

In the News



Bruce Springsteen entertaining guests at the USET's Take Me To Tokyo gala. The United States Equestrian Team (USET) Foundation publicly launched its \$40 million "Raising the Bar" campaign on Friday, January 17, at the organization's "Take Me To Tokyo" gala at the Jacobs family's Deeridge Farm in Wellington, Florida. With more than 500 guests in attendance, the gala event, featuring chairs Bruce Springsteen and Patti Scialfa and hosted by honorary chairmen Lou and Joan Jacobs, raised more than \$1.5 million to support U.S. equestrian athletes and the US Equestrian Teams headed to the 2020 Tokyo Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games. Bruce and Patti were instrumental in the gala's success, thanks to their live auction donations of a Harley Davidson motorcycle and a Fender guitar, both personally autographed by Bruce for the winning bidders. Following heated bidding, the two items raised more than \$300,000 for the USET Foundation before the couple took to the stage to perform, bringing the full house to its feet and onto the dance floor.



Bill Weeks (left) and Jim McInerney (right) presenting the Whitney Stone Cup to Boyd Martin.
Photo by Jump Media

The United States Equestrian Team (USET) Foundation presented the organization's three most prestigious awards to Brian Moggre, Boyd Martin and Abigail Wexner on January 17 at its "Take Me To Tokyo"

gala in Wellington, Florida. As an up-and-coming show jumping athlete, Brian, 19, of Flower Mound, Texas, was awarded the Lionel Guerrand-Hermès Trophy, presented annually to a junior/young rider in one of the Olympic disciplines who demonstrates the team's values of sportsmanship and horsemanship. The Whitney Stone Cup, given to an active competitor who displays consistent excellence in international competition as well as high standards of sportsmanlike conduct, while serving as an ambassador for the United States and equestrian sport, was awarded to eventer Boyd Martin of Cochranville, Pennsylvania. The final honor of the evening, the R. Bruce Duchossois Distinguished Trustee Award, was awarded to Abigail Wexner in recognition of the leadership, generosity and outstanding character that she has shown since joining the USET Foundation Board of Trustees 12 years ago.



The Kundrun Development Dressage Program will help pave the pathway to the podium for U.S. dressage athletes.
Photo by Cealy Terley

The US Equestrian High Performance Development Dressage Program will continue to provide strategic guidance and resources to dressage athletes thanks to the generous support of Fritz and Claudine Kundrun through the US Equestrian Team (USET) Foundation. Newly renamed the Kundrun Development Dressage Program, the US Equestrian initiative was created to provide support to selected athletes with potential to make it to the podium or to contribute to program scores. "This program allows us to provide more support to those athletes that are identified as potential future team riders and horses," said Halle Griffin, US Equestrian's Managing Director of Dressage. "We're setting our eyes on Los Angeles 2028, with it being a home Olympics that year. This program should be producing horses and athletes for those Games, as well as Games and World Championships preceding them."



Misdee Wrigley Miller
Photo by Susan Stickle

Misdee Wrigley Miller and James Miller, Steve Wilson and Laura Lee Brown initiated the United States Equestrian Team (USET) Foundation Driving Challenge in 2017 with a goal of raising \$1.2 million for the US Equestrian High Performance Driving program. Today, the loyal supporters and active drivers remain committed to closing in on that goal. Through the Driving Challenge, multi-year gift commitments of \$20,000 or more are matched dollar for dollar, up to \$500,000, by Misdee, James, Steve and Laura Lee, who encourage fellow drivers, owners, and enthusiasts to help create a legacy for the High Performance Driving program by rising to the Driving Challenge. "We created the Challenge because driving, historically, is such a small discipline, and it hasn't been able to be very well-funded," explained Misdee. "Early on, we recognized that we not only needed to raise funds for our athletes traveling abroad, but most importantly, fund programs and drivers at home."



Abby Leidig accepting the award for Trilogy US Equestrian
Photo by Picturesbyyab.com

The 2019 Rood and Riddle Sport Horse Award winners were honored at the US Equestrian Annual Meeting. Dr. Karen Beste, DVM, DACVS, a surgeon at Rood and Riddle in Wellington, Florida, made the trophy presentations to the following eight winners:

2019 ROOKIE AWARD WINNERS:
Hunter Division: **Trilogy** (Jockey Club name **Sabotage**) owned by **Abbie Leidig**, Elko New Market, Minnesota