

There aren't many women who can pull off attending the glamorous Met Gala and a rough-and-ready Monster Jam monster truck event in the span of a few months, but Georgina Bloomberg leads a remarkable life.

She's comfortable wearing haute couture at New York City society fundraisers, but she also isn't afraid to get a t-shirt dirty while holding animals at a Humane Society of the U.S. spay/neuter clinic in Puerto Rico. She's a top show jumper with a Pan American Games team bronze medal, multiple Nations Cup appearances and a top-20 finish in the 2019 Longines FEI Jumping World Cup™ Final to her credit, but she's also a single mother who bakes and decorates cupcakes for her son's school and coaches his soccer team.

There's a common theme that becomes obvious when Bloomberg discusses her passions in life, whether it's motherhood, riding, or philanthropic work, and it's that she doesn't know how to do something halfway.

Finding The Balance: How Georgina Bloomberg Juggles Her Many Roles

By Molly Sorge/Jump Media



Georgina Bloomberg and Jasper
Photo courtesy of Georgina Bloomberg



Georgina Bloomberg, Michael Bloomberg and Diana Taylor
Photo by Getty Images

The Number One Role

The Met Gala is a setting with which Bloomberg, 36, is familiar. As the daughter of the former mayor of New York City, Michael Bloomberg, she's grown up in society settings and feels at home on a red carpet. But when her son Jasper succumbed to the typical five-year-old boy fervor for all things trucks, she found herself at Monster Jam in Tampa, Fla., in February, and in unfamiliar territory. "I didn't know what to wear!" she said with a laugh.

Jeans and ear protection fit the bill, and the mother-son pair had a fantastic time posing with Gravedigger and watching monster trucks roar around. It's what mothers do, stepping out of their comfort zones to make their children happy, and regardless of the many roles she plays in a given day, Bloomberg is first and foremost a mother.

"It's definitely the most wonderful thing," she says of motherhood. "To be a mom was always my main goal in life. There are a lot of things I'd like to accomplish in the horse show world, but being a mother has always been my top priority."

"It's a cliché to say, but it definitely changes your world," Bloomberg continued. "You don't get to be as selfish in your own emotions and your own disappointment. If I have a bad day at the horse show, I can feel sorry for myself for a few minutes, but then I have to go home and put a smile on for my kid. It helps you figure out what's important in life."

Bloomberg and Jasper's father, grand prix rider Ramiro Quintana, are no longer together, but they co-parent amicably. "We're good friends and we do the best we can," Bloomberg said. "He doesn't get to see him as often as I know he would like because he's busy at the shows, but he's a wonderful dad to Jasper."



Jasper Bloomberg
Photo courtesy of Georgina Bloomberg



Georgina and Jasper Bloomberg

Photo by Geoffrey Tischman

Bloomberg has a support system to help with Jasper, but she's an extremely hands-on mother. Her favorite time of the day is when she takes Jasper to school, which is about eight blocks from their New York City apartment. "We have scooters, so we scoot to school together," she said. "It's our time to spend time together before the madness of the day and we both love doing it. We scoot to school, then I try to go up to the farm in North Salem, NY, and ride as much as I can during the week, then head back and be there to pick him up at school."

Banish the Guilt

Now that he's five, Jasper is also starting to take an interest in horses, which gives Bloomberg an opportunity to combine two of the most important threads of her life. On the weekends in North Salem, Jasper rides a mini, Teddy, that Bloomberg adopted from Omega Horse Rescue. "I've never really cared if Jasper rides and I certainly don't care if he shows," she said. "But I do think that being at the barn and learning horsemanship and learning about animals is very important for every kid. Thankfully, he fell in love with Teddy and enjoys riding him."

Jasper is frequently ringside cheering when Bloomberg competes, and she always blows him a kiss after her round, but there are times when she's had to make tough decisions about prioritizing her riding career. "There are going to be times when I do have the right horses and need to go to a big horse show, so I might say I'm going to have to miss a few days of being with him or a play-date or birthday party," she said. "You just have to consider everything and then also not feel guilty. Mom-guilt is a real thing!"

"It's a balance of figuring out how you can be there for your kid, be there for the people and the horses in your barn, and be there for other things that need your attention. A lot of the time I will feel guilty about whatever decision I made, but it's just about finding that balance," she continued.

Courtney Stroum Meagher, a former college classmate of Bloomberg's from New York University and good friend, has seen her evolve as a mother. "She's so present with Jasper in a way that I think is really remarkable, because she's also able to maintain her pre-child existence," Meagher said. "She does a wonderful job of balancing who she is as a mother with who she is as an individual. She's fully devoted to her child, and despite her constant travel as an equestrian and all the commitments she's juggling, she also makes time and space to maintain her personal relationships."

Bloomberg is hoping that in the future, she'll be factoring another child into that equation as well. She's undergone two rounds of egg freezing in order to give herself options. "Having more kids is something I would like to do," she said. "But right now, I do want to place the importance on my riding career. As a woman and an athlete, it's difficult to decide, 'Do you want to have kids, or do you want to accomplish what you want to accomplish?' I would like to do both, I've decided."

Freezing her eggs allows Bloomberg to focus on competing, since there are quite a few of "the right horses" in Bloomberg's barn at the moment. But in the last few years, she's had bad luck with horse injuries, so she took a bit of a step back from the top levels of the sport. Bloomberg took advantage of the less-intense competition and training schedule to focus on time with Jasper and her volunteer work with charitable organizations.

Georgina Bloomberg
and Jasper
Photo courtesy of
Georgina Bloomberg



“At this point in my career, I’ve realized that there are many times when you don’t have the right horse, and you have to either keep going or you walk away from the sport,” she said. “You can’t be completely reliant on always having an amazing horse to make you want to stay in the sport. You have to stay in the sport because you love it. I really had to sit and think, ‘Is this something that I want to keep going with?’ I do love the sport. I decided that I definitely wanted to stick with the riding, but I also wasn’t going to stress about the fact that I didn’t have a grand prix horse for a year.”

Making Time to Help

Don’t make the mistake of thinking that Bloomberg’s riding and family life take up every moment, though. She still fits in quite a bit of work with various charities such as the Humane Society of the U.S., where she not only serves on the Board of Directors and is the chair of Humane Generation New York, but also gets hands-on by participating in rescues from hoarding situations and spay/neuter clinics in other countries. Bloomberg also practices what she preaches, with a menagerie of rescued animals, including various dogs, a pig, a goat, a rooster, a mule, and more living on her farm in North Salem, NY.

Meagher works with Bloomberg at HSUS and has seen her dedication to the cause. “She really leads by example,” Meagher said. “She walks the walk. When she puts her heart and mind into something, she’s all in. She’s the first one to raise her hand to offer help, no matter what the ask is, and she inspires everyone around her to do the same. She’s such an inspiring leader that people join in. She doesn’t expect any recognition for the things she does; she’s really doing it out of the most altruistic reasons, from the kindness of her heart.”

Bloomberg’s conviction stems from her emotional investment. “It’s so important to me that everything that I get involved with is something where I really care about what they’re doing,” Bloomberg said. “My work with animals is incredibly important to me; I do as much of it as I possibly can. I really enjoy being more involved and hands-on.” Bloomberg’s level of support for various organizations varies from simply attending a fundraising event to a much more intense and committed involvement.

“Sometimes, you have to learn to say no,” Bloomberg said. “There are going to be times where I have to say even if I’m in New York at that time, I just can’t do it. I need to be home with Jasper that night or I need a night off.”

Prioritizing that element of self-care is something Bloomberg consciously does. In addition to making space for time without commitments, she also schedules time each day for a work-out. It’s her way of relaxing and having some of that “me time” that’s so elusive for busy mothers. “Working out and staying fit is something that I place a lot of importance on,” she said. “It not only helps to keep myself strong, but also keeps me calm mentally. That’s something that’s just as much a commitment to me as anything else during the day.”

Fitting Friends In

There’s one more piece of Bloomberg’s puzzle: a social life. Just as she makes a point to allow time in her schedule for herself, she also values time with friends. “I’ve always placed a lot of importance on making time for my friends and going out of my way to see them and spend time with them because I’m always busy,” she said.

“It’s obviously difficult,” Bloomberg continued. “Whether it’s having friends or dating, I try hard to expand beyond the horse show world, which makes it difficult with all the travel to shows and having to compete on Saturdays and Sundays.”



Georgina Bloomberg and Quibelle
Photo by Jump Media

Meagher notes that Bloomberg is one of the most out-going people she’s known. “She’s always inviting people into the fold,” she said. “She loves connecting with people in any way. She’s so incredibly inclusive. No matter who she’s meeting, she’s so warm-hearted and open.”

Four of Bloomberg’s best friends have moved away from the New York area and are scattered around the country, so they plan an annual trip together. “Sometimes we make that a girls’ trip, sometimes we include boyfriends or husbands, but we always make travel together a real priority because it’s the only time we can see each other and spend time with each other,” Bloomberg said.

Bloomberg describes her balance of all the elements in her life as riding different waves. When she has top horses that are healthy and jumping well, she shifts more importance to her competitive career. When her riding slows down, she has more time for family life and charity work.

“I think life goes through different phases for every rider,” she said. “Right now, the horses are all going well, and I appreciate that. I’m trying to work as hard as I can and appreciate every moment with the good horses that I have, because I know how quickly that can all change.”