





May 19, 2013

Whispering Manes Student Horse Show



We'd like to thank our rider t-shirt sponsors— Suzy Schumer and LeAnn Soto, and our wonderful food sponsors— Joanna's Marketplace, Cheney Brothers, and Publix Super Markets. The day was that much more special for our riders because of our sponsors' support.





Great turnout for our first student horse show!

On Sunday, May 19th, we hosted our inaugural Ride for the Roses Student Horse Show. It turned out to be a perfect day. A gentle breeze, along with the shade from our Banyan tree helped keep everyone cool.

We kicked off the event with a two-man drill team exhibition. Erick, one of our riders from the Veteran's Program, joined Head Riding Instructor, Robin in perfect pas-de-deux, aboard Roxie and Jake.

During the day we hosted 22 riders in a noncompetitive event. Riders demonstrated their riding skills around obstacles and at the walk and trot for family and friends.

"Our riders come from a wide spectrum of backgrounds with unique challenges to overcome," said Erin Bauer, Whispering Manes Executive Director. "We have students of all ages, both adult and children who have been diagnosed with Down syndrome, autism, genetic disorders, and psycho emotional issues."

"The show is not a competition," said Bauer.
"Our students compete with themselves to
overcome their unique personal challenges.
Ride for the Roses is about celebrating the
accomplishments each one of them has made."

Parents, family and friends of the riders cheered everyone's riding while showing enthusiasm for their improvements.

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"My daughter Daniella started the program a year and a half ago," said Ayleen Pinera-Llano. "When she started coming to the program, she wouldn't even ride on the horse. Now she loves it. She even sings and talks while riding."

Contributing to the day's spectacular success, our amazing team of dedicated volunteers and horses made certain everyone had a great time as the riders showcased their skills!

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