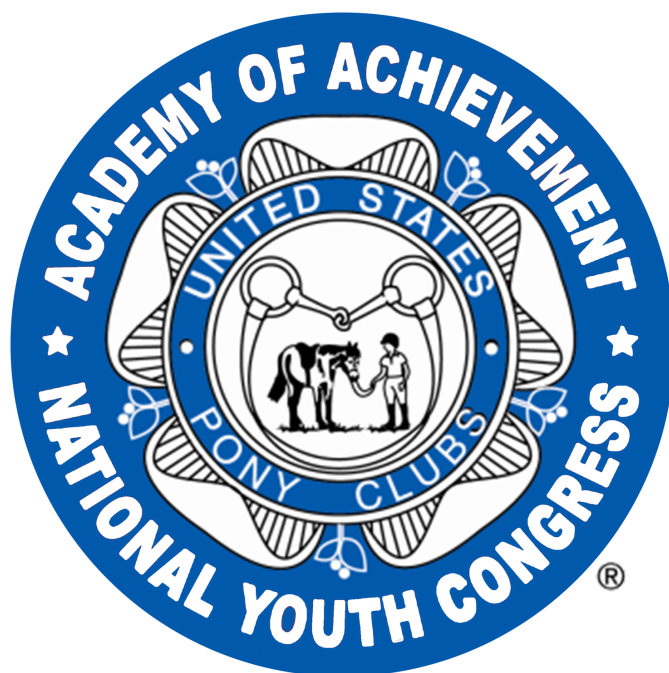


Pony Club®

Where it all begins

2024
*National Youth Congress
and
Academy of Achievement*



National Youth Congress

Class of 2024 Delegates



Katie Caldwell	Sierra Pacific Region
Elizabeth Chamberlin	New York/Upper Connecticut Region
Miranda Donnelly	Tri-State Region
Anna Ferrin	Virginia Region
Hannah Fountain	Great Lakes Region
Michaela Frye	Midwest Region
Kate Gerth	Northwest Region
Natalie Hamilton	Sierra Pacific Region
Elizabeth Haugen	Northern Lakes Region
Jocelyn Hunt	Delmarva Region
Sophia Johnson	Camino Real Region
Teagan Lapuk	New York/Upper Connecticut Region
Lydia McKenzie	Tri-State Region
Sophia Megargle	Intermountain Region
Charlotte Milner	Maryland Region
Alexia Ray	Sunshine Region
Marissa Redmond	Carolina Region
Andie Sue Roth	National Member
Catherine Yudow	Sunshine Region

The USPC National Youth Congress was established in 1998 in order to recognize outstanding young adult Pony Club members who have achieved a national certification. The National Youth Congress delegates are selected yearly by their regions and attend from all over the country. For two days during the USPC Convention, the delegates come together for a series of workshops and discussions intended to expand their awareness of themselves and how they relate to the rapidly changing world.

The Congress provides opportunities for youth delegates to bring forward regional issues and best practices and to share ideas and experiences with other delegates, distinguished alumni, members of the National Youth Board, and members of the USPC Board of Governors. Many proposals put forward by the National Youth Congress have inspired new programs and fresh perspectives on current USPC programming.



Katie Caldwell

H-B HM, Sierra Pacific Region



Elizabeth "Lizzie" Chamberlin

H-B HM, B EV, New York/Upper Connecticut Region



Miranda Donnelly
H-B HM, C-3 EV, Tri-State Region



Anna Ferrin
H-B HM, Virginia Region



Hannah Fountain
H-B HM, B EV, Great Lakes Region



Michaela "MJ" Frye
H-B HM, C-3 EV, Midwest Region



Kate Gerth
H-B HM, Northwest Region



Natalie Hamilton
H-A HM, Sierra Pacific Region



Elizabeth "Liz" Haugen

H-B HM, Northern Lakes Region



Jocelyn Hunt

H-B HM, Delmarva Region



Sophia Johnson

H-B HM, B EV, Camino Real Region



Teagan Lapuk

H-A HM, C-3 EV, New York/Upper Connecticut Region



Lydia McKenzie

H-B HM, Tri-State Region



Sophia Megargle

H-B HM, Intermountain Region



Charlotte Milner
H-B HM, C-3 EV, Maryland Region



Alexia "Lexi" Ray
H-B HM, Sunshine Region



Marissa Redmond
H-B HM, Carolina Region



Andie Sue Roth

H-B HM, B DR, National Member



The National Youth Congress Committee is comprised of a dedicated group of Pony Club members and volunteers, all of whom have a desire to inspire, teach and learn from each years National Youth Congress delegates and Academy of Achievement honorees.

McKenzie Kielman, Chair

Emily Aschbacher

Heather Bell

Cathleen Frederickson

Devyn Hinkle

Jennifer Lord

SueAnn McClelland

Jennifer Goss, Resource

Academy of Achievement

Each year, several USPC alumni are inducted into the Alumni Academy of Achievement and join the current members during the two-day National Youth Congress. The alumni honorees play a vital role in the Congress because they bring the voice of experience into the discussions. They listen, encourage, laugh, commiserate with the delegates, and share personal stories of success and failure, helping the youth delegates to recognize that life is filled with the unexpected and that flexibility and a sense of humor can be as important as excellent goals and plans.

Class of 2023

Sandra Gebhart, DVM
Deb Kirsch
William West "Wes" Thompson

Class of 2022

Sally Ike
Carol Kozlowski

Class of 2021

Royce L. Evans-Mason
Emily Harvey
Sara Lieser

Class of 2020

Katy Barglow, PhD
David Silver
Erin Thompson, PhD

Class of 2019

Laura Backus
Jenny Mattingley
Alison Wichman, MD

Class of 2018

Rob Burk
Dorothy Crowell
Kat Drake, PhD
Tim Leithead

Class of 2017

Kathleen Carr, DVM, MS, PhD
Jennifer Lord, MD
Lisa Roskens
Sara Williams

Class of 2016

Marc Donovan
Linda Zang

Class of 2015

Jennifer Gross
Heather Rosenker
Brian Sabo
Lisa Sabo

Class of 2014

Katharine Deveraux Byron, MFH
Stephanie Church
David Courreges
Mark Lloyd

Class of 2013

Heather Bell
Mary Sarah Bergh, DVM
Margaret "Meg" Johnson
Amy Story, PhD

Class of 2012

Loranne Ausley
Laurie Chapman-Bosco
Parker Pearson
Yvette R. Seger, PhD
Jennifer S. Welter, DPT

Class of 2011

Lola Blackwell Chambless, MD
Janell Goode Hoffman
Sondra Russman Marshall
H. Jerry Schurink
Melanie Smith-Taylor

Class of 2010

Conrad Adams
Stephanie Drachkovitch
Michael Hoffman
Gina Miles

Class of 2010

Conrad Adams
Stephanie Drachkovitch
Michael Hoffman
Gina Miles

Class of 2009

Holiday Banta
Jim Hamilton
Caroline McCabe
John Stables
Kate Sweeney

Class of 2008

Erika de Papp, DVM
Russell Gilfus
Liz Halliday
Kevin Price
Sharon Turner, PhD
Carey Williams, PhD

Class of 2007

Tom Eversold, DVM
Susan Knox, JD
John A. Kosanovich
Linda Miller
Carol Ripple, PhD

Class of 2006

Jillian Dunham
Ann Haller
Christine Knox
Mary Beth Larsen
Brian O'Connor
David O'Connor

Class of 2005

Nancy Ambrosiano
Gillian Clissold
Christine Harris
Donald McLean, Jr.
Michael B. Richardson
Catherine Scott, MD
Peter Zimmerman

Class of 2004

Beth Clarke, JD
Ben Duke III
Dorothy Eisenberg
Anthony Patt, PhD
Rhonda Rathgeber
Anne Tuttle-Roller

Class of 2003

Georgia Gerber
Patti Jo Hassler
Gary Keating
Richard Lamb
Kelly Wycall Phillips
LTC Stacy Yike

Class of 2002

Liesl Clark
Tremaine Cooper
LTC Lorelei Coplen
Laurie Penfield Fichter
Anita Huntsman
Mary Kahan, DVM
Tom McLaughlin
Dorothy Smith
Emily Wiley, PhD

Class of 2001

Sally Garner
Sali Gear
Tad Leithead, Jr.
Catherine Stoppani-Johnson
John Strassburger

Class of 2000

Susanna Colloredo-Mansfield
Ian M. Grant
Lendon Gray
Jill Hassler-Scoop
Donald B. Hebb
Marian Zerfoss Kessler

Class of 1999

Sophie H. Pirie, JD
Stirlin Harris
Tracy Moore Jarman
Pat Maykuth, PhD
Paula Parker Raye
Henry S. Taylor
Nancy Todd, PhD

Stacy Anderson, DVM, PhD

Stacy Anderson, DVM, PhD, has been involved with horses and veterinary medicine most of her life. Her parents, both veterinarians, introduced her to riding when she was 4 years old, and she eventually became involved in Dressage and Eventing, competing through Preliminary level in Eventing and Fourth level in Dressage. She is a



Pony Club alum with an A certification and has continued to be involved with the organization as a National Examiner and through various national committees. She continues to train and compete in Dressage in her free time.

Dr. Anderson graduated from Iowa State University's College of Veterinary Medicine with honors in 2004. Subsequently, she developed and ran a large horse training business in Iowa that specialized in Dressage and Eventing. After a few years, she returned to veterinary medicine full time by completing two large animal/equine surgical internships, one at a private practice in Chicago, Ill., and the other at the University of Tennessee. She then went on to complete a large animal surgical residency before earning her PhD at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada.

Dr. Anderson has a passion for teaching, which ultimately drew her to the Lincoln Memorial University College of Veterinary Medicine (LMU-CVM), where the student-centered model of education closely aligned with her previous experiences. In 2016, she was promoted to Director of Large Animal Clinical Skills at LMU-CVM, where she contributed to the development of a successful clinical skills program that has attracted many visitors from other veterinary colleges to learn about the program. In 2019, Dr. Anderson was promoted into administration and was named Dean of LMU-CVM in 2020.

Bo Varnado

Bo Varnado is a H-A alum from Centaur Pony Club in the Southern California Region. She is actively involved with the United States Pony Clubs as a member of the Board of Governors, Chair of the Marketing and Communications Committee, Co-Chair of the D-1 through C-2 Curriculum Committee, and Chair of the Regional Resource Committee. As a former DC, VRS, RIC, and RS she strives to continue volunteering at the local and regional level when time allows.



Varnado earned her bachelor's degree in animal physiology with minors in chemistry and psychology from the University of California, San Diego and later went on to earn a MA in literacy. Studying abroad at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland fueled a lifelong interest in travel. Continuing to travel frequently provides different perspectives, which she finds valuable for remaining flexible in life. Varnado worked in design, planning, and marketing for a utility company prior to discovering her calling to education. Her teaching certificate encompasses grades kindergarten through twelfth grade, but most of her classroom time was spent in kindergarten through third grade at both Montessori and independent study public schools. Now retired, Varnado enjoys tutoring local students as a specialist in reading and literacy.

Hiking and exploring the outdoors near her home in rural inland San Diego County is now a daily occurrence. She lives with her husband and numerous animals on a small farm. They have a son (D-2 alum, married to a former USPC member) and a daughter (B Eventing alum) and they enjoy visiting and sharing adventures with their kids. Varnado believes in the enduring benefits of being with horses and hopes that the lessons they can teach us become ever more available and accessible to everyone.



Why is NYC only open to Pony Club members Ages 18-23?

The program is geared towards young adults who are getting ready to make critical decisions regarding their careers and paths in life. The NYC brings these members together for a series of workshops and discussions intended to expand their awareness, both of themselves and of the rapidly changing external world into which they will soon graduate. The NYC provides opportunities for youth delegates to think about their own strengths and weaknesses and to examine ways to overcome obstacles that may face them in the future. It enables them to share ideas with their peers from around the country through group discussions, role simulations, and other interactive activities, thus expanding their awareness of the “wider world” around them. Additionally, the event does not include chaperones, so only Pony Club members who have attained the age of 18 are permitted to participate.

What about the requirement of a national certification? Why is that included?

The experience of going through a national-level certification serves as a bond that all participants share. Pony Club experiences vary throughout the country, but the standards and experience of national-level testing are fairly universal and play a role in the discussions and experience-related activities that help to make up NYC.

Who are the alumni whom participate in this event?

Each year, several USPC alumni are inducted into the Alumni Academy of Achievement, and join the delegates during the two-day Congress. Alumni are nominated by individuals based on their post-Pony Club experiences in a various aspects of life. Some have had careers in the equine industry, but many have gone on to use their Pony Club skills in other professions and community roles.



"As a member of The United States Pony Clubs, Inc., I stand for the best in sportsmanship as well as in horsemanship. I shall compete for the enjoyment of the game well played and take winning or losing in stride, remembering that without good manners and good temper, sport loses its cause for being. I shall endeavor to maintain the best tradition of the ancient and noble skill of horsemanship, always treating my horse with consideration due a partner."

— The Pony Club Pledge



THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS

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**List incomplete as of time of printing January 8, 2024*

USPC would like to thank the many donors who have supported the National Youth Congress and Academy of Achievement over the past years. Your continued support has helped make this program a great success.

