

MARCH 2022
EDITION

WILDCAT CANTER

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY AG EQUINE PROGRAMS NEWSLETTER



Second annual photo contest winners announced. Congratulations to People's Choice winner, Nathan Frisby, whose photo is our cover this month!

UK Ag Equine Programs' Wildcat Wrangler team coordinated a food and resource drive to benefit Blue Grass Farms Charities. 700+ items were collected and the UK Rodeo Team won a pizza party for collecting the most.

Bob Coleman, has been elected as a National Director of the American Quarter Horse Association as a representative for Kentucky.



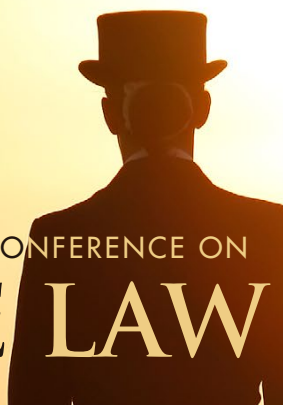
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HIGHLIGHTS

UK Rosenberg
College of Law
Continuing Legal Education

36th ANNUAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON EQUINE LAW



NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON EQUINE LAW TO BE HELD MAY 4-5

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The 36th Annual National Conference on Equine Law, presented by the UK College of Law has been scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday, May 4-5, 2022, at the historic Keeneland Racecourse. Please mark your calendar and register for this important annual event for the nation's equine law attorneys and industry professionals.

UK AG EQUINE PROGRAMS ANNOUNCES PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

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UK Ag Equine Programs hosted its second annual digital photography contest for students, youth and adults in February. Congratulations to Nathan Frisby, Victoria Siebe, Emily Shepherd, Grace Gerbus, Audry Jezek and Ashleigh Dillon!



COLEMAN ELECTED AN AQHA NATIONAL DIRECTOR

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Bob Coleman, has been elected as a National Director of the American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA) as a representative for Kentucky. Coleman was appointed during the conference as a National Director to represent Kentucky on February 28, 2022.



UPCOMING EVENTS AND IMPORTANT DEADLINES

- April 3, UK Horsey Hustle 5K, Coldstream Park - 2 p.m. race time
- April 26, ESMA Internship Showcase, E.S. Good Barn
- April 21, Bits & Bites, presented by the Equine Alumni Affiliate Network, 7 p.m. Mirror Twin, Lexington
- April 28 – May 1; Land Rover Kentucky Three Day Event; alumni tailgating event April 30
- May 5, Equine Science and Management Graduation Open House
- May 6 - Commencement for College of Agriculture, Food and Environment

WELCOME

My journey as a Wildcat Wrangler student ambassador started the Spring 2019 semester of my freshman year as an equine science and management student. At the time, I was applying to be a part of the pilot trial for the Wildcat Wrangler program. I wasn't very sure what being a Wildcat Wrangler would entail, but the idea of being a student ambassador for UK Ag Equine Programs sounded like something I wanted to do. That spring I was able to work the UK Ag Equine Programs' booth at the Land Rover Three-Day Event, where I was able to talk to countless prospective students and watch the event. To this day, working that event has become one of my favorite memories of being a part of this program.



Fast forward three years later, I am now a senior and the head wrangler for the Wildcat Wrangler team. This past fall semester went by too quickly with all the amazing opportunities and events that occurred. For example, the Wildcat Wranglers hosted the second annual UK Equine Week of Service, attended industry events such as Equitana USA and the Retired Racehorse Project as well as provided support at the UK Equine Career and Opportunities Fair. I thought it would be tough to beat the fall semester, but looking at the schedule for the spring, I think it will be even better.

The spring semester started in January with the majority of our Wildcat Wrangler team attending the monthly Equine Forum, which featured speaker and program director, Dr. Jamie MacLeod, who gave a year in review of UK Ag Equine Programs and what to expect in the coming year.

February began very busy as we created Valentine's Day treat bags for the students within the equine science and management major. Wildcat Wranglers created cute horse themed valentines and handed them out in classes along with human and horsey treats. Following soon after, myself and three other Wranglers had the opportunity to lead stations at the American Saddlebred Horse and Breeders Association's Youth Conference. With the help of Dr. Bob Coleman, there was a bridles and bits mix and match station and Kristen Wilson helped with creating a colors and markings bingo station. During the ASHBA Youth Conference, we were able to teach our lessons six different times to more than 150 children. Ending the month of February, the Blue Grass Farms Charities Food Drive occurred from February 14-25 to collect items to restock their pantry and we also got to volunteer delivering food to local farms.

Throughout the Saturdays in March, we had the opportunity to volunteer at the merit advising sessions to help give next year's incoming freshman a student perspective of what UK and the equine program is like. In March, we also hosted an in-person and a virtual Wildcat Wrangler information session. We hope to give current students an inside on what being a Wildcat Wrangler entails and answer any questions about the application process to become one. We hope to see everyone that attends the information sessions during the interviews in April!

The end of March into April includes assisting with the Experience Equine Sessions where prospective students come to learn more about the UK's equine science and management program. We're hosting our first 5K race, the UK Horsey Hustle, on Sunday, April 3 as a way to help raise funds for the new Equine Student Experience Fund. And we plan to wrap up the school year by assisting at the UK Ag Equine Programs booth and alumni tailgate at this year's Land Rover Three-Day Event.

I love that I will get to end my journey as a Wildcat Wrangler with how it started by working shifts at the Land Rover Three-Day Event. The description of a Wildcat Wrangler is constantly evolving, but at the core, Wildcat Wranglers are student ambassadors for UK Ag Equine Programs. Our mission is to create a stronger equine community through outreach with prospective, current and former students. Being a Wildcat Wrangler has taught me a variety of important skills like communicating with industry professionals, students and their families, becoming very detail oriented and organized, leading committees and coordinating and planning events. I am grateful for all the opportunities that being a Wildcat Wrangler has provided for me and while I will miss being a part of this program, I am very excited to put the skills I have learned to use within the equine industry.

MARGARET BABIARZ
'22, WILDCAT WRANGLER



MASTHEAD

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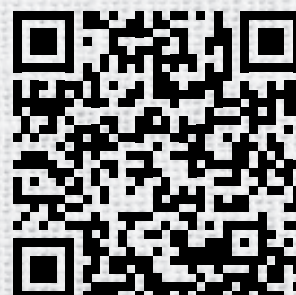
UK Ag Equine Programs

presents

Spring Merchandise Store

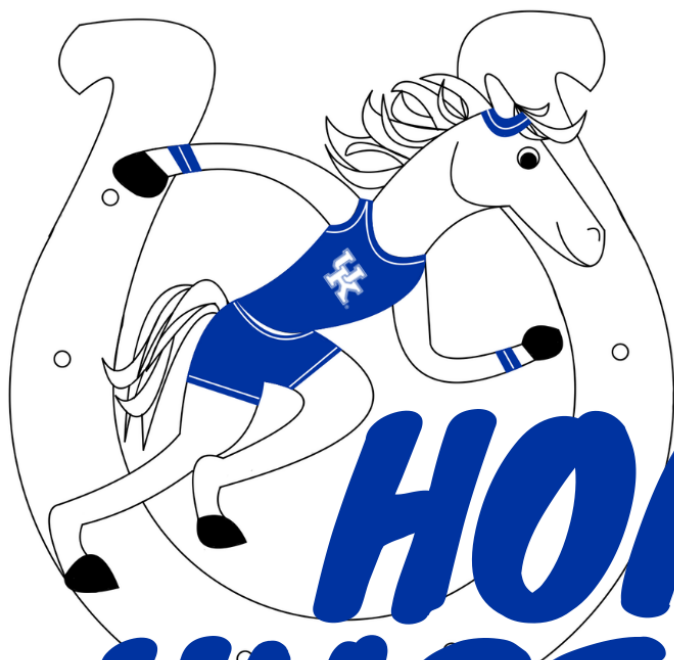
You can purchase merchandise for a limited time to show your program spirit. A portion of the order proceeds will come directly back to UK Ag Equine Programs. Don't miss your chance!

Order online
April 1-17!



Ag Equine Programs
College of Agriculture, Food and Environment

Orders will ship approximately two weeks after the store closes
For questions, contact Paige Campbell with Underground
Printing at pcampbell@undergroundshirts.com.



UK University of
Kentucky

Ag Equine Programs
College of Agriculture, Food and Environment

HORSEY HUSTLE 5K

**COLDSTREAM PARK LEXINGTON, KY
APRIL 3, 2022 @ 2 P.M.**

**SIGN UP BY
MARCH 15
FOR EARLY
BIRD RATE
OF \$25!**

**GROUP
DISCOUNT
FOR 5 OR
MORE**

**T-SHIRT
INCLUDED!**



SIGN UP HERE!

JAMES B. BEAM INSTITUTE
FOR KENTUCKY SPIRITS



UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
AG EQUINE PROGRAMS

PRESENT



A new event supporting Kentucky's workforce in the
equine and distillation industries.

EMPLOYER REGISTRATION OPENS JULY 2022

Questions? Email beaminstitute@uky.edu - or - equine@uky.edu



College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment

SPRING INTO SERVICE FOOD & RESOURCE DRIVE

The UK Ag Equine Programs Wildcat Wrangler ambassador team coordinated a food and resource drive to benefit Blue Grass Farms Charities Feb. 14-25. Equine students, faculty, staff and clubs and teams donated more than 700 items. A contest was conducted among the clubs and teams for the most items donated. The UK Rodeo Team won and was awarded a pizza party sponsored by Blue Grass Farms Charities for members' efforts. Students, faculty and staff helped to re-stock pantry items and make deliveries to local horse farms throughout the week.

According to Julie Kwasniewski, executive director of Blue Grass Farm Charities, the distribution initiative provided items to 200 farm employees. These employees average four to five family members in their households, meaning 800 to 1,000 people receive these goods.



NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON EQUINE LAW TO BE HELD MAY 4-5



Rosenberg
College of Law
Continuing Legal Education

36th ANNUAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
EQUINE LAW

MAY 4 & 5, 2022
AT THE HISTORIC KEENELAND RACECOURSE IN LEXINGTON, KY
(REMOTE ATTENDANCE OPTION AVAILABLE)

PRESENTED BY
THE UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
J. DAVID ROSENBERG COLLEGE OF LAW

SPONSORED BY
AMERICAN COLLEGE OF EQUINE ATTORNEYS
DEAN DORTON ALLEN FORD
DENTONS BINGHAM GREENEBAUM
FROST BROWN TODD
KBA EQUINE LAW SECTION
KIRKPATRICK & COMPANY
ROBSON FORENSIC
STITES & HARBISON
STOLL KEENON OGDEN
WYATT TARRANT & COMBS

THE NATION'S AUTHORITATIVE SEMINAR ON EQUINE LAW

The 36th Annual National Conference on Equine Law, presented by the University of Kentucky College of Law has been scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday, May 4-5, 2022, at the historic Keeneland Racecourse. Please mark your calendar and register for this important annual event for the nation's equine law attorneys and industry professionals.

The brochure for this year's conference can be found at this link https://law.uky.edu/sites/default/files/2021-12/Equine22_Brochure_1.pdf or by visiting <https://law.uky.edu/continuing-legal-education> and clicking on the "Live CLE Programs" button.

If you have any questions regarding this year's program, or if you wish to register over the phone please contact us at 859-257-2921.



UK AG EQUINE PROGRAMS ANNOUNCES ANNUAL PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

By Sydney Carter

UK Ag Equine Programs hosted its second annual digital photography contest for students, youth and adults in February. Entrants submitted a single image in each of the following categories: horses and people, horses only and farm landscapes. A variety of breeds and riding disciplines were represented in the entries, most of which were in the open age division. Judging of the entries took place during the first week of March by a team of six judges, consisting of Ag Equine Programs staff and guest judges. Eight category winners were announced on social media, which took place in an additional "liking" contest on Facebook to determine the winner of the People's Choice Award. With almost 200 entries, we are proud of the community engagement that this contest continues to generate. Congratulations to the winners!



Nathan Frisby, winner in the Open Division Landscape Category and People's Choice Award



Victoria Siebe, winner in both the Open Division Horses and People Category and the Open Division Horses Only Category



Audrey Jezek, first-place winner in both the UK Student Division Landscape Category (above) and the Open Division Horses Only Category (below)



Emily Shepherd, winner in the Youth Division Horses and People Category



Grace Gerbus, winner in the Open Division Horses Only Category

Ashleigh Dillon, winner in the Open Division Horses and People Category



Internship Spotlight

KASSIE RUTHERFORD

Equine Safety Compliance Associate, Keeneland



Kassie Rutherford, a senior equine student, has recently started working in a position that is brand new to Keeneland as well as to herself.

“This is a new position, so I’m still learning my place here, but overall I’m another set of eyes and ears. We are ensuring the horses that are training here are sound, happy, and cleared to exercise. We have a new video system that can be utilized for morning training sessions, incident, and racing coverage.”, Rutherford said. “I also benefit the security team on the backstretch and do barn surveillance. There are certain rules to be followed and I’m a small part of making sure that happens”.

When asked about advice she has for people who are interested in opportunities within the horse racing industry, she stressed the importance of networking. “I got this job based on relationships I made by being involved and introducing myself. Saying yes to opportunities will always help you out in the long run”.

Following graduation, Rutherford hopes to move into a full-time position with Keeneland and has also considered going back to school to pursue a master’s degree.



STAFF SPOTLIGHT



Alicia Benben

Instructional Designer, Part-time Instructor

EDUCATION

Cazenovia College, B.P.S. in Management, Equine Business Management
University of Kentucky, M.S. in Education, Instructional Design

WHAT IS YOUR INVOLVEMENT IN THE EQUINE INDUSTRY?

While my full-time role at UK is Instructional Designer with UK Online Education, my professional background is rooted in the equine and Thoroughbred industry. Before joining UK, I was an Assistant Professor with Bluegrass Community and Technical College's (BCTC) Equine Studies program, now called BCTC Equine. In this role, I taught numerous laboratory, lecture and online courses that prepared students for careers in the equine industry. Before entering the world of higher education, I was a licensed assistant Thoroughbred trainer and have held roles working in the Sport Horse industry as well as the support sector.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE TO EDUCATE?

I come from a "non-horse" family, and it was the support and opportunities that were presented to me by those in the industry that gave me the chance to be in the equine field. From being a working student to the backside of a racetrack, there were people that spent time helping me learn and grow as a horsewoman. Teaching equine students now allows me the chance to offer that same support and encouragement, to help prepare a new generation of soon to be horsemen and women.

FAVORITE ASPECT OF HER WORK

As a part-time instructor with UK Ag Equine Programs, it is incredibly rewarding to share with others an industry that has given me so many opportunities and experiences. The path I have taken would not have been possible without supportive and encouraging mentors during my academic and professional career, so to be able to be a part of someone's educational journey and give that support and guidance is truly special to me.

HISTORY WITH THE PROGRAM

I joined UK Ag Equine Programs as a part-time instructor in Spring 2021 and currently teach EQM 301 – Thoroughbred Sales. I have greatly enjoyed this opportunity and look forward to being involved with the program each spring semester.

ADVICE FOR EQUINE STUDENTS

Do not be afraid to take risks and challenges, strive to get outside your comfort zone. I never would have imagined working in the Thoroughbred industry when I was doing my undergraduate degree but I took an opportunity that was presented to me and it led me on such an incredible journey. Always have an open mind and do not be shy in asking questions - build your equine "toolkit" not only during these four years but for a lifetime.

COLEMAN ELECTED AN AQHA NATIONAL DIRECTOR

By Sydney Carter

Bob Coleman, has been elected as a National Director of the American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA) as a representative for Kentucky.

The 2022 AQHA Convention was held in Las Vegas at the Southpoint Hotel, Casino and Equestrian Center. Coleman was appointed during the conference as a National Director to represent Kentucky on February 28, 2022.

The extension agent and associate professor was elected as a candidate for the position by the board of the Kentucky Quarter Horse Association. He completed an application, which was reviewed by the AQHA nominations and credentials committee. This committee decided that Coleman would best represent the state, so he would move through to the slate for directors of AQHA. Each state gets a nomination from the committee.

"The process is very extensive, it was a little daunting," Coleman said. The position for National Director representing Kentucky rarely is available, only if there becomes a vacancy.

Coleman will be serving alongside the other state representative, Cherylee Sargent. In this position, it allows him to be active on more committees and help voice the opinions of Kentuckians.

"I am looking forward to being the eyes and ears of people in Kentucky to take things forward to AQHA," Coleman said.



Left to Right, Norm Luba, former UK Equine Advisory Board Chair, Bob Coleman, Cherylee Sargent, Bennie Sargent (UK Western Equestrian Team coach).

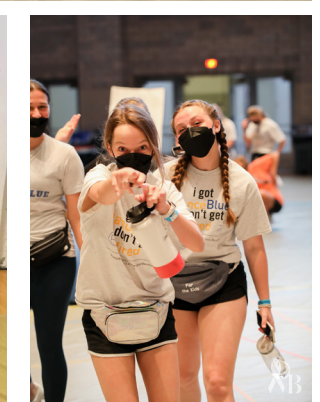
FALL PLANTING EFFORTS YIELD SPRING FLOWERS



During the fall, members of the UK Ag Equine Programs' community took part in a student-led Equine Week of Service. One of the projects was a bulb planting and general landscape clean up at African Cemetery No. 2 in Lexington.

The cemetery was the first burial site of Isaac Burns Murphy, winner of three Kentucky Derbies and first African American inducted into the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame in 1955. It also holds the remains of Oliver Lewis, Abraham Perry and James "Soup" Perkins.

UK EQUESTRIAN TEAM PARTICIPATES AT DANCE BLUE

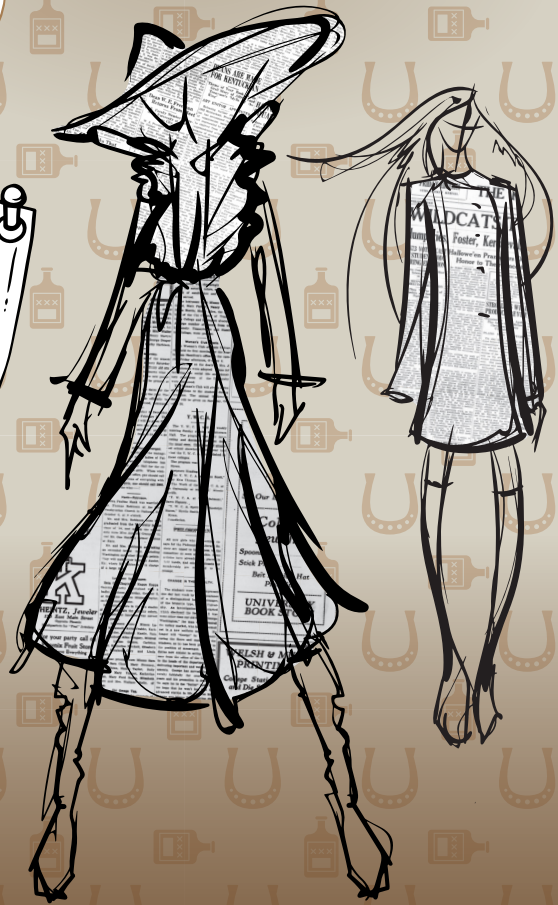


Color Me Kentucky

FASHION SHOW

OUR FASHION STORY

April 14²⁰²²



WITH MASTER OF CEREMONY
CARSON KRESSLEY

KROGER FIELD LONGSHIP CLUB

6:00 - 7:00 COCKTAIL HOUR
+ HORS D'OEUVRES + SILENT AUCTION

7:00 - 8:30 FASHION SHOW

PURCHASE TICKETS AT
GO.UKY.EDU/FASHIONSHOW

SUPPORTED BY **ELISABETH GOTH LLC**



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CAMP WILDCAT
EST. 2022

THE UK EQUINE TAILGATE AT LRK3DE

Join UK Ag Equine Programs Staff and Alumni for a day of
summer camp themed food and games!

APRIL 30, 2022 | TAILGATE #S A-18 & A-19
THE KENTUCKY HORSE PARK

A large, dark blue graphic at the bottom of the page consisting of several jagged, triangular shapes that resemble a mountain range or a stylized skyline.

Free to all cross country day attendees and friends of the
UK Ag Equine Programs!



Ag Equine Programs

College of Agriculture, Food and Environment

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