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Annabella Sanchez Wins Show Jumping Hall of Fame Year-End Final

Lexington, KY - November 9, 2017 - Annabella Sanchez of Glencoe, IL, won the Show Jumping Hall of Fame Year-End Final presented by Equithrive. The Final, which culminates the year-long Show Jumping Hall of Fame Jumper Classic Series, was held at the 2017 CP National Horse Show in Lexington, KY.

Sanchez rode to victory aboard *Cassano Z* against a highly competitive field of thirty-one competitors.

"*Cassano Z* is 9-years-old. I recently got him this spring," stated Sanchez. "He's pretty new for me but he's been great so far. He's a younger horse so I'm really looking forward to seeing what he's going to be when he's older."

Nine riders out of the field of thirty-one made it to the jump-off, producing six clean jump-off rounds. Sanchez won with a clean round in 36.623 seconds, just 1/100th of a second faster than second place winner and barn mate, Giavana Rinaldi and Carben Farm's *Always Me* who completed the course in a time of 36.631.

"Gia and I both ride at Our Day Farm with Maggie and Alex Jayne and Haylie Rolfe," said Sanchez. "She's a great rider and I always look up to her. She had an amazing jump-off. I



Annabella Sanchez receives her award after winning the Show Jumping Hall of Fame Year-End Final presented by Equithrive. (c) Barre Dukes/Phelps Media Group

saw it on the screen and I thought, 'Wow, I really have to go for it!' He's been turning really well lately - we've been working on that with him since he's younger. He was just on it; he was amazing today. I'm just so grateful for him."

The Show Jumping Hall of Fame conducts the Show Jumping Hall of Fame Jumper Classic Series, held under Grand Prix rules and specifications. The Show Jumping Hall of Fame Jumper Classic Series is designed to give amateur-owner and junior riders an opportunity to compete at higher levels and serves as a proving ground for many riders who aspire to someday represent the United States in international competition.

Any horse show offering a class that meets all the criteria set forth in the Show Jumping Hall of Fame Jumper Classic Series specifications and has prize money of at least \$1,000 is eligible to be part of the Series.

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, KY. Plaques honoring those who have been honored with induction 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.



*Annabella Sanchez and Cassano Z jump to victory
(c) Shawn McMillen*

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 Land Rover Kentucky Three-Day Event, Kentucky Summer Horse Show and BreyerFest. For more information, visit www.kyhorsepark.com.

The United States Hunter Jumper Association, 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 1999, SmartPak Equine is the country's largest online and catalog retailer serving the needs of the active and engaged horse owner. The patented SmartPak™ supplement feeding system has simplified the process of feeding horse supplements and medications, making it easier for thousands of riders to keep their horses healthier by ensuring their supplements are being fed correctly. Learn more at www.SmartPak.com.

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 features six show rings, 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 Classic hosts more than 100 classes of competition for horses and riders of all ages and abilities. More details are available at www.hamptonclassic.com.

The National Horse Show is a weeklong championship event featuring "AA"-rated hunters, open jumpers, junior/amateur jumpers, and the ASPCA Alfred B. Maclay Finals. It is held in the Alltech Arena at the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington, KY, site of the 2010 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games™. Further information is available at www.NHS.org.

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