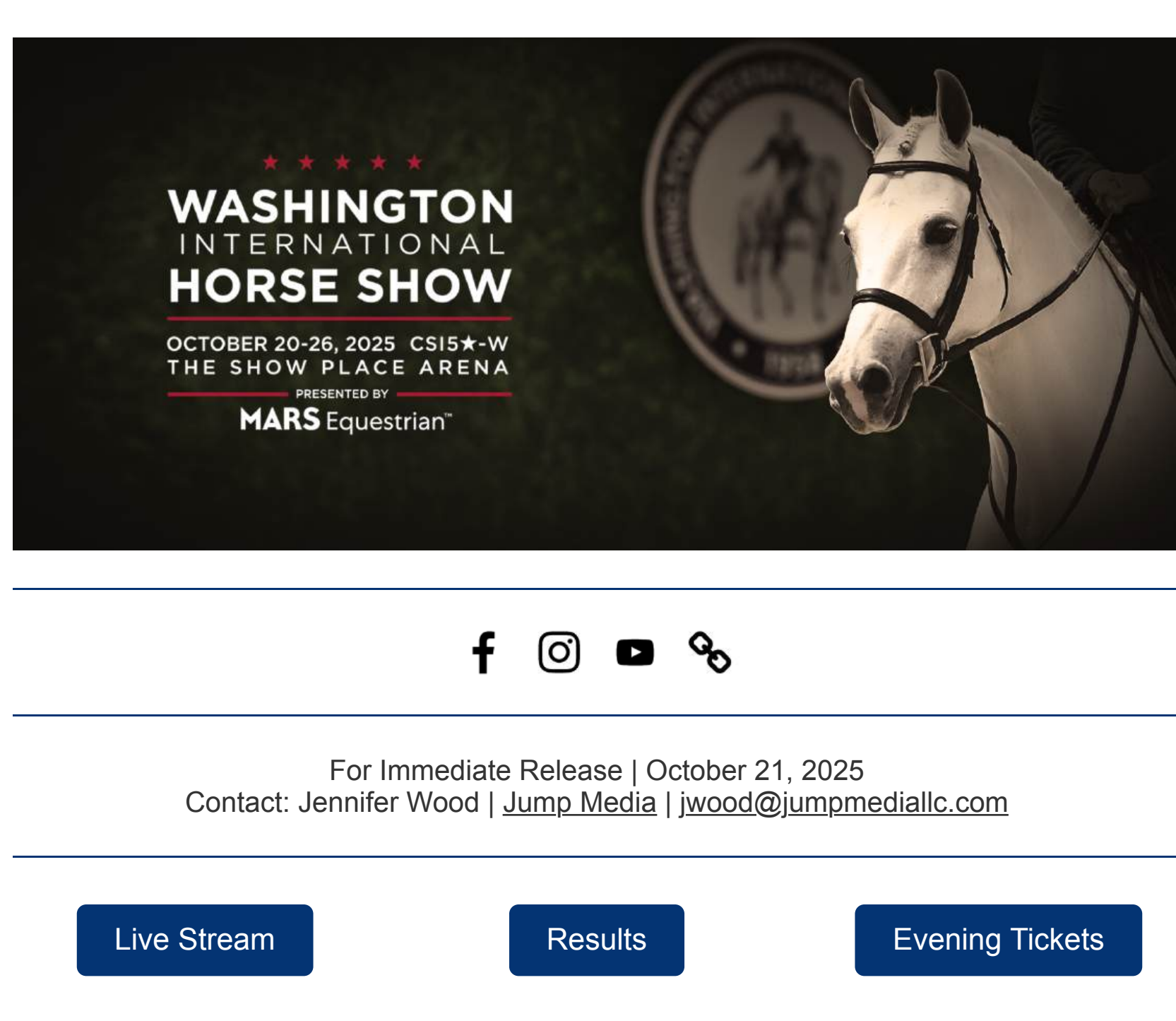




For Immediate Release | October 21, 2025
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Two beautiful horses were honored as the Grand Hunter Champions on Tuesday, October 21, at the 2025 Washington International Horse Show (WIHS), presented by MARS Equestrian™. Forsini, ridden by Laena Romond and owned by Lexi Maounis, and Aeronautic, ridden by Daniel Geitner and owned by Martin Schlaeppli, excelled in their divisions to capture grand honors.



Laena Romond and Forsini had a banner day, winning two division championships on their way to the Grand Hunter Championship tie. Photo by [Shawn McMillen Photography](#).

Laena Romond, a trainer at Heritage Farm in Katonah, NY, and Forsini dominated on their first day of competition, winning all four of their classes across two divisions with three scores of 90 and one of 89. They placed third in the Green Conformation Hunter model class. Returning on Tuesday, they placed third in the Green Conformation Hunter Stake and won the Green Hunter 3'6" Stake with a score of 92. With an additional third place in the Green Conformation under saddle and a win in the Green 3'6" under saddle, they secured the championship in both divisions.

This is Forsini's first year competing at the 3'6" height; Romond rode Forsini last year in the 3'3" Performance Hunters and they participated in the USHJA Green Hunter Incentive National Championships.

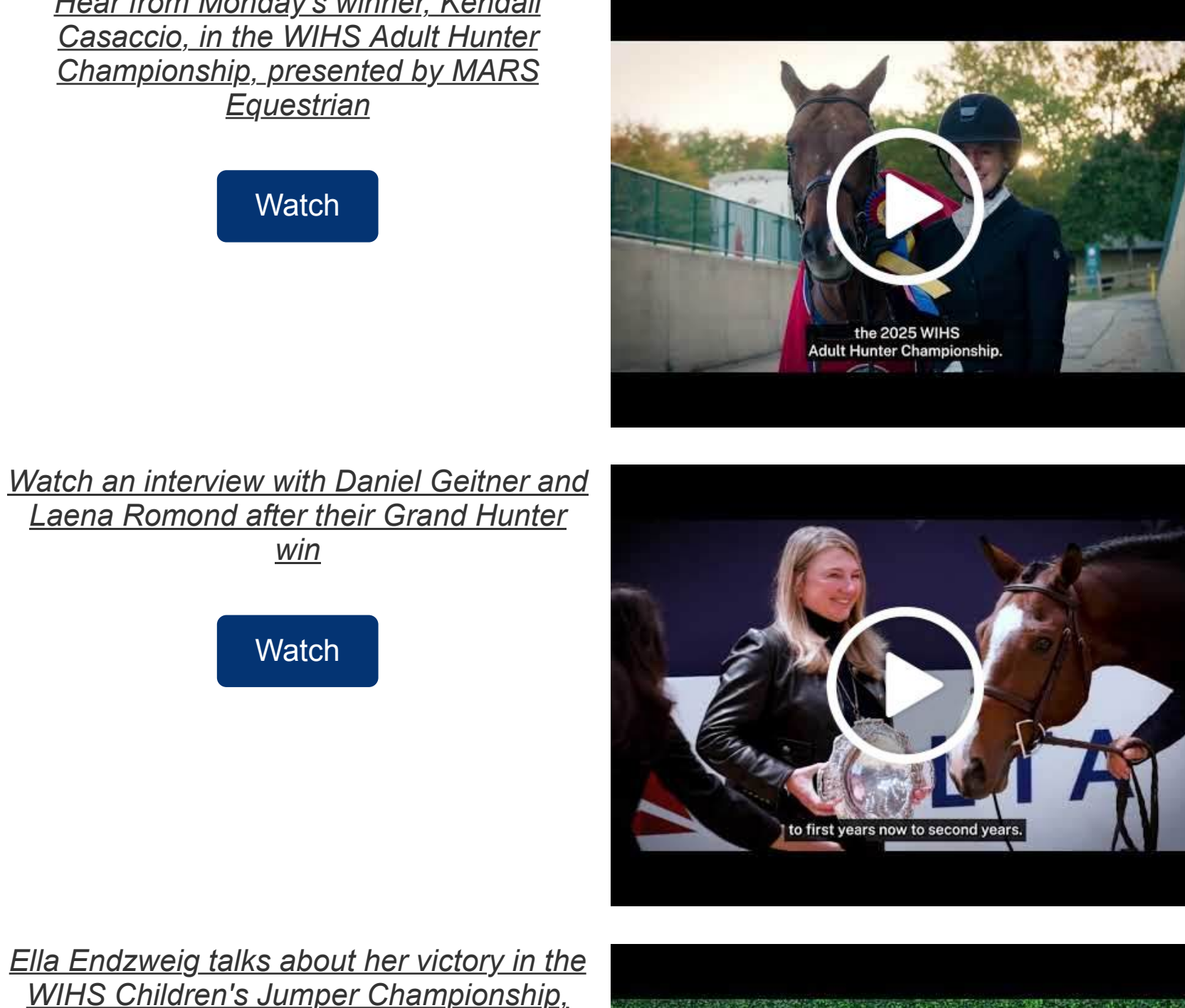


Forsini and Laena Romond in their winning presentation with groom Luis Mandujano and WIHS President Vicki Lowell. Photo by [Shawn McMillen Photography](#).

"I'm really proud of how consistent he's become," she said of the nine-year-old Warmblood gelding by For Pleasure. "He could be a little bit 'aware' in his first time at a new venue, so I was really proud that he was able to walk in and really, from the first round, deliver here."

Standing at only 15.3 hands, Forsini is a careful jumper and a "blast to ride," said Romond. "In the indoor, it felt like I could really work with pace and ride forward to the fences. He's just a lot of fun to ride in the ring."

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Aeronautic and Daniel Geitner swept the Green Hunter 3'9" division to tie for the Grand Hunter Championship. Photo by [Shawn McMillen Photography](#).

Geitner and Aeronautic continued a winning indoor season following their reserve championship at Pennsylvania National Horse show with the championship in the Green Hunter 3'9" division. They also won all four of their classes, which earned them the Grand Green Hunter Championship and the tie for Grand Champions.

"He walked right in from the first class and just felt at home in there," said Geitner of the 10-year-old Warmblood gelding, "so we were hoping for good results."

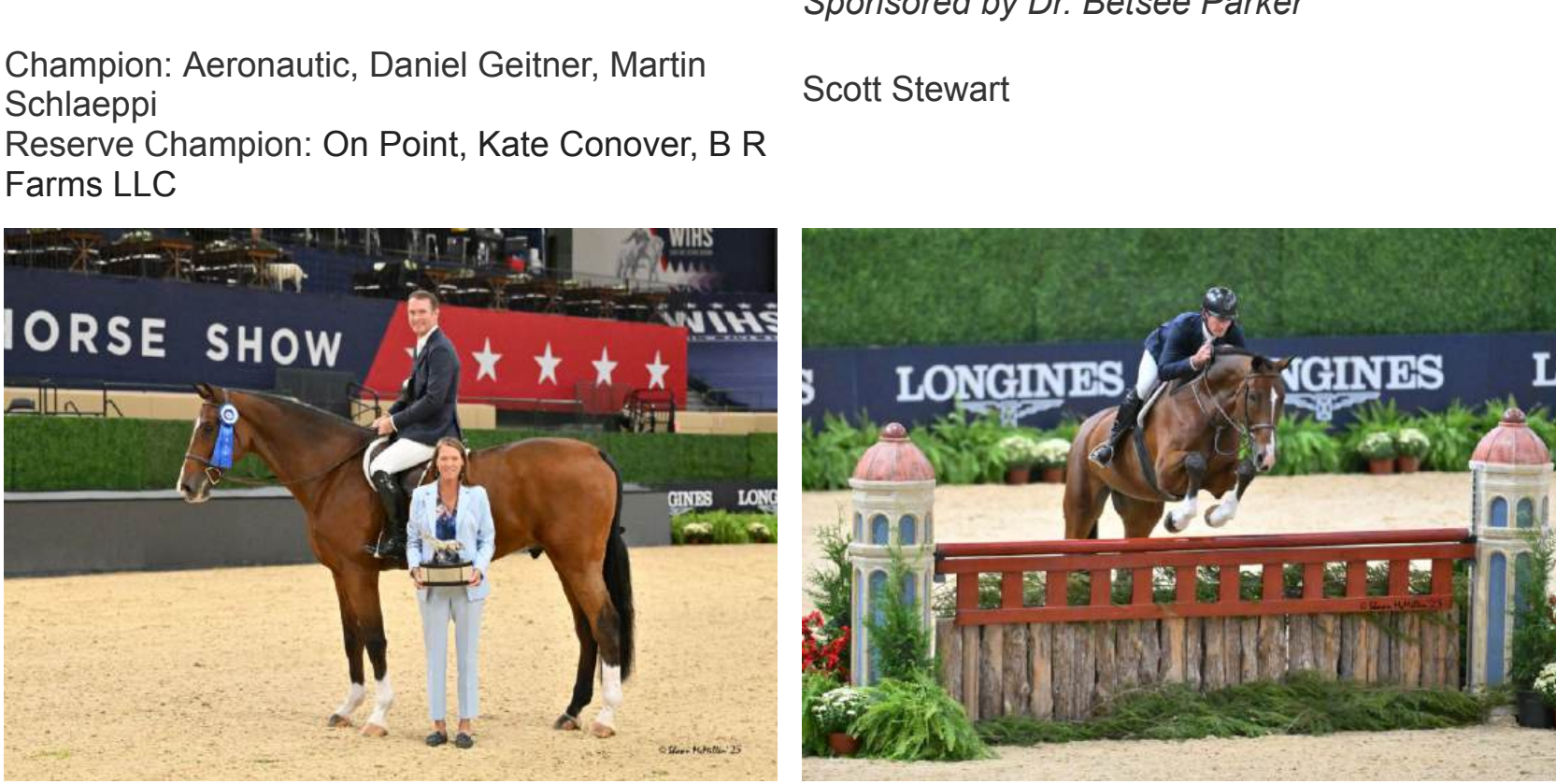


Daniel Geitner and Kathy Geitner with WIHS President Vicki Lowell in the winning presentation with Aeronautic. Photo by [Shawn McMillen Photography](#).

Geitner has competed Aeronautic for three years and also said that "Flyboy" has matured into a confident horse.

"He's a beautiful mover, but he's really gotten to where he can go right in and jump all eight jumps the same," he remarked. "He used to tend to try too hard once or twice on course, and he's really evened it all out."

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[Hear from Monday's winner, Kendall Casaccio, in the WIHS Adult Hunter Championship, presented by MARS Equestrian](#)

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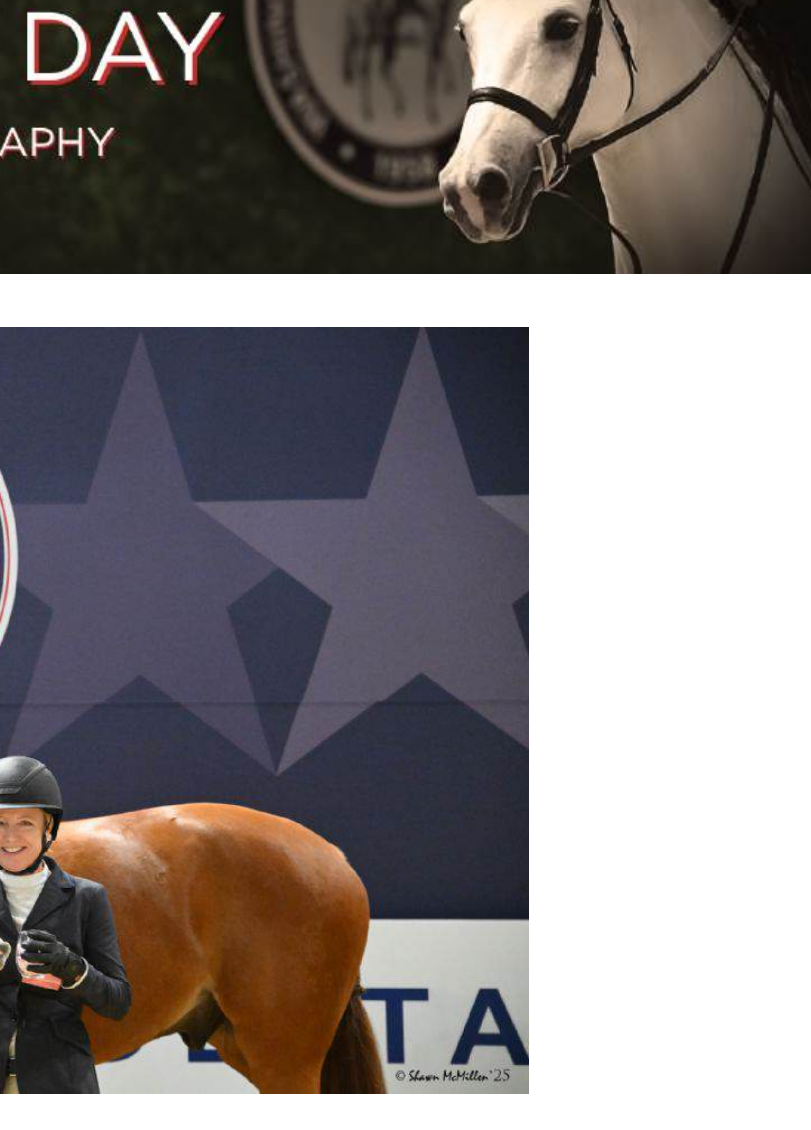
[Watch an interview with Daniel Geitner and Laena Romond after their Grand Hunter win](#)

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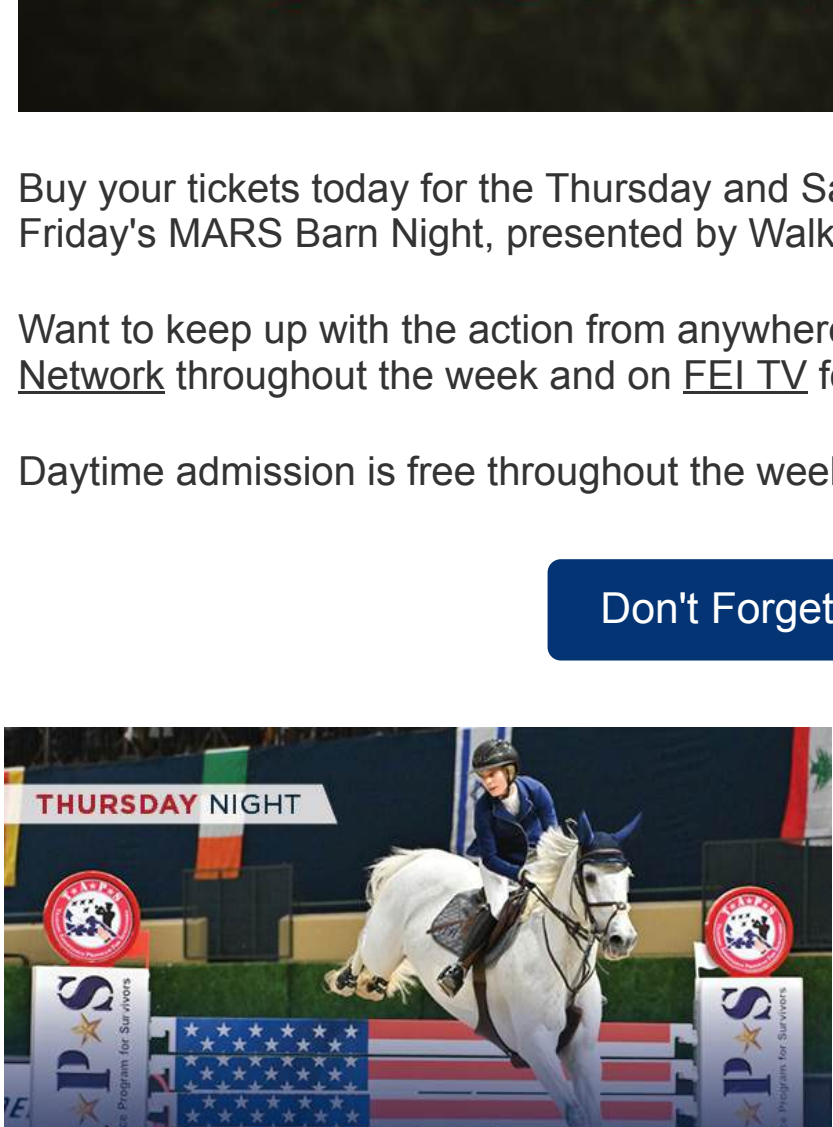
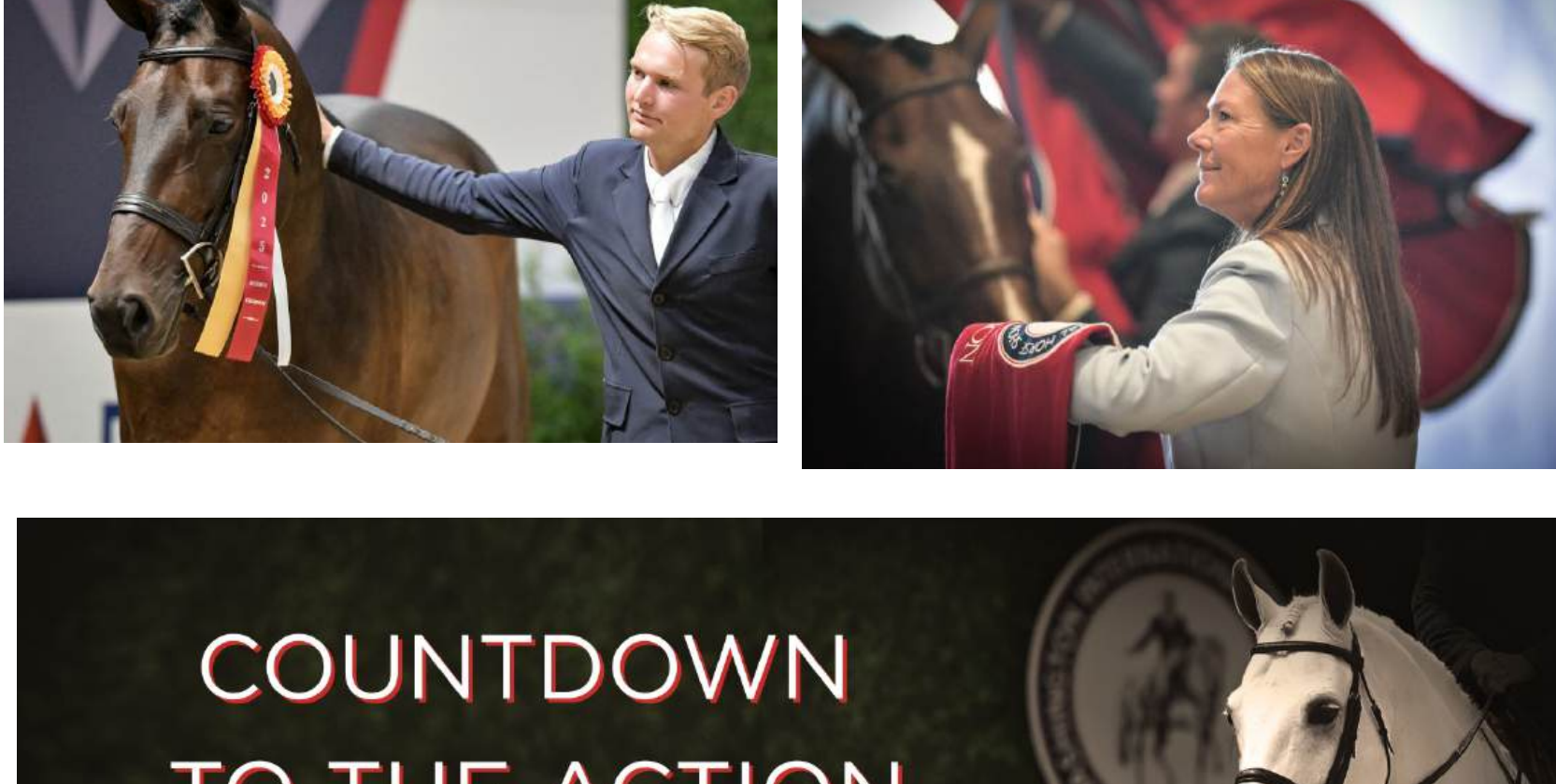
[Ella Endzweig talks about her victory in the WIHS Children's Jumper Championship, presented by MARS Equestrian](#)

[Watch](#)

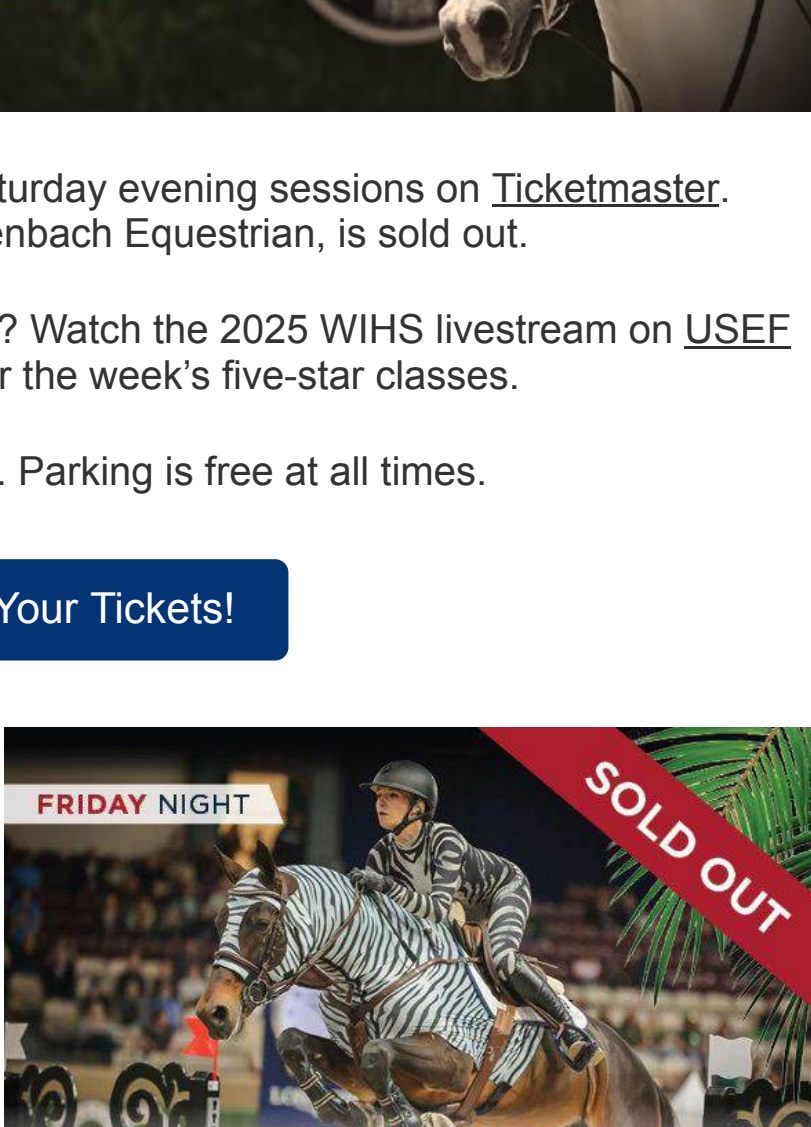


[Kim Coyle discusses her second consecutive victory with Dartani in the WIHS Adult Jumper Championship, presented by MARS Equestrian](#)

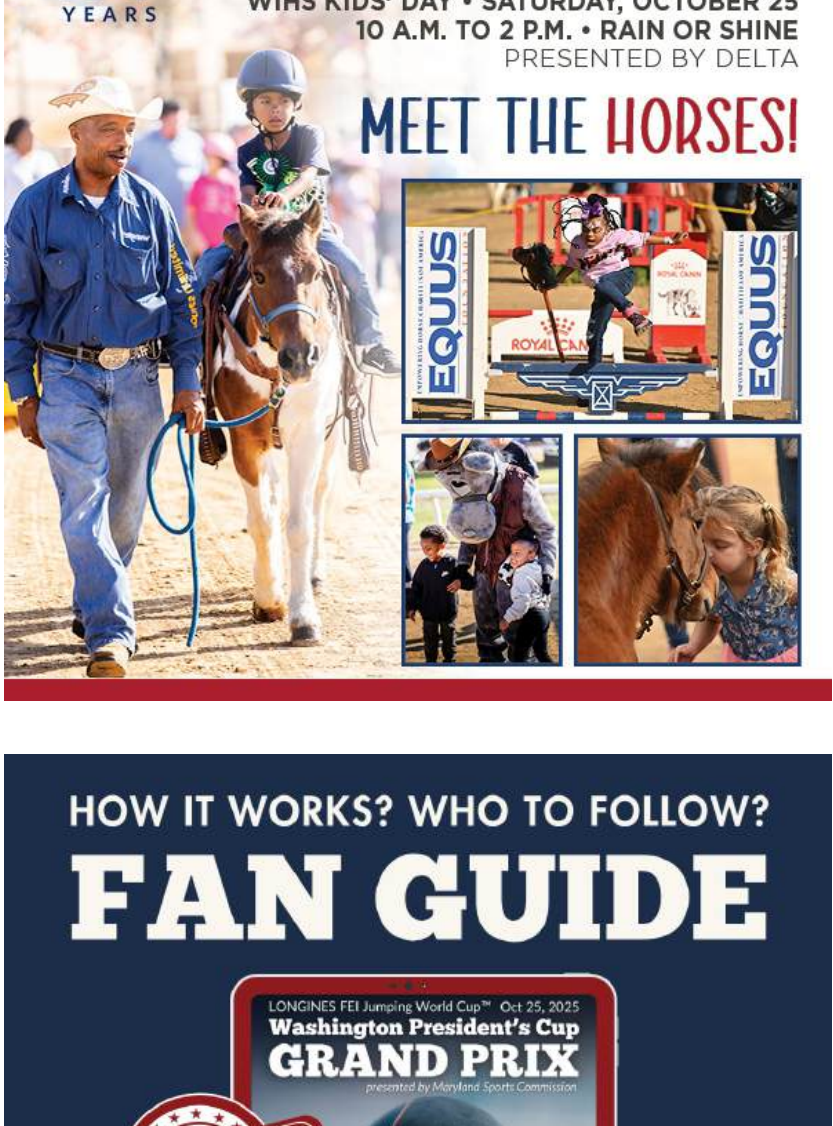
[Watch](#)



Ella Endzweig and Hurry Up B were the fastest to win the \$12,500 WIHS Children's Jumper Championship, presented by MARS Equestrian.



Kim Coyle used Dartani's inherent speed for their blazing-fast victory in the \$12,500 WIHS Adult Jumper Championship, presented by MARS Equestrian.

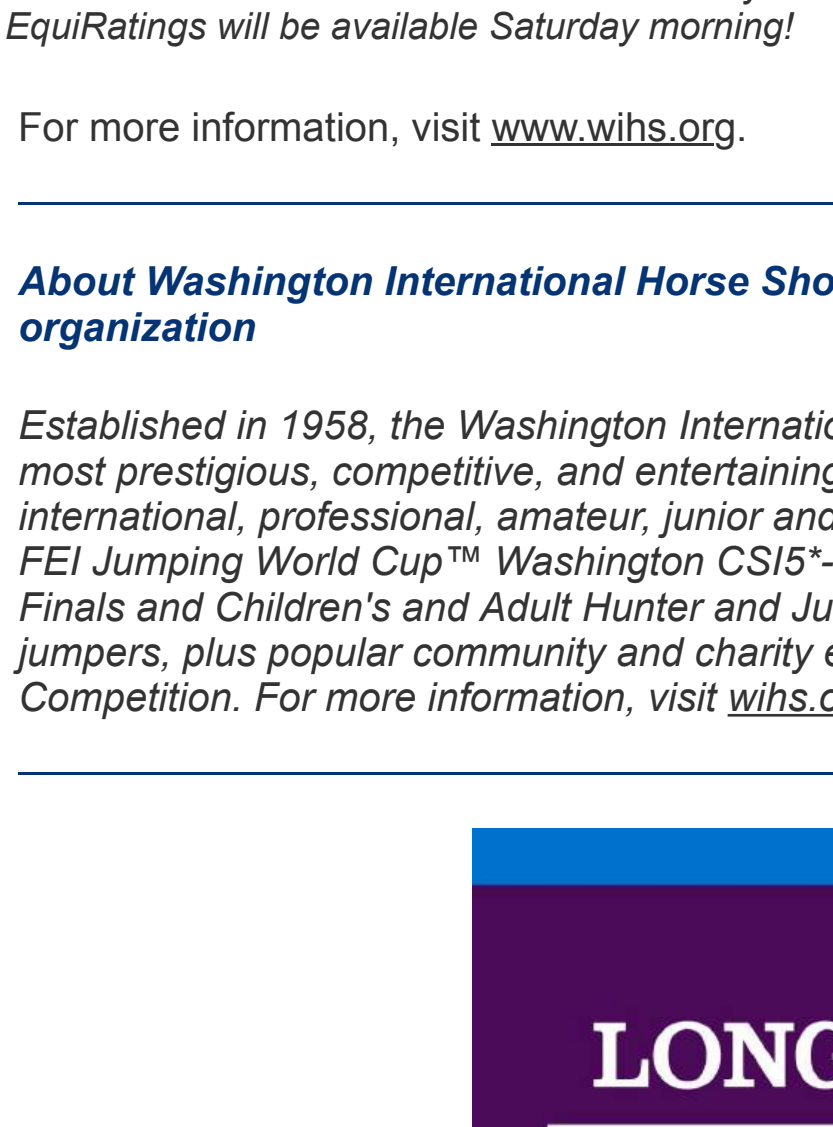


Standing for their winning presentation are Ella Endzweig and Hurry Up B.

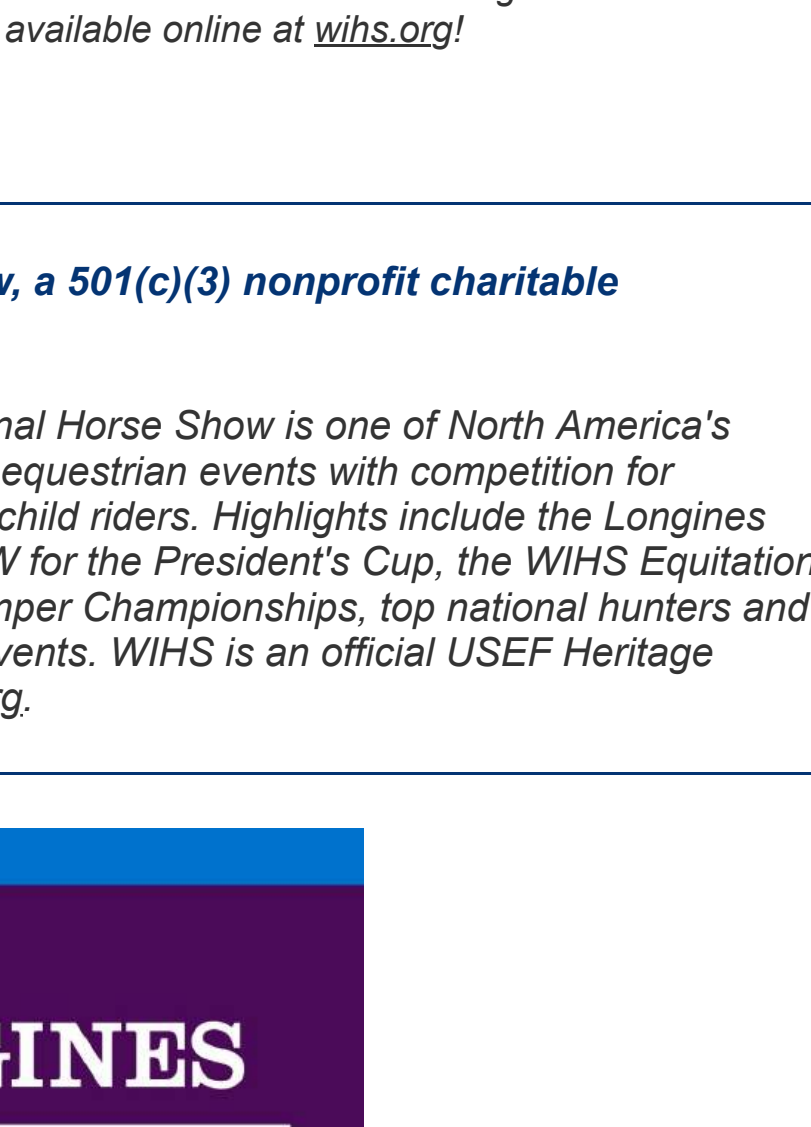


Kim Coyle and Dartani stand for their winning presentation.

[Read about the WIHS Children's and Adult Jumper Championships](#)



Green Hunter 3'9" Grand Green Hunter Champion
Champion: Aeronautic, Daniel Geitner, Martin Schlaeppli
Reserve Champion: On Point, Kate Conover, B R Farms LLC



Leading Hunter Owner Award
Sponsored by Dr. Betsee Parker
Scott Stewart



Protocol Trophy
Cannon Creek, Hunt Tosh, The Wheeler Family



High Performance Working Hunter
Champion: Cannon Creek, Hunt Tosh, The Wheeler Family
Reserve Champion: Miliagro, Riley Babb, Kent Farrington LLC

High Performance Conformation
Champion: California Love, Scott Stewart, Dr. Betsee Parker
Reserve Champion: Spoken, Geoffrey Hesslink, Andesite Equestrian

Loading Hunter Owner Award
Lexi Maounis

Green Conformation Hunter
Champion: Forsini, Laena Romond, Lexi Maounis
Reserve Champion: Fidelio, Scott Stewart, Caroline Freeman Equestrian, LLC

Green Hunter 3'6"
Champion: Forsini, Laena Romond, Lexi Maounis
Reserve Champion: Clear As Day, Kate Conover, B R Farms LLC

Buy your tickets today for the Thursday and Saturday evening sessions on [Ticketmaster](#). Friday's MARS Barn Night, presented by Walkenbach Equestrian, is sold out.

Want to keep up with the action from anywhere? Watch the 2025 WIHS livestream on [USEE Network](#) throughout the week and on [FEI TV](#) for the week's five-star classes.

Daytime admission is free throughout the week. Parking is free at all times.

[Don't Forget Your Tickets!](#)

The WIHS Grand Prix Fan Guide Powered by EquiRatings will be available Saturday morning!

The 2025 WIHS Souvenir Program is now available online at [wths.org](#)!

For more information, visit www.wths.org.

About Washington International Horse Show, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization

Established in 1958, the Washington International Horse Show is one of North America's most prestigious, competitive, and entertaining equestrian events with competition for international, professional, amateur, junior and child riders. Highlights include the Longines FEI Jumping World Cup™ Washington CSIS-W for the President's Cup, the WIHS Equitation Finals and Children's and Adult Hunter and Jumper Championships, top national hunters and jumpers, plus popular community and charity events. WIHS is an official USEF Heritage Competition. For more information, visit wths.org.

