



SHOW JUMPING HALL OF FAME

Preserving Our Heritage - Honoring Our Legends

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Marty Bauman, 508-698-6810, marty@classic-communications.com

Nice Girl De Muze Z Wins January's Show Jumping Hall of Fame Horse of the Month Award Sponsored by Markel

Lexington, KY – February 20, 2024 – Nice Girl De Muze Z has been named the winner of January's **Show Jumping Hall of Fame Horse of the Month Award Sponsored by Markel**.

Owned and ridden by Abigail Gordon of Statesville, NC, the 12-year-old Zangersheide mare competes in the Junior Division of the **Show Jumping Hall of Fame Jumper Classic Series' East Conference Presented by Rood & Riddle**. The pair had a successful start to the year at Wellington International, claiming an early third-place finish in the WEF Premier's \$10,000 SJHOF Junior Jumper Classic. They then returned for top honors during WEF 3's \$10,000 SJHOF Junior Jumper Classic. This victory helped them secure Week 3's 1.40/1.45m Junior Jumper Championship and the SJHOF *Horse of the Month* Award for January.



Nice Girl De Muze Z with Abigail Gordon © Bridgette Ness Photography

The Show Jumping Hall of Fame conducts the Show Jumping Hall of Fame Jumper Classic Series with classes at approximately 80 horse shows each year. The Series hosts classes in two Conferences – the **East Conference presented by Rood & Riddle** and the **West Conference**

presented by LAURACEA. The Series culminates in a West Conference Championship Final at Blenheim EquiSports' International Jumping Festival in San Juan Capistrano, California and the overall Series Final at the Washington International Horse Show in Upper Marlboro, Maryland. The Series' leading riders and horses receive engraved Tiffany crystal trophies and the winners of the Series' two Finals receive one of LAURACEA's best-selling Convertible Backpack Totes.

Each month the Series honors one horse that earns the most points in Series competition that month. The Series follows Grand Prix rules and specifications is designed to give amateur and junior riders the opportunity to compete at higher levels and serves as a proving ground for many riders who aspire to represent the United States in international competition.



The Show Jumping Hall of Fame Horse of the Month Award is sponsored by Markel.

The Show Jumping Hall of Fame was organized to promote the sport of show jumping and to immortalize the legends of the men, women and horses who have made great contributions to the sport. The Show Jumping Hall of Fame is located at the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington, Kentucky. Plaques honoring those who have been inducted into the Hall of Fame can be seen at the Horse Park's Rolex Stadium. Mementos and artifacts from the sport's history are on display as part of the Show Jumping Hall of Fame collection at the United States Hunter Jumper Association (USHJA) Wheeler Museum at the Horse Park.

The Show Jumping Hall of Fame is sponsored by Blenheim EquiSports, Charles Ancona, CMJ Sporthorse, Hampton Classic Horse Show, Kentucky Horse Park, LAURACEA, LEG Colorado Horse Shows, Markel, Rood & Riddle Equine Hospital, United States Hunter Jumper Association (USHJA), Washington International Horse Show and Wellington International.

[Blenheim EquiSports](#) is an equestrian event management company based in San Juan Capistrano, CA, producing horse shows in San Juan Capistrano, CA and Las Vegas, NV. These competitions include USEF "Premier" rated hunter-jumper shows; Longines FEI Jumping Nations Cup™ USA; a Longines FEI Jumping World Cup™ North American League Qualifier; USHJA International, National, & Pony Hunter Derbies & Finals; the Whitethorne Equitation Challenge, Medal Finals, and so much more.

[Charles Ancona](#) jackets are made in the USA using the finest Italian stretch fabrics to provide both stylish looks and high-performance functionality. Machine washable, water repellent, and

lightweight to help keep you cool on the hottest days, each jacket features a fully customizable design and is made to order in New York City's garment district – no two jackets are alike! Charles Ancona is the Official U.S. Team Supplier through USEF. Charles Ancona Show Jackets were worn in the Tokyo Olympics and will be for all U.S. teams through the 2024 Paris Olympics. Charles Ancona takes pride in designing and manufacturing the highest quality products for their customers, including top riders such as Show Jumping Hall of Fame inductee Margie Engle, five-time Olympic veteran McLain Ward, Aaron Vale, Beat Mandli, Brian Moggre, Brianne Goutal-Marteau, Laura Chapot, Sydney Schulman, and John French.

[The Hampton Classic](#) is the prestigious culminating event of the Hamptons' famed summer season. Top jumper and hunter riders from around the world compete for some of the richest prize money in the nation. The Classic hosts more than 100 classes of competition in six rings for horses and riders of all ages and abilities. The Classic also features a Boutique Garden with more than 70 vendors, a wide selection of dining options and a Farmer's Market, all on its 60- acre show grounds.

The [Kentucky Horse Park](#) is the leading tourist attraction for all things "horse" and one of the world's best equine competition facilities and only park open to the public. The Kentucky Horse Park hosts a handful of events each year such as the Defender Kentucky Three-Day Event, Kentucky Summer Horse Show and BreyerFest.

[LAURACEA](#) is a collection of finely crafted leather goods inspired by the true equestrian lifestyle. Designed for equestrians with quality, function, and sophistication in mind, LAURACEA is the brainchild of founder Tamara Makris, designer, entrepreneur, and mother of two equestrians.

Offering 12 weeks of top-notch competition each year, the [LEG Colorado Horse Shows](#) are a staple at the Colorado Horse Park. They strive to provide an excellent showing environment with divisions for all levels and host multiple regional events including EAP Regional Training Sessions, USHJA Zone 7/8 Jumper Team Championships and ASPCA Maclay Region 6 Finals. The LEG Colorado Horse Shows also offer a \$20,000 LEGIS Rider Bonus Series for the highest-performing hunter and jumper riders throughout each season, and their popular Trainer Incentive Program has awarded vacations to the series' top trainers for over 17 years.

Backed by a team of equestrian and insurance experts, [Markel](#) is the insurance company with horse sense. At the shows and in the barns, Markel serves its clients with the highest standards. Markel has a team of insurance specialists across the country who know the product inside and out. Visit [Horse Specialist | Markel Specialist \(markelinsurance.com\)](#) and find the Markel Insurance Specialist that's right for your horse, farm and liability needs.

[Rood & Riddle Equine Hospital](#) began as an ambulatory practice in Lexington, Kentucky, in 1982 and established a full-service equine hospital in 1986. Today the practice is known and respected worldwide for innovative and highly skilled treatment of horses. Rood & Riddle continues their tradition of excellence into the twenty-first century serving as a referral center for horses

requiring specialized medical and surgical care and providing ambulatory care for all breeds and disciplines. With the original hospital in Lexington, Kentucky, and locations in Saratoga Springs, New York, and Wellington, Florida, Rood & Riddle maintains an unwavering commitment to quality, both in the care of horses and in our relationships with clients and the community.

The [United States Hunter Jumper Association](#) (USHJA), as the official hunter/jumper affiliate of the United States Equestrian Federation, is a competition-based sport organization that serves our members through educational programs, awards and recognition, communication and rules. They provide a wide array of programs for all hunter/jumper levels and are mindful of the well-being of our equine partners. Additional information is available at www.ushja.org.

Founded in 1958, the [Washington International Horse Show presented by MARS Equestrian™](#) is one of the most prestigious, competitive and exciting equestrian sporting events in North America. Held annually in October, WIHS brings together the finest and most talented horses and riders from across the country and around the world for seven days of top jumper, hunter and equitation competition, equestrian entertainment, and community and charity events.

[Wellington International](#) is the home of the internationally recognized Winter Equestrian Festival (WEF) in addition to 28 weeks of the Annual Series horse shows. WEF came to Wellington in 1974 and boasts more than 155 acres, 18 competition arenas, over 400 permanent equine stalls, horse trails, pedestrian paths, and golf cart tracks. This award-winning venue operates the largest and longest-running hunter/jumper horse show in the world while annually welcoming thousands of riders from all 50 states and more than 42 countries. In addition to equestrian sporting events, Wellington International offers VIP, hospitality, event spaces, world-class shopping and much more! With the support of their parent company, the Global Equestrian Group (GEG), Wellington International is focused on the future of equestrian sport to better serve exhibitors, stakeholders, and community.

For more information about the **Show Jumping Hall of Fame**, including the Show Jumping Hall of Fame Jumper Classic Series, please visit the Show Jumping Hall of Fame website at www.ShowJumpingHallofFame.net.