Darien CT; and Brewster, NY

**Certified Professional of the Year:** Elizabeth Fortes, **Pegasus Therapeutic Riding, Inc.**, Greenwich, CT; Darien CT; and Brewster, NY

**Veterinarian of the Year:** NA

**Volunteer of the Year:** Suzanne McGraw, **Pegasus Therapeutic Riding, Inc.**, Greenwich, CT; Darien CT; and Brewster, NY

*Region 1 includes the following states: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont; and the Canadian provinces: New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Quebec*

## Region 2

**Equine of the Year:** Hobbit, Greystone Manor Therapeutic Riding Center, Lancaster, PA

**Certified Professional of the Year:** Laura Stringer, **Endeavor Therapeutic Horsemanship, Inc.**, Bedford, NY

**Veterinarian of the Year:** Dr. Jennifer Buchholz, **Pegasus Therapeutic Riding Academy, Inc.**, Philadelphia, PA

**Volunteer of the Year:** Joan Harrington, **Heritage Christian Stables**, Bedford, NY

*Region 2 includes the following states: Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York Pennsylvania and Washington, DC; and Scandinavia, Europe, Middle East*

## Region 3

**Equine of the Year:** Chance, Rocking Horse Ranch Therapeutic Riding Program, Greenville, NC

**Certified Professional of the Year:** Sherri Moore, Rocking Horse Ranch Therapeutic Riding Program, Greenville, NC

**Veterinarian of the Year:** NA

**Volunteer of the Year:** Richard Goldston, Rocking Horse Ranch Therapeutic Riding Program, Greenville, NC

*Region 3 includes North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia and West Virginia*

## Region 4

**Equine of the Year:** Masterpiece "Bear," **Cheff Therapeutic Riding Center**, Augusta, MI

**Certified Professional of the Year:** NA

**Veterinarian of the Year:** NA

**Volunteer of the Year:** Sarah Welday, Dreams on Horseback, New Albany, OH

*Region 4 includes the following states: Indiana, Kentucky Michigan, Ohio; and the Canadian Province of Ontario*

## Region 5

**Equine of the Year:** Indian Creed "Indian," Healing Touch Therapeutic Riding Center, St. Cloud, FL

**Certified Professional of the Year:** Robin Bowen, **Shangri-La Therapeutic Academy of Riding**, Knoxville, TN

**Veterinarian of the Year:** Dr. Jerry H. Rudnick, **Equine-Assisted Therapies of South Florida**, Boca Raton, FL

**Volunteer of the Year:** Ken Furman, **Montgomery Area Nontraditional Equestrians**, Pike Road, AL

*Region 5 includes the states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, Tennessee; Puerto Rico and Africa*

## Region 6

**Equine of the Year:** Buddy, **We Can Ride, Inc.**, Minnetonka, MN

**Certified Professional of the Year:** NA

**Veterinarian of the Year:** NA

**Volunteer of the Year:** Katie Livingood, RideAbility, Pine Island, MN

*Region 6 includes the following states: Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin; and the Canadian Provinces of Manitoba and Saskatchewan*

## Region 7

**Equine of the Year:** Beau, **Main Stay Therapeutic Farm**, Richmond, IL

**Certified Professional of the Year:** Jamie Stevener, **Exceptional Equestrians of the Missouri Valley, Inc.**, Washington, MO

**Veterinarian of the Year:** Dr. Patricia Homeyer, **Exceptional Equestrians of the Missouri Valley, Inc.**, Washington, MO

**Volunteer of the Year:** Sara Foszcz, **Main Stay Therapeutic Farm**, Richmond, IL

*Region 7 includes Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska*

## Region 8

**Equine of the Year:** Dancer, JoyRide Center, Inc., Magnolia, TX

**Certified Professional of the Year:** Patty D'Andrea, Healing With Horses Ranch, Manor, TX

**Veterinarian of the Year:** Dr. Angel Jordan, **Hearts & Hooves, Inc.**, Sherwood, AR

**Volunteer of the Year:** Linda Robinson, **EQUEST**, Wylie, TX

*Region 8 includes the following states: Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Texas; and Mexico, Central America and South America*

## Region 9

**Equine of the Year:** Pippin, **Forward Stride**, Beaverton, OR

**Certified Professional of the Year:** NA

**Veterinarian of the Year:** NA

**Volunteer of the Year:** Kathy Rohe, **Forward Stride**, Beaverton, OR

*Region 9 includes the following states: Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington State; and the Canadian provinces of Alberta and British Columbia*

## Region 10

**Equine of the Year:** Sadie, **Hearts & Horses, Inc.**, Loveland, CO

**Certified Professional of the Year:** Christina Pescatore, Children, Horses and Adults in PartnerShip, Sheridan, WY

**Veterinarian of the Year:** Dr. Michael Suit, **Hearts & Horses, Inc.**, Loveland, CO

**Volunteer of the Year:** Dave Culbertson, **Hearts & Horses, Inc.**, Loveland, CO

*Region 10 includes Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming*

## Region 11

**Equine of the Year:** Excel, **Giant Steps Therapeutic Equestrian Center**, Petaluma, CA

**Certified Professional of the Year:** Mari Parino, **Xenophon Therapeutic Riding Center**, Orinda, CA

**Veterinarian of the Year:** Dr. Neal Spiro, **Happy Trails Riding Academy**, Tulare, CA

**Volunteer of the Year:** Lindsay Hendricks, **Xenophon Therapeutic Riding Center**, Orinda, CA

*Region 11 includes the following states: California, Hawaii and Nevada; and Asia and Pacific*

Early registration for the PATH Intl. Conference, presented by title sponsor Purina, is currently offered online at [pathintl.org](http://pathintl.org), as well as more information about conference sessions, the Williamsburg Lodge and fun things to do in Williamsburg.

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*About PATH Intl.:*

The Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International® (PATH Intl.®) was formed in 1969 to promote safety and optimal outcomes in equine-assisted activities and therapies (EAAT) for individuals with special needs. At 877 member centers, more than 62,400 children and adults, including 5,500 veterans, may find improved health, wellness and a sense of pride, independence and fun through involvement with horses. Therapeutic horsemanship at member centers may include hippotherapy, equine-facilitated mental health, driving, interactive vaulting, trail riding, competition, ground work and stable management. Through a wide variety of educational resources, the association helps individuals start and maintain successful EAAT programs. There are nearly 55,000 volunteers, 4,846 instructors, 7,546 equines and thousands of contributors from all over the world helping people at PATH Intl. Member Centers.