

KHJA News

The Newsletter of the Kentucky Hunter Jumper Association

- Year-End Awards
- Scholarship Winners
- LegUp Grants



SPECIAL BANQUET EDITION

A Note from the KHJA President, Joyce Brinsfield

To say 2020 has been surreal is an understatement. However, it has given us time to reflect and to realize what really matters in life.

As an organization, we have come together to protect ourselves and support one another during these trying times. We put together guidelines and followed them well. We spent more quality time with our families and worked on our horsemanship skills as we awaited the chance to show again.

Once we were able to show, it was tough without spectators, extended family and friends. However, we did it. The horse community is strong.

I am very sad to finish out my term as president. This will be exceptionally hard since I will not be able to congratulate our winners this year at a banquet.

As I look back over my six years as president, I realize there have been a lot of ups and downs. However, within those years, the KHJA Fall Classic has developed into an amazing show and the Medal Finals has become a huge goal for many riders. The LegUp Grant was developed and has dramatically assisted its recipients. Many members have also benefited from our college scholarships. KHJA is an



Photo: Jen Roytz

Joyce and More Moola compete at the 2018 Thoroughbred Makeover.

amazing group of people. It will always be a part of my life.

Congratulations to all the 2020 year-end champions and to everyone who showed this year. Good luck in 2021 and let's hope things will get back to normal.

The 2021 KHJA Board

OFFICERS

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- Jennifer Kraemer

Western Region

- Lea Bridgeman

- Keedle Ritter-Konopka

- Sara Spry

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- Kim Gundry

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2020 KHJA YEAR-END AWARD WINNERS

REGULAR SECTION

Performance Hunter

Champion: Cristallo's
Carlchen P, Alivia Kohus
Reserve: Exclusive, Elizabeth
Klein
3rd: Granit M, Chloe Truett
4th: Lukelele, Rachel Kolar
5th: Fraziskaner, Monica
Samuels

Amateur Owner Hunter

Champion: Hilton II, Keely
McIntosh
Reserve Champion: MVP, Tess
Fortune

Large Junior Hunter

Champion: Exclusive, Elizabeth
Klein
Reserve: Flintstone, Anissa
Wagenlander
3rd: Cristallo's Carlchen P, Alivia
Kohus
4th: Yours Truly, Trista Keefe
5th: Quarterletto, Kylie Schmidt

Junior Hunter 3'3"

Champion: Exclusive, Elizabeth
Klein
Reserve: Granit M, Chloe Truett
3rd: Rios Chimeras, Kylie
Schmidt

Amateur Owner Hunter 3'3"

Champion: Oh Brother, Vanessa
Mazzoli
Reserve: Lukelele, Rachel Kolar
3rd: Wingman, Lilli Power
4th: Devout, Larissa Hufnagel
5th: Fraziskaner, Monica
Samuels
6th: Evanescos, Meredith Frank

Green Hunter 3'

Champion: Mr. Willoughby,
Alaina Stacy
Reserve: Evanescos, Meredith Frank

3rd: Bluegrass Belle, Jennifer
Kraemer
4th: King's Pawn, Libby Richie

Adult Amateur Hunter 36 & Over

Champion: Checkpoint Charlie,
Dell Kelly
Reserve: HH Gabriel, Emily
Sweeney
3rd: Change Order, Michele Power
4th: Corallo Z, Dell Kelly
5th: Je T'aime, Lauren
Klehm-Murphy
6th: Bluegrass Belle, Jennifer
Kraemer

Adult Amateur Hunter Under 35

Champion: Calisandro, Erin
Hasenoehrl
Reserve: Varsity, Meaggan Niesen
3rd: Rocky Rules, Georgia Murray
4th: Evanescos, Meredith Frank
5th: Master Class, Georgia Keogh
6th: La Dolce Vita, Alexa Sciortino

Children's Working Hunter 15 & Over

Champion: Cosmo Cool, Grace
Hildebrand
Reserve: Can Do, Alivia Kohus
3rd: Eye Spy, Carys Wasil
4th: Luminescent, Trista Keefe
5th: App For That, Hayden
Wheeler
6th: Coveted, Melodie Robitaille

Children's Working Hunter 14 & Under

Champion: Double Play, Emilie
Smith
Reserve: Jackson, Eleanor Hutkai
3rd: Kentucky Bound, Abbie
Storandt
4th: Linus Larrabee, Alexandra
Beasley
5th: Heartbeat Joel, Emma Paley
6th: Mr. Willoughby, Alaina Stacy

Modified Children's/Adult Hunter

Champion: Je T'aime, Lauren
Klehm-Murphy
Reserve: La Dolce Vita, Alexa
Sciortino
3rd: Heaven Sent, Kim Jedlicki

Baby Green Hunter

Champion: Cometino PCS,
Charlotte Beasley
Reserve: Discreet, Georgia Keogh
3rd: Pursuit, Laurie Storey
4th: Last Man, Melissa Murphy
5th: Olive U, Reagan Perkins
6th: Amadori, Trista Keefe

Thoroughbred Hunter

Champion: Eye Spy, Carys Wasil
Reserve: Top Shelf, Kelly
McAninch
3rd: Arborist, Kalena Richards
4th: Purely Grateful, Kelly
Fleming-Bentz
5th: Obsession, Elliot Harper
6th: Chisholm, Sarah Coleman
6th: King's Pawn, Libby Richie

Large Pony Hunter

Champion: Windhover Limited
Edition, Olivia Murray
Reserve: Celtic Creek's First
Light, Hunter Beasley
3rd: Neverland, Chloe Shea
4th: VH Paris Rain Beau,
Ainsley Russell
5th: Northwind Marin, Lily Beck

Medium Pony Hunter

Champion: Cleverist, Ava Barnes
Reserve: Farmore Royal
Ballerina, Finley Scheffel
3rd: Paperback Writer, Lilly Yinger

Small Pony Hunter

Champion: Farmore
Royal Jubilee, Finley Scheffel
Reserve: Rico Suave, Ava Barnes
3rd: Roll Call, Ava Barnes

4th: Prima Ballerina, Emily Reynolds
5th: Our Little Rascal, Ava Roof

Large Green Pony Hunter

Champion: Celtic Creek's First Light, Hunter Beasley

Medium Green Pony Hunter

Champion: The Pied Piper, Hunter Beasley

Reserve: Goodnight Moon, Anna Dickerson

3rd: Royal Ribbons And Bows, Anna Dickerson

4th: Royal Fancy Pants, Anna Dickerson

Children's Hunter Pony

Champion: One In A Minion, Charlotte Rettig

Reserve: Prima Ballerina, Emily Reynolds

3rd: VH Paris Rain Beau, Ainsley Russell

4th: Once Upon A Time, Emily Reynolds

5th: Our Little Rascal, Ava Roof

6th: Elf On The Shelf, Delanie Borders

Pre/Intermediate Adult Hunter

Champion: Silk Road, Marty Richardson

Reserve: Cometino PCS, Charlotte Beasley

3rd: Granite Bay, Amy Bailey

4th: Rainier, Katherine Sheehan

5th: Heaven Sent, Kim Jedlicki

6th: Like Clockwork, Carly Taylor

Pre/Intermediate Children's Hunter

Champion: Heyyy Good Lookin, Audrey Flatt

Reserve: Obsession, Elliot Harper

3rd: Elder, Natalie Hurst

4th: Olive U, Reagan Perkins

5th: No Worries, Elaina Davis

6th: Moose Tracks, Madelyn Kuhn

Short Stirrup Hunter

Champion: Vodel, Zoe Johnson

Reserve: Once Upon A Time, Emily Reynolds

3rd: Rockstar, Finn Keating

4th: Miss Bermuda, Lacy Yinger

5th: Just G, Cora Clary

5th: Prickorys Sonata, Marlee McGaw

6th: Impavado, Elaina Setter

Open Jumper

Champion: Wondergirl, Diana Conlon

Reserve: Constitution, Elaine Schott

3rd: Tori's Always Wright, River Mountain Farm

4th: Peak Performance, Meredith Frank

5th: Warinde B, Hester Equestrian

6th: Lorstakov, Hester Equestrian

Junior/Amateur Owner Jumper

Champion: Pumpkin, Vanessa Mazzoli

Reserve: Nelson Van Het Greene Dak, Adeline Pavlin

3rd: Peak Performance, Meredith Frank

4th: Inne Van De Plataan, Keely McIntosh

5th: Volcan De France, Elizabeth Conyers

6th: Limerick, Keely McIntosh

Children's Jumper

Champion: Quarterletto, Kylie Schmidt

Reserve: Mister Cash Van Der Veldmole, Savannah Embly

3rd: Gini C, Eva Duignan

Adult Jumper

Champion: Quabelle, Jenna Yamamoto

Reserve: Triskell Ar Park, Emily Moll

3rd: Cobalt De La Pomme Z, Elizabeth Conyers

4th: Vixroi St. Simeon, Jenna Yamamoto

5th: Kanoodle SCF, Leea Bridgeman

6th: Zadermus, Riley Franks

Pre/Intermediate

Children's/Adult Jumper

Champion: I'm A Burrito, Kaleb Alden

Reserve: Travolta, Camryn Mulzer

3rd: Honey Tree's Gideon, Juliana Vogelgesang

4th: Zadermus, Reagan Franks

5th: Heartbeat Joel, Emma Paley

6th: Unsolved Mystery, Kaylynn Berry

Low Children's/Adult Jumper

Champion: Idyllic, Aimee Kemper

Reserve: Gini C, Eva Duignan

3rd: Cassicasca, Wren Zimmerman

4th: Prophan, Anna Curtin

5th: Reagan 85, Rosemary Rail

6th: Kanoodle SCF, Leea Bridgeman

Novice Jumper

Champion: HH Marcos Du Marais, Mary Cunningham

Reserve: Estrella, Avery Ehrhardt

3rd: Casino, Hillary Ocampo

4th: Travolta, Camryn Mulzer

5th: Devout, Larissa Hufnagel

6th: Idyllic, Aimee Kemper

Adult Equitation

Champion: Erin Hasenoehrl

Reserve: Lilli Power

3rd: Alex Sciortino

4th: Larissa Hufnagel

5th: Jordan Gross

5th: Georgia Murray

6th: Rachel Kolar

15-17 Equitation

Champion: Melodie Robitaille

Reserve: Alivia Kohus

3rd: Olivia Darnell

4th: Chloe Truett

5th: Mark Richter

6th: Elizabeth Klein

12-14 Equitation

Champion: Caroline Nadalin

Reserve: Alexandra Beasley

3rd: Natalie Gray

4th: Emma Paley

5th: Lily Beck

6th: Abbie Storandt

11 & Under Equitation

Champion: Ava Roof
Reserve: Priya Miller
3rd: Campbell Cauthen

Short Stirrup Equitation

Champion: Lacy Yinger
Reserve: Finn Keating
3rd: Emily Reynolds
4th: Zoe Johnson
5th: Cora Clary
6th: Marlee McGaw

Intermediate Children's Equitation

Champion: Madelyn Kuhn
Reserve: Natalie Hurst
3rd: Audrey Flatt
4th: Priya Miller
5th: Mary-Katherine Mitz
6th: Alaina Stacy

Intermediate Adult Equitation

Champion: Ashley Murray
Reserve: Jenna Rieder
3rd: Margaret Stickler
4th: Alex Johnson

LOCAL SECTION

Yearling Hunter Breeding

Champion: Park Avenblu GES,
Lauren Ensor

Two-Year-Old Hunter Breeding

Champion: Counterpart, Lilli Power
Reserve: Fabulous Platinum, Nori Scheffel
3rd: Good To Be Couture, Melanie Fransen

Three-Year-Old Hunter Breeding

Champion: Carbon Copy, Marty Richardson
Reserve: Thinking Out Loud, Lilli Power
3rd: Super Secret Snack, Nori Scheffel
4th: Pineapple Empire, Joyce Brinsfield

Four- to Six-Year-Old

Hunter Breeding

Champion: King's Pawn, Libby Richie
Reserve: One Last Rose, Maria Kabel
3rd: Sangria Surprise, Lindsay Graves
4th: Tiz A Hercules, Joyce Brinsfield
5th: William's Creek, Joyce Brinsfield

Adult Amateur Hunter 36 & Over

Champion: Elbi, Mary Mead
Reserve: Change Order, Michele Power
3rd: Bluegrass Belle, Jennifer Kraemer
4th: Idyllic, Aimee Kemper

Adult Amateur Hunter Under 35

Champion: Master Class, Georgia Keogh
Reserve: King's Pawn, Libby Richie
3rd: Bullwinkle, Taylor Roby
4th: Wingman, Lilli Power
5th: Calisandro, Erin Hasenoehrl
6th: Varsity, Meaggan Niesen

Children's Working Hunter 15-17

Champion: Cosmo Cool, Grace Hildebrand
Reserve: Undeniable, Ella Russell
3rd: Eye Spy, Carys Wasil
4th: Yours Truly, Trista Keefe
5th: For Pete's Sake, Brennan Johnson
5th: Moose Tracks, Madelyn Kuhn
5th: Quadori III, Grace Belletti
6th: Jeffrey, Kate Wiggins

Children's Working Hunter 14 & Under

Champion: Double Play, Emilie Smith
Reserve: Kentucky Bound, Abbie Storandt
3rd: Mr. Willoughby, Alaina Stacy

4th: Miles To Go, Autumn Kinmon
5th: Jackson, Ellie Hutkai

Modified Children's/Adult Hunter

Champion: Biker Boy, Sarah Tluczek
Reserve: West Coast, Lilli Power
3rd: Wingman, Lilli Power

Baby Green Hunter

Champion: Discreet, Georgia Keogh
Reserve: Welsh Wizard, Megan Stackhouse
3rd: Flew The Koop, Holly White
4th: Teddi Tendergrass, Jessica Harrison
5th: Gottobep perfect, Paige Thomas
6th: Last Man, Melissa Murphy

Children's Hunter Pony

Champion: One In A Minion, Charlotte Rettig
Reserve: Empire's Sun, Ava Roof
3rd: VH Paris Rain Beau, Ainsley Russell
4th: Our Little Rascal, Ava Roof
5th: Windhover Limited Edition, Olivia Murray
6th: Patchwork Zodiac, Delanie Borders

Pre/Intermediate Adult Hunter

Champion: Welsh Wizard, Megan Riddle
Reserve: Tribianni, Alex Johnson
3rd: Bistro, Eileen Cody
4th: Heaven Sent, Kim Jedlicki
5th: Smile N Nod, Jordan Gross
6th: Granite Bay, Amy Bailey

Pre/Intermediate Children's Hunter

Champion: Artful Catterina, Cher Ciaburri
Reserve: Quadori III, Grace Belletti
3rd: Obsession, Elliot Harper
4th: No Worries, Elaina Davis
5th: Webster Wagner, Cadence Dukes
6th: Ilandia, Caroline Duffy

Thoroughbred Hunter

Champion: King's Pawn, Libby
Richie
Reserve: Chisholm, Sarah Coleman
3rd: Top Shelf, Kelly McAninch
4th: Play It Again Sam, Elizabeth
Hurst
5th: Eye Spy, Carys Wasil
6th: Jeffrey, Kate Wiggins

Short Stirrup Hunter

Champion: Tidecreek Abigail,
Samantha Wells
Reserve: Cabana Boy, Danica
Porter
3rd: Once Upon A Time, Emily
Reynolds
4th: Montefiore, Lucy Deskins
5th: All Dressed Up In Pearls,
Ava Thrun
6th: Rockstar, Finn Keating

Long Stirrup Hunter

Champion: Si' Vous Plait, Rylee
Eilerman
Reserve: Churchill, Marilyn Meyer
3rd: Jackson, Morgan Monroe
4th: Remington, Emily Matuszak
5th: Sir Augustus, Larissa Paduchik
6th: Indian Gun, Aaron Edelson
6th: Sweeter Than Honey, Elaina
Davis

Beginner Rider

Champion: Si' Vous Plait, Rylee
Eilerman
Reserve: Just What The Doctor
Ordered, Ashley Lankford
3rd: Tidecreek Abigail, Samantha
Wells
4th: Maverick, Juliana Flaherty
5th: Hush Up, Lilly Musso
6th: Rudy, Sarah Jergens

Beginner Horse/Pony

Champion: Carbon Copy, Marty
Richardson
Reserve: Leisurely, Sabina
Chambers
3rd: Highlight Reel SCF, Finley
Scheffel
4th: Lady Gaia, Cynthia Wells
5th: Arrested Development, Alexa
Brown
6th: High Hopes, Gracie Stamper

Pre/Intermediate

Children's/Adult Jumper

Champion: Unsolved Mystery,
Kaylynn Berry
Reserve: I'm A Burrito, Kaleb
Alden
3rd: Touched By An Angel, Finley
Scheffel
4th: Give Me A Chance, Ryleigh
Howell
5th: Travolta, Camryn Mulzer
6th: Gideon, Juliana Vogelgesang

Training/Schooling Jumper

Champion: Unsolved Mystery,
Kaylynn Berry
Reserve: Cabernet, Isabella
Kacachos
3rd: Dark Serendipity, Madelyn
Yarber
4th: Artano, Jackie Pinch
5th: Cassius, Sydney Roby
6th: Kentucky Bound, Abbie
Storandt

Hopeful Jumper

Champion: Unsolved Mystery,
Kaylynn Berry
Reserve: I'm A Burrito, Kaleb
Alden
3rd: Touched By An Angel, Finley
Scheffel
4th: Travolta, Camryn Mulzer
5th: Yours Truly, Trista Keefe
6th: Dark Serendipity, Madelyn
Yarber

Low Children's/Adult Jumper

Champion: Cassius, Sydney Roby
Reserve: Reagan 85, Rosemary
Rail
3rd: Triskell Ar Park, Emily Moll
4th: Artano, Jackie Pinch
4th: Royal Rumor, Madelyn
Yarber
5th: Estrella, Avery Ehrhardt
6th: Idyllic, Aimee Kemper

Thoroughbred Jumper

Champion: Unsolved Mystery,
Kaylynn Berry
Reserve: Give Me A Chance,
Ryleigh Howell
3rd: Gottobep perfect, Paige Thomas
4th: My Pot Of Gold, Karl Hancock

5th: Border Force, Holland Kantar
6th: Wave Maker, Amanda Tucker

Novice Jumper

Champion: Heartbeat Joel, Emma
Paley
Reserve: Casino, Hillary Ocampo
3rd: Cassius, Sydney Roby
4th: Kentucky Bound, Abbie
Storandt
5th: Idyllic, Aimee Kemper
6th: Revere, Emily Moll

Adult Equitation

Champion: Mary Mead
Reserve: Taylor Roby
3rd: Lilli Power
4th: Jennifer Kraemer
5th: Libby Richie
5th: Jenna Yamamoto
6th: Georgia Keogh

15-17 Equitation

Champion: Grace Hildebrand
Reserve: Kylie Schmidt
3rd: Ella Russell
4th: Adeline Pavlin
5th: Avery Ehrhardt
6th: Trista Keefe

12-14 Equitation

Champion: Finley Scheffel
Reserve: Elliot Harper
3rd: Olivia Murray
4th: Ainsley Russell
5th: Ryleigh Howell
6th: Emma Paley

11 & Under Equitation

Champion: Ava Roof
Reserve: Zoe Johnson
3rd: Ava Thrun
4th: Phoebe Konopka
5th: Samantha Wells
6th: Elaina Setter

Intermediate Children's Equitation

Champion: Finley Scheffel
Reserve: Karston Gundry
3rd: Ainsley Russell
4th: Grace Belletti
4th: Cher Ciaburri
5th: Madelyn Kuhn
6th: Paige Thomas

Intermediate Adult**Equitation**

Champion: Megan Riddle
 Reserve: Eileen Cody
 3rd: Alex Johnson
 4th: Lynnae Krantz
 5th: Jessica Harrison
 6th: Kelly McAninch

Short Stirrup Equitation

Champion: Samantha Wells
 Reserve: Lucy Deskins
 3rd: Ava Thrun
 4th: Finn Keating
 5th: Zoe Johnson
 6th: Shelby Reynolds

Long Stirrup Equitation

Champion: Rylee Eilerman
 Reserve: Riley Whelan
 3rd: Abigayle Buttry
 4th: Morgan Monroe
 5th: Juliana Flaherty
 6th: Maya Kondik

Crossrails Equitation

Champion: Rylie Cann
 Reserve: Jack Keating

3rd: Margaret Mitz
 4th: Lillian Keating
 5th: Reese Griffin
 6th: Carys Moore

Walk-Trot Equitation

Champion: Macie Zuber
 Reserve: Carys Moore
 3rd: Reese Griffin
 4th: Addison Morgan
 5th: Blaire DeHope
 6th: Ashlyn Kraemer

KHJA 2' Medal

Champion: Rylee Eilerman
 Reserve: Juliana Flaherty
 3rd: Riley Whelan
 4th: Ava Thrun
 5th: Lilly Musso
 6th: Abigayle Buttry

KHJA 2'6" Medal

Champion: Finley Scheffel
 Reserve: Karston Gundry
 3rd: Sydney Gerber
 3rd: Cher Ciaburri
 3rd: Georgia Keogh

4th: Ryleigh Howell
 5th: Alaina Stacy
 6th: Paige Thomas
 6th: Ella Pyle

KHJA 3' Medal

Champion: Taylor Roby
 Reserve: Mary Mead
 3rd: Grace Hildebrand
 4th: Jennifer Kraemer
 5th: Libby Richie
 6th: Emilie Smith

KHJA Adult Medal

Champion: Megan Riddle
 Reserve: Taylor Roby
 3rd: Libby Richie
 3rd: Sarah Tluczek
 4th: Kelly McAninch
 4th: Mary Mead
 5th: Margaret Stickler
 6th: Kayla Daugherty

Junior Sportsmanship

Winner: Kylie Schmidt

Senior Sportsmanship

Winner: Karl Hancock

GRAND CHAMPION AWARDS

Regular Grand Champion Hunter, Senior

Oh Brother, Vanessa Mazzoli

Regular Grand Champion Hunter, Junior

Celtic Creek's First Light, Hunter Beasley

Regular Grand Champion Jumper

Quabelle, Jenna Yamamoto

Local Grand Champion Hunter

Si' Vous Plait, Rylee Eilerman

Local Grand Champion Jumper

Unsolved Mystery, Kaylynn Berry

Local Grand Champion Hunter Breeding

Carbon Copy, Marty Richardson

KHJA Gives Junior Riders a LegUp

In 2016, KHJA launched a program designed for riders between 10 and 18 years old as a “leg up” on their personal progression within the sport of riding in the hunters, jumpers or equitation divisions. Four grants are available: two for \$1,500 and two for \$1,000.

To be eligible for any LegUp grant, a rider must:

- ✓ Be a member of KHJA for at least two years;
- ✓ Perform a minimum of six hours of community service (younger riders can complete this requirement by volunteering at their trainer’s farm);
- ✓ Fill out the LegUp application, questionnaire and trainer recommendation and return to the LegUp Committee (forms can be downloaded at the KHJA website);
- ✓ Complete the USHJA Horsemanship Challenge Quiz, Level 1 minimum.

It’s important to note that KHJA members can be awarded a grant a maximum of two times but not in consecutive years; those not awarded the grant can reapply each year. Applicants for the LegUp grants cannot apply for the \$5,000 KHJA Scholarship in the same year.

What the Winners Have to Say: Sydney Baker

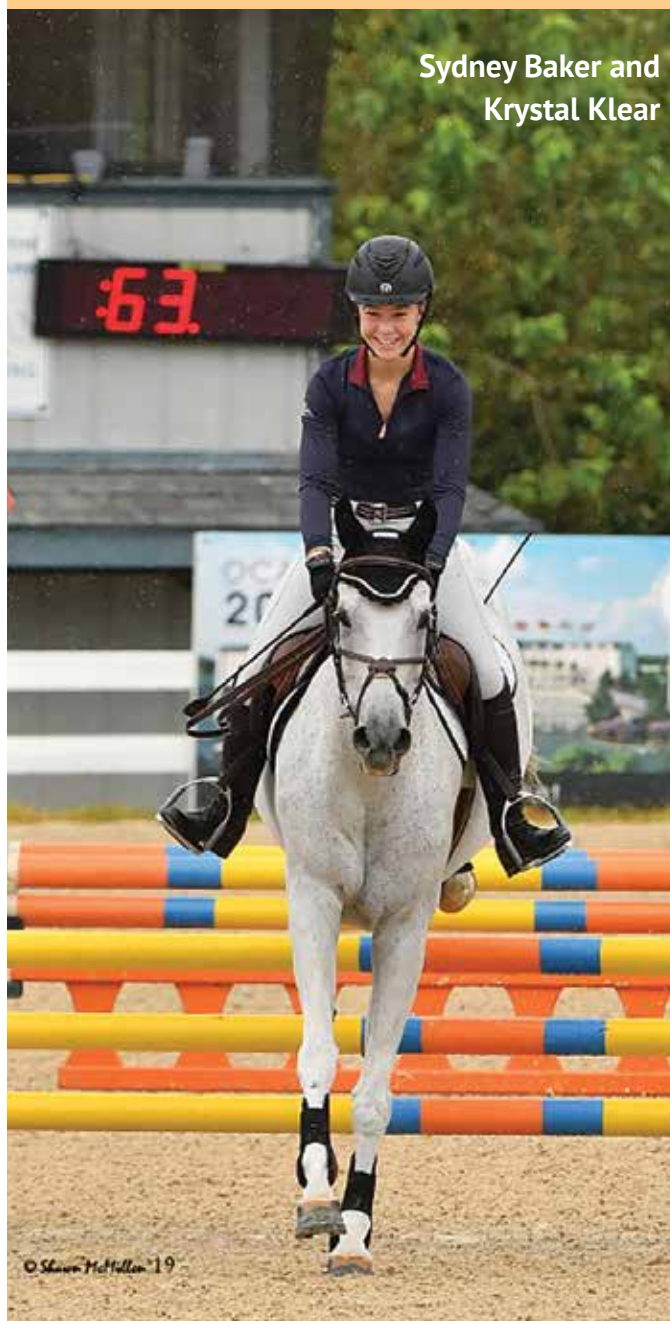
Sydney Baker rides at Liftoff Equestrian with trainer and incoming KHJA President Ashley Watts. She leases a jumper mare named Admire From Afar.

Sydney loves showing at the Kentucky Horse Park. Not originally from Kentucky, she says she had always seen the Park online and dreamed of showing there.

Sydney applied for the LegUp grant after Ashley encouraged her to apply. “It was a

2020 LegUp Winners

Sydney Baker: \$1,500	Rosemary Rail: \$1,500
Sydney Gerber: \$1,000	Zara Wiggins: \$1,000



Sydney Baker and Krystal Klear

great opportunity!” she says. “It was very simple to apply—I just had to get help from others for references. I was very grateful for the time my references spent on their letters ... it helped me earn the grant.”



Sydney says it was simple to apply for the grant..

take lessons on Brodie and some other horses, as well as attend some local shows.

Sydney says applying for the grant was easy and she encourages all other KHJA members who fit the criteria to apply. "It provides a great opportunity to learn more and take part in more shows," she says. "I appreciated the opportunity to do more shows without the worry of the expense!"

What the Winners Have to Say: Rosemary Rail

Rosemary Rail is a student of Maria Kneipp's Kneipp Farm, where she also rides

Sydney used the LegUp grant money for horse shows. "I would encourage everyone who is eligible to apply for the grant to do it. It can truly make a difference in creating opportunities!"

the funds to show at the World Equestrian Center as she had planned, she was able to use the money to

What the Winners Have to Say: Sydney Gerber

Sydney Gerber rides Strawberry Whine (barn name "Brodie") with Megan Stackhouse of Stackhouse Equestrian.

Sydney applied for the LegUP grants so that she might get to lesson and show a bit more. Right now, Sydney's favorite shows to go to with Brodie are the Scheffelridge Farm shows in Paris, Kentucky.

Sydney was excited to receive the grant; though the COVID-19 pandemic prevented her from using



Sydney Gerber and Strawberry Whine

a horse named Brody! Shown under the name Reagan 85, Rosemary loves to show him at both the World Equestrian Center and Country Heir. “It’s a tie!” she says.

Rosemary won the LegUp grant three years ago and decided to reapply. “It was really simple,” she explains. “I was really happy and grateful to win again!”

Rosemary is saving her money to buy a new saddle. “I would definitely recommend applying for this scholarship. It’s a great opportunity and learning experience!” she says.

What the Winners Have to Say: Zara Wiggins

Zara Wiggins also rides with Megan Stackhouse and Stackhouse Equestrian, where she leases Jeffrey.



Rosemary and Brody

Her favorite show is the KHJA Fall Classic and Medal Finals, held each

September at the Kentucky Horse Park.

Zara actually applied for the LegUp grant as she was injured for most of the 2019 show season, “and the money was supposed to greatly help me show more this year to make up for last year,” she explains.

“It was very easy to apply for this grant; I just filled out a couple questions. I was very excited when I won, because I did not expect to win out of everyone,” Zara shares. “This year, I planned on using the money to show, but because of COVID, I wasn’t able to.

“I used some of the money to buy a saddle pad and halter earlier this year, which I use a lot. I plan on using the rest of the money to help out with showing fees next show season.”

“I would encourage anyone who thinks they could use this money to apply!” Zara says. “It is so generous and the money goes a long way!”

Zara Wiggins will use the LegUp grant to help with showing fees.



2021 LegUp Winners

- Lucy Deskins \$1,000
- Holland Kantar \$1,500
- Ava Roof \$1,500
- Finley Scheffel \$1,000

2020 KHJA \$5,000 Scholarship Winner: Madison Kirby

Madison Kirby is no stranger to KHJA, having been involved with the organization since she learned to ride. Madison grew up riding and showing in Central Kentucky. “I’ve been fortunate to have ridden with many trainers across Kentucky, and each one of them has helped to shape me into the person and rider I am today,” she explains. “Although it’s a far drive from my home near Louisville, I’ve found the place that feels most like home to me is with my barn family at Scheffelridge Farm [in Paris, Kentucky]. I have ridden with Nori Sheffel as my primary trainer since I was 6 and her farm will forever be my happy place.”

More recently, Madison’s infectious smile could be seen at the in-gate at Lakeside Arena in Frankfort, KY. “I have been working the in-gate at Lakeside Arena and

several other KHJA-sanctioned shows since I was 14 years old,” Madison says. “I love being able to meet and create bonds with all of the KHJA members who attend these horse shows. Watching the young competitors go from leadline to jumping around the Intermediate Child/Adult classes holds a special place in my heart. I am thankful that Bruce Brown and other show managers afforded me those opportunities.”

Madison is the 2020 recipient of the \$5,000 KHJA scholarship, which was applied to her tuition at Murray State University. Awarded each year to a KHJA member in good standing to apply to his or her college or trade school tuition, Madison says she has long dreamed of winning the award: She’s grown up watching many of the riders she looked up to receive the scholarship. “I always wanted to be just

like them when it came to riding, academics and community involvement, so when my time came to start applying for scholarships, I knew the KHJA scholarship was one that I felt honored to just be in the running for.”

The application itself wasn’t difficult, Madison says, “but I began preparing several years in advance to meet the volunteer requirements. I have been involved with KHJA for so long and it’s made a huge impact on my daily life, so writing the essay on my involvement came naturally to me.”



At Murray, Madison is majoring in agricultural science with a minor in political science. “I have aspirations to attend law school after graduating, to hopefully practice law focusing on agricultural issues as a career.” Horses haven’t fallen by the wayside—Madi-

son tried out for both the Murray State IHSA Hunt Seat and Stock (Western) teams. “I had never ridden western before, but I was fortunate enough to make both teams. Riding both English and Western at the collegiate level has been such a learning experience; it keeps me very busy outside of the classroom and I love every minute of it.”

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, Murray’s hunt-seat team wasn’t able to compete in the fall of 2020, but the stock team went to UT-Knoxville to compete at the beginning of October.

Madison is honored to be the recipient of the KHJA scholarship. “I get to represent an association that feels like a large family that helped me grow into the person I am today.

Learn how to apply for the scholarship at khja.org.

KHJA

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Association**

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