



Seen and Herd Newsletter

Spring 2014



Whispering Manes
Therapeutic Riding Center

Building Abilities. Empowering Lives.



We would like to thank our Special Olympics Sponsors -

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Amazing Turnout for Special Olympics Equestrian Games!

On Saturday, March 1, 2014, Whispering Manes hosted the Special Olympics Florida - Area 11 Equestrian Games. This event marked the return of the equestrian games to Miami after a 12 year absence.

The day started with a parade of athletes and a group recital of the Special Olympics Athletes' Oath. The Olympic torch was carried into the ring by Jonas, one of the younger participants, while riding Spirit. With the entrance of the torch, the games began!

"Our riders have trained hard for this event," said Robin Bramson, Whispering Manes Head Riding Instructor and Special Olympics Coach.

"We have spent many hours working on developing the skills necessary to prepare for the day's classes."

Riders competed in English Equitation and Working Trails classes while a large crowd of spectators cheered the riders on. The spectators included family and friends of the riders, members of the South Florida Trail Riders Association, staff and residents from Miami Cerebral Palsy Sunset Residence, faculty and administrators from The Learning Experience, and friends of Whispering Manes.



Other News

Meet Nutmeg!

Nutmeg is the newest addition to our herd.

Arriving in January, Nutmeg is already a wonderful addition to the program and has fit in quickly. Nutmeg is owned by Sophie Petrie. She is a buckskin mare, and at 14.2 HH, she is perfect for riders of all sizes.



"My son Sebastian, had a blast and was showing off his medal for the rest of the day. So often my daughter gets praise for doing well in whatever she is participating in." said Krystina Jiron, who's son recently started riding. "It's really special when Sebastian gets to feel like he accomplished something as well. It's so important to us that he feel that sense of pride, and this event really gave him that!"

Contributing to the day's spectacular success, were our special guests, judge Lois Williams and ringmaster Becky Mayes. Our amazing team of dedicated volunteers and horses made certain everyone had a great time as the riders showcased their skills!

Carrie Brazer Center for Autism Joins the Whispering Manes Family!

In February we initiated an 8-week program with the Carrie Brazer Center for Autism. Each week they bring students from the Kendall Campus and South Dade Campus to learn horsemanship, horseback riding, and barn chores. We are excited to have them join our family of riders!

Therapeutic Horsemanship

In March we concluded a 10-week therapeutic horsemanship program, made possible by a generous grant from the Junior League of Miami. Five women from a local transitional housing project participated in our program. By the end of the program, the women had not only learned horsemanship skills, but built confidence and a close bond with their horses. On the final day of the program, the women and their children had a chance to express themselves and create personal messages by painting their horses.



Upcoming Events!

Walk Now for Autism Speaks
JC Bermudez Park, April 6, 2014

2nd Annual Ride for the Roses Student
Horse Show at Whispering Manes
May 4, 2014



Introducing WhisperTours!

Interested in learning more about our program,
or do you know someone who would love
Whispering Manes?

Whispering Manes is now offering private and
small group tours to those who would like more
information about our programs.

Please call or email us for information.

Mentoring Program with FIU Occupational Therapy Students

Once again we welcomed two students,
Chelsea and Emily, from FIU's OT
program. They completed two weeks of
fieldwork at Whispering Manes.



Help Us Fill our Barn with Hay!





Calling all volunteers!
Are you, or do you know anyone who is interested volunteering in classes or around the barn? Be a friend, share our contact information!

Tel: 305-909-4343



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