



## THE UNITED STATES PONY CLUBS, INC. PRESS RELEASE

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### USPC Festival 2017 Includes Education for All

**June 1, 2017 (Lexington, KY)** – The United States Pony Clubs cordially invites the equine community to participate in the USPC Festival 2017 at the Kentucky Horse Park, July 22-24<sup>th</sup>. Registration for the 12<sup>th</sup> triennial event is now open and Pony Club encourages all to come learn and join the fun.

USPC Festival offers a unique, premier opportunity for anyone interested furthering their equine education. Over a three-day period, Olympians, international competitors, and judges will teach clinics and lessons on a variety of topics. Mounted sessions are available from beginner level through the advanced levels of multiple disciplines such as Eventing, Dressage, Mounted Games and Show Jumping.

Dressage participants will learn from expert clinicians such as Allison Brock, (C-3, Lio Lii Pony Club) 2016 Rio Olympic Dressage Bronze Medalist, FEI 5\* Judge, Axel Steiner, and many other knowledgeable grand prix level competitors, and instructors. Interested Eventing participants can ride with FEI 4\* competitor Allie Byskal-Saksen (A, Brandywine Hounds Pony Club), Stephen Bradley (A, Loudon Hunt Pony Club) and Jerry Schurink (USEA Instructors' Certification Program Faculty).

Returning to USPC Festival is Dressage4Kids with Olympian, Lendon Gray. The Dressage4Kids program and a masters clinic on July 22<sup>nd</sup> will be taught by Lendon featuring her insightful teaching and training skills in the sport of Dressage.

For participants not bringing a horse, the unmounted education offers an array of workshops. Topics and presenters range from sports psychology with Daniel Stewart to equine acupuncture and dentistry with renowned veterinarians. Other topics cover equine first aid, trailer safety, saddle fitting and many more. Featured authors of *World Class Grooming*, Cat Hill and Emma Ford, will present hands-on workshops on stable management, show tips, braiding, clipping, and cooling out horses.

To register and more information regarding all the popular clinics and workshops, visit <https://www.ponyclub.org/Events/Championships/Education.aspx>. Individuals from across the United States can participate in these educational opportunities.

**About Pony Club** - The United States Pony Clubs, Inc. (Pony Club) was founded in 1954 as a nonprofit national youth organization to teach riding and horsemanship through a formal educational program. There are approximately 9,000 Pony Club members in over 600 clubs and riding centers throughout the country. Many of the nation's top equestrians, including several of our Olympic team members, business professionals, government leaders and career military officers, have roots in Pony Club. Youth members range in age from as young as 4 through age 25. Pony Club also offers educational opportunities to a growing number of adults through Horsemasters membership. [ponyclub.org](http://ponyclub.org)