

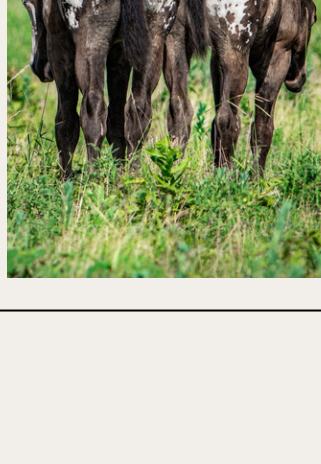
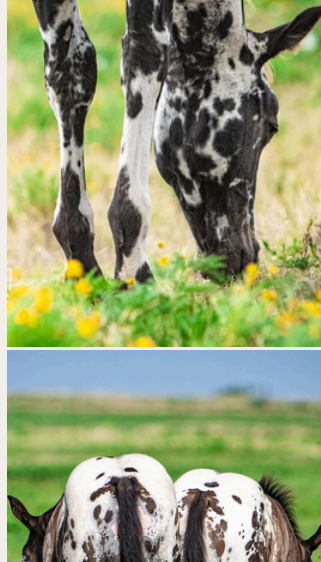


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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to March

Spring is just around the corner... literally! Thursday, March 20th, marks the official first day of spring, and I hope warmer weather is on its way for everyone.

This month's newsletter is all about youth opportunities within the Appaloosa Horse Club. Below, you'll find updates on what's happening in the Appaloosa Youth Association (AYA), special scholarship information, and more exciting news for our youth Appaloosa lovers. Whether you're a young rider looking for ways to get involved or just want to support the future of our breed, there's something for everyone this month.

Oh, and enjoy these adorable foal pictures taken by RMRW Originals, along with a shot of my horse doing the Flehmen response. After all, who doesn't love a good horsey smile?

Best,

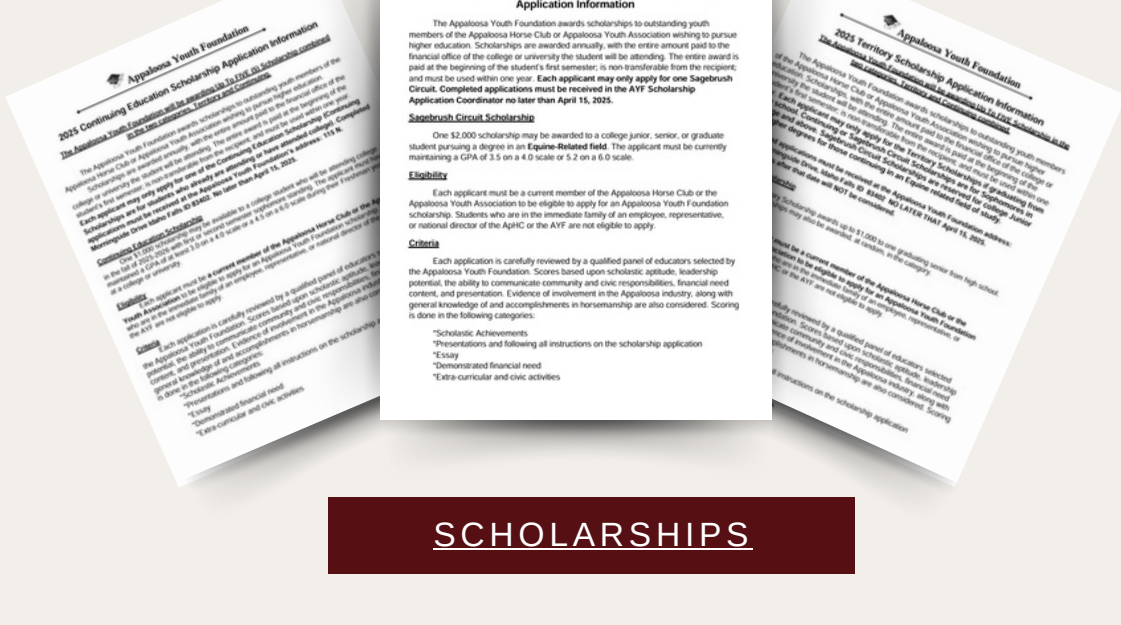
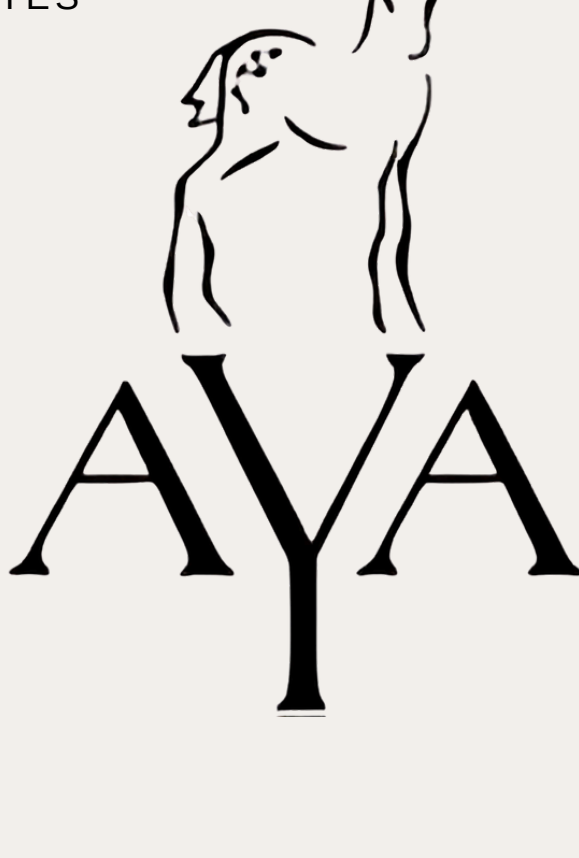
Thora

Top News

AYA UPDATES

Have you spotted the AYA's activity lately? The 2025 board of directors blasted out of the gates this year by hosting their first ever Springtime Equine Care Seminar on February 20th. This seminar hosted two speakers: Drs. Dave Rustebakke and Kelbi Stout of Rustebakke Veterinary Service in Clarkston, WA. These vets covered a variety of topics, from foaling to how to prevent and treat common springtime equine ailments. Missed the event? We missed you and encourage you to attend the next AYA event in April! While the details of the event are still in the works, keep an eye on our social media and the April newsletter to learn more.

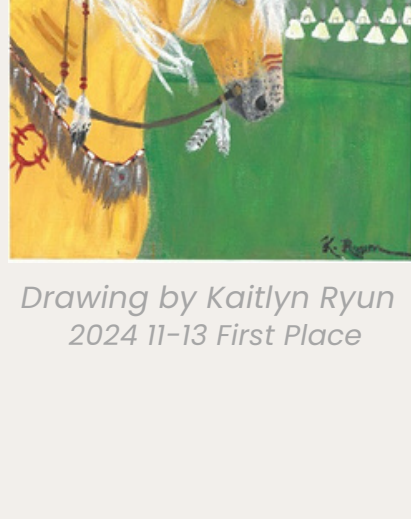
Wondering what else is coming up in the AYA world? Don't forget that the Appaloosa Youth Foundation scholarship applications are due April 15th! Three different scholarships are available to apply to: the Territory Scholarship, the Continuing Education Scholarship, and the Sagebrush Circuit Scholarship. Applications are available at below. Questions about the scholarships? Feel free to reach out to youth@appaloosa.com.



SCHOLARSHIPS

Another exciting AYA happening begins on April 1st! That's right -- don't be fooled -- it's the Annual AYA Art and Photography Contest! This annual contest invites youth members of all ages to submit their best works of art and photography to be judged for cash prizes! Want to learn more about this contest? Visit the link below to learn about the contest rules and how to enter.

PHOTO & ART CONTEST



Drawing by Kaitlyn Ryun
2024 11-13 First Place

The AYA is looking forward to a great spring and is also gearing up for the Youth World Show. The board of directors is working together to create a host of fun activities and fundraisers for the show. Stay tuned because we will be releasing an Activity Guide for all of these show events and activities!

Still yearning to hear more about upcoming AYA things? Sign up to receive updates from us by completing this form:

AYA UPDATES FORM



NSBA

SMART POINTS

NSBA Smart Points makes showing even more exciting by rewarding youth riders for their participation! In 2023, Smart Points riders earned an incredible \$19.24 per point! To qualify, riders need an NSBA membership, a one-time \$25 Smart Points enrollment, and must compete on an NSBA Incentive Fund (IF) horse or enroll their horse separately. Points earned in Dual Approved, Novice youth, and walk-trot classes turn into cash rewards! Earnings are paid out annually! Don't miss out! Enroll today and get rewarded for doing what you love!

[CLICK TO LEARN MORE](#)



Show

77TH NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP / YOUTH WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP APPALOOSA SHOW

The tentative schedule for the 77th National Championship & Youth World Championship Appaloosa Show is now available online. The show will take place June 26 through July 3.

In addition to the classes, there will be AYA events scheduled throughout the show, providing youth exhibitors with exciting opportunities to participate.

View the full schedule at the link below.

[CLICK TO LEARN MORE](#)

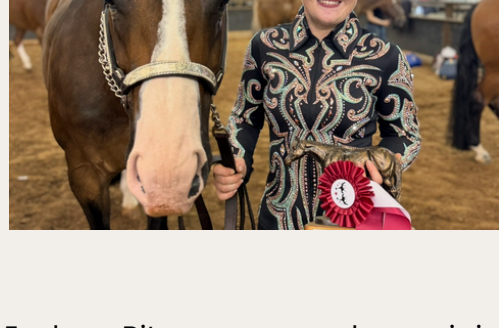
Spotlight

A SPOT FOR THE FUTURE

For young equestrians chasing their dreams, A Spot for the Future is making a real difference. This scholarship program, launched in late 2023, helps Appaloosa youth exhibitors at the Youth World Championship Show by giving them a financial boost for their education. Whether they're heading to college, trade school, or another approved program, this initiative is all about setting youth up for success while keeping them involved and supporting the Appaloosa community.

Just within its first year, A Spot for the Future launched into motion--by March 2024, fundraising efforts had already secured \$13,600! This was enough to fully fund the first round of scholarships. Just a few months later, in June, another \$16,000 was raised, ensuring scholarships for a second year. By July, sixteen youth exhibitors each received \$500 scholarships.

Scholarships are awarded through a random drawing of pre-entries in eight event categories: cattle, games, halter, hunter, ranch, showmanship, trail, and western events. This system gives every competitor a fair shot at earning some financial help while encouraging more youth to get involved in the Appaloosa community.



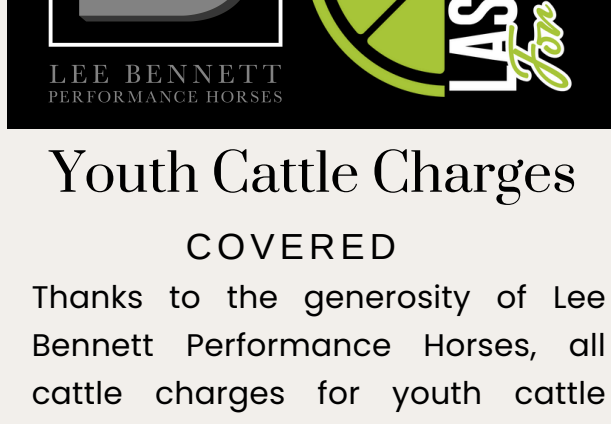
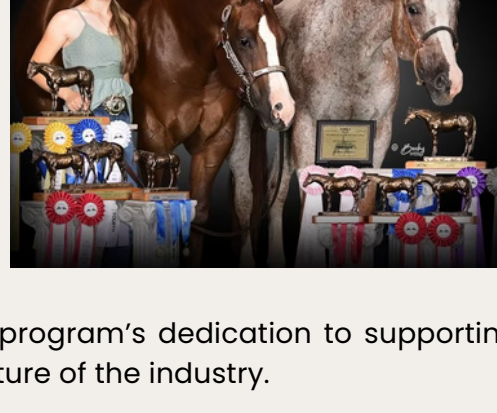
Past recipients are already seeing the benefits. Brooke Kuronya, who won a scholarship in the 14-18 Showmanship category in 2024, shared, "The scholarship has helped me pay for my schooling to become a veterinarian one day. It paid off almost a whole semester of classes, which was very exciting. It is helping me pursue my future career one day and I couldn't be more grateful".

Evelyn Bitner, an early recipient, added, "I was surprised! Admittedly, I didn't know a ton about the program, but I'm very grateful for it. I think they're doing really cool things to support youth and the breed as a whole".

With ongoing fundraising, A Spot for the Future hopes to expand, offering more scholarships to kids who may not have the chance to compete at the world level. The program's dedication to supporting young riders shows that today's youth exhibitors are the future of the industry.

Want to learn more or get involved? Visit A Spot for the Future's website and consider donating to help shape the next generation of Appaloosa riders!

[CLICK TO LEARN MORE](#)



Youth Cattle Charges

COVERED

Thanks to the generosity of Lee Bennett Performance Horses, all cattle charges for youth cattle classes will be covered at the Appaloosa Youth World Show.



Youth Over Fences Charges

COVERED

ApHC is excited to announce that all youth over fences equipment charges will be sponsored by Spotted Bull Farm at the Appaloosa Youth World Championship Show

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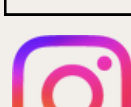
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