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# Academy of Achievement

## 2016 Alumni Honorees

*Marc Donovan*

*Linda Zang*



Each year several USPC alumni are inducted into the Alumni Academy of Achievement, and join the delegates during the 2 -1/2 day Congress. The alumni honorees play a vital role in the National Youth Congress because they bring the voice of experience into the discussions. They listen, encourage, laugh, and commiserate with the young people, and share personal stories of success and failure, helping the youth delegates to recognize that life is filled with the unexpected and that flexibility and a sense of humor can be as important as excellent goals and plans.

**Class of 1999**

Sophie H. Pirie, J.D.  
Stirlin Harris  
Tracy Moore Jarman  
Pat Maykuth, PhD  
Paula Parker Raye  
Henry S. Taylor  
Nancy Todd, PhD

**Class of 2000**

Susanna Colloredo-Mansfield  
Ian M. Grant  
Lendon Gray  
Jill Hassler-Scoop  
Donald B. Hebb  
Marian Zerfoss Kessler  
Jean Swank, PhD

**Class of 2001**

Sally Garner  
Sali Gear  
Tad Leithead, Jr.  
Catherine Stoppani-Johnson  
John Strassburger

**Class of 2002**

Liesl Clark  
Tremaine Cooper  
LTC Lorelei Coplen  
Laurie Penfield Fichter  
Anita Huntsman  
Mary Kahan, DVM  
Tom McLaughlin  
Dorothy Smith  
Emily Wiley, PhD

**Class of 2003**

Georgia Gerber  
Patti Jo Hassler  
Gary Keating  
Richard Lamb  
Kelly Wycall Phillips  
LTC Stacy Yike

**Class of 2004**

Beth Clarke, JD  
Ben Duke  
Dorothy Eisenberg  
Dr. Anthony Patt, PhD  
Rhonda Rathgeber  
Anne Tuttle-Roller

**Class of 2005**

Nancy Ambrosiano  
Gillian Clissold  
Christine Harris  
Donald McLean, Jr.  
Michael B. Richardson  
Catherine Scott, MD  
Peter Zimmerman

**Class of 2006**

Jillian Dunham  
Ann Haller  
Christine Knox  
Mary Beth Larsen  
Brian O'Connor  
David O'Connor

**Class of 2007**

Tom Eversole, DVM  
Susan Knox, JD  
John A. Kosanovich  
Linda Miller  
Carol Ripple, PhD

**Class of 2008**

Erika de Papp, DVM  
Russell Gilfus  
Liz Halliday  
Kevin Price  
Sharon Turner, PhD  
Carey Williams, PhD

**Class of 2009**

Holiday Banta  
Jim Hamilton  
Caroline McCabe  
John Staples  
Kate Sweeney

**Class of 2010**

Conrad Adams  
Stephanie Drachkovitch  
Janell Hoffman  
Michael Hoffman  
Gina Miles

**Class of 2011**

Lola Blackwell Chambless, M.D.  
Janell Goode Hoffman  
Sondra Russman Marshall  
H. Jerry Schurink  
Melanie Smith -Taylor

**Class of 2012**

Loranne Ausley  
Laurie Chapman-Bosco  
Parker Pearson  
Yvette R. Seger, Ph.D.  
Jennifer S. Welter, DPT

**Class of 2013**

Heather Bell  
Dr. Mary Sarah Bergh, DVM  
Margaret "Meg" Johnson  
Dr. Amy Story, Ph.D.

**Class of 2014**

Stephanie Church  
David Courreges  
Katharine Devereaux Byron, MFH  
Mark Lloyd

**Class of 2015**

Jennifer Goss  
Heather Rosenker  
Brian Sabo  
Lisa Sabo

## Marc Donovan



Marc grew up in Long Island, NY, and started riding at the age of eight. Early in his riding career, he showed Pony Hunters and later in the Equitation divisions. He was a member of Meadow Brook Hounds Pony Club and received his A rating in 1986.

After studying for two years at Rochester Institute of Technology, Marc continued his education at Emerson College and graduated with a degree in communications. Throughout college he rode horses and competed in Eventing across the East Coast. In the 1990s, he rode his horse Middlemarch to the CCI\*\* level.

In the past several years Marc has designed show jumping courses for many competitions including the Carolina International CIC, US Pony Finals, Galway International CCI, Plantation Fields CIC, Richland Park CIC, Bromont CCI in Canada, and the American Eventing Championships. Marc assisted Richard Jeffery at the 2011 National Horse Show and assisted Richard and Conrad Homfeld at the 2010 World Equestrian Games. He is USEF 'R' licensed show jump course designer and the Eventing Director at the Carolina Horse Park in Raeford, NC.

## Linda Zang

In 1965 Linda achieved both her USPC A and also her BHSAI certificate to set the stage for her career in the horse industry. She continued her education by traveling to Ireland and Sweden to work with many European trainers and to attend the national school for instructors (for two years) where she received an instructors certification in Scandinavia in 1970. She returned to the United States in 1972 and competed in national level dressage competitions. In 1978 Linda competed at the World Championships in Goodwood, England and Germany as a recipient of the Amis Fund. She was a member of the US Dressage Team for the Pan American Games in 1979 and a member of the US Olympic Team in 1980.





## Alumni Biographies

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Linda is a FEI 5\* Judge (one of 25 judges of this ranking in the World) and is a member of the FEI Judges Supervisory Panel and has judged the top international championships in the World including: FEI World Cup Finals, Olympics, World Equestrian Games, Pan American Games and European Championships. Besides judging Linda has been an FEI Technical Delegate for Pan American Games and Olympic Games plus others and has extensively judged in many countries around the globe. Linda is currently a member of the USEF Licensed Officials Committee but has been a member and advisor on many USDF and FEI Committees. Linda was honored by the President of the United States for the Gerald Ford "Sports Ambassador" and the U.S. Congressional Gold Medal of Honor and she continues to promote and support Dressage in the United States.

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**National Youth  
Congress  
Class of 2016  
Delegates**



The USPC National Youth Congress was established in 1998 in order to recognize outstanding older Pony Club members that have achieved a National Certification. The National Youth Congress delegates are selected yearly by their regions and come from all over the country. Two days prior to the Annual Meeting, these delegates are brought together for a series of workshops and discussions intended to expand their awareness of themselves and of the rapidly changing external world into which they will soon graduate.

The Congress provides opportunities for youth delegates to bring forward regional issues and best practices, and share ideas and experiences with other delegates, distinguished Alumni, members of the National Youth Board, and members of the USPC Board of Governors. Many proposals put forward by the National Youth Congress have inspired new programs and fresh perspectives on current programming.

## 2016 NATIONAL YOUTH CONGRESS DELEGATES

Amanda Austin	Saddle Up Pony Club, Deep South Region
Jamie Bizzini	Cuddy Valley Pony Club, Camino Real Region
Cecilia Black	Woodbrook Hunt Pony Club, Northwest Region
Megan Calibey	Conestoga Pony Club, Delmarva Region
Lauren Clay	Jumps and Jodhpurs Pony Club, Oregon Region
Kaitlin Curry	Northern Mines Pony Club, Sierra Pacific Region
Marcy Daley	North Country Pony Club, White Mountain Region
Anessa DeMers	Kimberwicke Pony Club, Northern Lakes Region
Kaitlyn Dirkschneider	Diamondback Pony Club, Southwest Region
Aislinn Finn	Valley Sierra Pony Club, Middle California Region
Adeline Fleitz	Wilton Pony Club, Metropolitan Region
Devyn Hinkle	Redwood Hills Pony Club, Middle California Region
Maggie Jackson	Seneca Valley Pony Club, Capital Region
Maia Jensen	Lion Country Pony Club, Eastern Pennsylvania Region
Anna Kate Johnson	Atlanta Pony Club, South Region
Lindsay Kemp	Wallowa Mountain Pony Club, Inland Empire Region
Mattie Kerker	Cypress Springs Pony Club, Sunshine Region
Erin Kober	Los Alamos Pony Club, Southwest Region
Grace Lutfy	Autumn Ridge Pony Club, New Jersey Region
Cooper Madden-Hennessey	Oakendale Farm Riding Center, NY/UC Region
Kassandra Moyer	USPC National Member, Eastern Pennsylvania Region
Darby Murphy	Great Plains Pony Club, Rocky Mountain Region
Kayla Pavlik	Saddle Up Pony Club, Deep South Region
Heather Perry	Jockey Hollow Pony Club, New Jersey Region
Leigh Ruckman	Silver Springs Pony Club, Midwest Region
Molly Ryan	Sinking Creek Pony Club, Old Dominion Region
Heidi Steeneck	Pioneer Pony Club, Intermountain Region
Katherine Sypher	Penobscot Pony Club, Northeast Region
Renee Van Bergeijk	Woods Riding Center, Hawaii Region
Kaylee Van Winkle	Hunter's Run Pony Club, Tri-State Region



*Amanda Austin*

**C-3 Trad, Deep South Region**

Activities: Attends University of Mississippi as an Elementary Education major. Trains Fox Hunting, eventing, dressage and barrel horses and loves to hunt duck and deer.

Future Plans: Run a Hippotherapy program

Favorite Horse(s): All are special



*Jamie Bizzini*

**H-B, Camino Real Region**

Activities: Attends Pierce College majoring in Equine Science and plans to transfer to UC Davis. Currently works at a small animal vet hospital.

Future Plans: Become an Equine Veterinarian

Favorite Horse(s): Bijou



*Cecilia Black*

**H-B, Northwest Region**

Activities: Enjoys reading novels and captain of her high school science team. Avid foxhunter with Woodbrook Hunt Club.

Future Plans: Veterinarian or another science centered job.

Favorite Horse(s): Hobbles who can bow, kiss, and fetch!



*Megan Calibey*

**H-B, Delmarva Region**

Activities: Enrolled in the University of Phoenix online majoring in biology. Currently works at Fair Hill Training Center and a racehorse rehab center in PA.

Future Plans: Attend Midway College in KY and earn an MBA in equine studies and working with racehorses as a trainer.

Favorite Horse(s): Heckuva Ride aka Henry, OTTB



### *Lauren Clay*

#### **C-3 Trad, Oregon Region**

Activities: Attends Oregon State University majoring in Apparel Design. Member of Kappa Alpha Theta.

Future Plans: To study abroad with College of Design through Oregon State. Become a USPC graduate A.

Favorite Horse(s): Axel (as rescue horse)



### *Kaitlin Curry*

#### **C-3 Trad, Sierra Pacific Region**

Activities: Recent graduate from UC Davis, competes regularly at training level in 3-day eventing.

Future Plans: Pursuing her B Traditional certification this summer, traveling and working.

Favorite Horse(s): Bondie, 10yr. Dutch Warmblood



### *Marcy Daley*

#### **H-B, White Mountain Region**

Activities: Attends Michael's College in Vermont. Double majoring in Elementary Education and Mathematics.

Future Plans: First or second grade teacher at a small rural school in Vermont. Parent and PC instructor.

Favorite Horse(s): Coyote (OTTB), Jessie (Quarter Horse) and Thor (Friesian-Shire)



### *Anessa DeMers*

#### **H-B, Northern Lakes Region**

Activities: Attends University of Minnesota, pursuing Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior. Part of the University's marching band.

Future Plans: Expects to have her PhD in paleontology and working at a university or museum.

Favorite Horse(s): Tanner who is a National Show Horse





### *Kaitlyn Dirkschneider*

#### **H-B, Southwest Region**

Activities: Attends University of Arizona majoring in Animal Science, equine emphasis and is on the swim team.

Future Plans: Professional horsewoman and to achieve her H-A certification.

Favorite Horse(s): Her NVRHA intermediate National Champion horse Sadie



### *Aislinn Finn*

#### **H-B, Middle California Region**

Activities: Works for Poplar Place Stables and Eventing, riding and teaching.

Future Plans: Moving up to Preliminary Eventing this season and hopefully complete a CC1\*

Favorite Horse(s): Devon (OTTB)



### *Adeline Fleitz*

#### **B Trad, Metropolitan Region**

Activities: Attends College of William and Mary and is on their equestrian team and is in the Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority.

Future Plans: Medical school and her dream is to work with Doctors Without Borders.

Favorite Horse(s): Taz, 22 yr. TB



### *Devyn Hinkle*

#### **C-3 Trad, Middle California Region**

Activities: Attends Lehigh University and is studying Business. Active in various clubs and is on the schools IHSA team.

Future Plans: Business career and to continue riding and competing.

Favorite Horse(s): Grace and Apache



## *Maggie Jackson*

### **H-B, Capital Region**

Activities: Fluent in American Sign Language and works as an Instructor at Sprout Therapeutic Riding and Education Center and Loudoun Therapeutic Riding.

Future Plans: Run her own successful Therapeutic Riding Center.

Favorite Horse(s): Tuck 'N Roll, TB gelding



## *Maia Jensen*

### **H-A, Eastern Pennsylvania Region**

Activities: Senior at Penn State but taking a semester off to ride and train with Allie Sacksen. Currently Eventing at Preliminary level.

Future Plans: Finish degree in Bio-behavioral Health and pass her A certification!

Favorite Horse(s): Willie



## *Anna Kate Johnson*

### **C-3 Trad, South Region**

Activities: Attends Berry College in Georgia. Loves camping and was chair of South Region Youth Board.

Future Plans: Become a physical therapist and continue to ride.

Favorite Horse(s): Seaview, 12 yr. TB



## *Lindsay Kemp*

### **H-B, Inland Empire Region**

Activities: Attends Boise State University and enjoys being with friends, playing basketball and making ceramic bowls and mugs.

Future Plans: Study abroad in Italy and to attain her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Art Education.

Favorite Horse(s): Moves Like Jagger, OTTB



### *Mattie Kerker*

#### **C+ Trad, Sunshine Region**

Activities: Attends Santa Fe College pursuing Diagnostic Medical Sonography. Works part time for a 4\* event rider, Ashley Johnson.

Future Plans: Continue as a beginner instructor and pass her H-B.

Favorite Horse(s): Marquis, 11 hand- 20 yr. games pony



### *Erin Kober*

#### **C-3 Trad, Southwest Region**

Activities: Attends Randolph-Macon College in Virginia. Studying chemistry and math.

Future Plans: To be an active member in the VA Region and find a nearby working student position for summer.

Favorite Horse(s): Cinder, Cody and Tommy



### *Grace Lutfy*

#### **C-3 Trad, New Jersey Region**

Activities: Attends Marist College in Poughkeepsie New York. Majoring in Business Admin with concentrations in Finance, Marketing and second major in Economics, minor in Global Studies. Is on the IHSA equestrian team for the college as well.

Future Plans: Own a small farm and someday be a DC.

Favorite Horse(s): Romeo, 7 yr. Irish Sport Horse



### *Cooper Madden-Hennessey*

#### **H-B, New York Upper Connecticut Region**

Activities: Attends University of Connecticut. Balancing barn life and academic life.

Future Plans: Managing his own equestrian business.

Favorite Horse(s): Tali Can Dance, 6 yr. OTTB



### *Kassandra Moyer*

#### **H-B, National Member of Eastern Pennsylvania Region**

Activities: Attends University of Delaware majoring in Animal and Food Science with a minor in Food and Agribusiness Marketing and Management.

Future Plans: To become a dairy nutritionist and achieving her H-A certification.

Favorite Horse(s): Teddy, TB and Flash a 22 yr. welsh cross



### *Darby Murphy*

#### **H-B, Rocky Mountain Region**

Activities: Attends Laramie County Community College on a full ride scholarship to ride on their IHSA equestrian team. Studying Elementary education.

Future Plans: Achieving her C-3 and becoming a Special Education teacher.

Favorite Horse(s): 38 yr. pony and three OTTBs



### *Kayla Pavlick*

#### **H-B, Deep South Region**

Activities: Attends Millsaps College in Jackson, Mississippi, majoring in Biology. Loves softball, soccer, cross country and an avid Polocrosse player.

Future Plans: Pursuing a Masters and PhD in entomology and conducting entomological research.

Favorite Horse(s): TB/dutch warmblood she rescued in 2007.



### *Heather Lynn Perry*

#### **H-B, New Jersey Region**

Activities: Attends Morrisville State College in New York. Studying Equine Science and Management. Member of both Hunt Seat and Western teams at Morrisville.

Future Plans: Expand my Funky Apple Tack business and run her own equine rehabilitation center.

Favorite Horse(s): Peanut, 15 yr. large pony



### *Leigh Ruckman*

#### **H-B, Midwest Region**

Activities: Attends University of Missouri studying Animal Science. Involved in MU Equine program, Collegiate Horseman's Association and Agriculture Future of America and also undergraduate swine research.

Future Plans: Work in animal nutrition and a leader in animal agriculture.

Favorite Horse(s): Many favorites



### *Molly Ryan*

#### **C+ Trad, C-3 Dressage, Old Dominion Region**

Activities: Attends Virginia Tech, double majoring in Professional Writing and Creative Writing.

Future Plans: Move up to 3<sup>rd</sup> level in USDF competitions. Achieve her A certification in dressage and to become a published author and teach at the collegiate level.

Favorite Horse(s): What's Up Doc, half Arabian gelding



### *Heidi Steeneck*

#### **H-B, Intermountain Region**

Activities: Currently a working student for an event and dressage trainer and training a five year old western pleasure reject.

Future Plans: To become an eventing trainer and coach and start a PC Riding Center one day. Also attend college and get a degree in accounting.

Favorite Horse(s): All are favorites



### *Katie Sypher*

#### **H-B, Northeast Region**

Activities: Attends University of Connecticut and studies cognitive science. A member of the UConn's Dressage Team.

Future Plans: Attend graduate school and travel and a future leadership role in USPC.

Favorite Horse(s): Lewis, 20 yr. TB



*Renee Van Bergeijk*

**H-B, Hawaii Region**

Activities: Attends Whitman College in Walla Walla Washington. When home in Hawaii she is a polo groom and plays competitive polo with the Hawaii Polo Club.

Future Plans: Continue to be involved with the horse world and hike the Pacific Crest Trail in its entirety.

Favorite Horse(s): Nile Tigress



*Kaylee Van Winkle*

**C-3 Dressage, Tri-State Region**

Activities: Attends Asbury University in Kentucky with a major in Business and Equine Science.

Future Plans: Earning her MBA and then working overseas with an equine company and becoming a National Examiner someday.

Favorite Horse(s): Current warmblood that went to KY with her.



**T**he National Youth Congress Committee is comprised of dedicated graduate Pony Club members, volunteers, and a staff liaison, all of whom have a desire to inspire, teach and learn from each years National Youth Congress delegates and Academy of Achievement honorees. Through this unique Congress experience, created by the Committee, delegates and alumni gather together around a central theme with the thread of Pony Club woven throughout.

2016 NATIONAL YOUTH CONGRESS COMMITTEE

*Nancy Ambrosiano*

*Heather Bell*

*Megan Dennis*

*Cathy Frederickson*

*Jennifer Goss*

*Ann Haller*

*Emily Wiley*

*Connie Jehlik - Staff Liaison*

**\*Nancy Ambrosiano** is a senior public information specialist at Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico, focusing on media relations in the areas of nuclear nonproliferation, counterterrorism, intelligence and space science. She is a member of the US Department of Energy's Nuclear Emergency Support Team (NEST). She has been a reporter, columnist and freelance writer since graduating from George Mason University with a degree in English. She has written extensively for *Equus*, *Horse & Rider*, *John Lyons Perfect Horse*, *Stable Management Magazine*, and is coauthor of the book *Complete Plans for Building Horse Barns Big and Small*, now in its third edition. She is a graduate A from Virginia Region, Regional Supervisor of the Southwest Region, president and occasional field master of Caza Ladron Hunt, and a lifelong eventer. Nancy has served on the Quiz Committee and judged Quiz phases at Western Championships and Festival for several years. In 2005 she was inducted in the Academy of Achievement and in 2006 she joined the Board of Governors, chairing the Communications Committee from 2008 to the present. She has a C-3 daughter who is was a 2007 NYC delegate and who graduated from Kansas City Art Institute majoring in 3-D animation, now studying at Canada's Vancouver Film School. She also has an awesome but non-riding son and her husband, a computational physicist, focuses on modeling and simulation and risk assessment for the department of Homeland Security. Nancy and her family live with a goofy Holsteiner hunt horse named Jellybean, her daughter's retired eventer Peachy Keen, a cranky Shetland, and a collection of large and small dogs, kitties and ferrets.

**\*Heather Bell** is a graduate A, National Examiner, 4<sup>th</sup> Level Dressage and Preliminary Event rider who has now settled down to raising a son, riding her home bred Trakehner mare and looking for her next event horse. She has always found it exhilarating to buck tradition and embrace change - from developing her own major in college (Evolution and its theories) to reinvigorating and modernizing a carriage driving tradition during my term as Director of Riding at the University of Massachusetts; to starting American Airlines onboard recycling program after being told it would never work to traveling in and conducting biological research in countries hostile to women. In her current position as an endangered species biologist for the US Fish and Wildlife Service, she has been dubbed an "agent of change" and is charged with reinventing the way a very stodgy government agency does business - her biggest challenge yet! While invigorated by change she has also found comfort in studying the past -from studying evolution in species and our earth, to sharing American history with her son, and collecting antiques with her husband. Heather currently reside in Conifer, Colorado, with four horses, a goat that thinks she's a horse, a hound, and a couple of lively cats. Heather was inducted into the Academy of Achievement in 2013.

**\*Megan Dennis** is an Environmental Biologist at an engineering and environmental consulting firm in south central Pennsylvania. She works for a variety of public and private clients dealing primarily with environmental permitting and threatened and endangered species studies. Megan is a graduate H-A from Brumbies Pony Club (New York). She holds a B.S. in Biology and Chemistry from Wilson College and a minor in Equine Training. Megan is also studying for her Master's Degree in Biology at Shippensburg University in her free time. Winter Wren is Megan's competition horse, who is currently in training to become an event horse. Megan was a National Youth Congress Delegate in 2010 in Houston, TX and has been on the NYC Committee since 2011.

**\*Ann Rickard Haller** is a well-travelled "Army Brat" with a passion for people, horses and the outdoors. A graduate H-A pony clubber from Hood Pony Club (Texas), Ann was a member of more than half a dozen pony clubs. She has continued to be involved in Pony Club for over 25 years as an instructor, clinician, coach, National Examiner, Chief Horse Management Judge, past member of the USPC national eventing and horse management committees, and past member of the USPC Board of Governors. In 2004, Ann was asked to coach the USPC International Show Jumping Exchange Team that went to Johannesburg, South Africa. In 2006, she was inducted into the USPC Academy of Achievement.

Ann is a USEA nationally-certified instructor (ICP Level II) as well as USPC National Examiner. Ann's education in communications and (human) nutrition give her a diverse background strongly grounded in teaching in a positive tone. She received several commendations and awards for her outstanding work in the production of integrated nutrition campaigns, including nutrition workshops, television and radio programming, and television PSA's. Other "hats" that Ann wears include stewarding for NCEA National Equestrian Championships, and Media and Press Relations for national events including Rolex, Fair Hill, Rebecca Farm, NAYRC (Young Riders), and most recently, the World Equestrian Games, where Ann was the Chief Press Officer for the disciplines of Reining, Vaulting, and Eventing. Ann lives in Oxford, Georgia, about 35 miles east of Atlanta, with her husband Roger who is a graduate A and was an international-level event rider and now judges, officiates, and does course design in the US and other countries.



**\*Cathy Frederickson** Cathy has been a National Examiner for over 20 years and became a graduate A Pony Club member in 1975. She joined Fresno Pony Club at the age of 7 where she was active as a member and then as an instructor until moving to the east coast in 1983 with her husband Allan. Her college years were spent at Fresno State University as a History major. Cathy's competitive experiences encompass CT/Eventing through Advanced level and dressage through 3<sup>rd</sup> Level. While living in England, she was able to study with Col. Wm. Froud and take the BHS Instructor's exam, as well as doing a little competing. Cathy now trains and teaches professionally in Virginia, based at Millwood Farm, specializing in educating horses and riders. She competes young horses and fox hunts regularly, and coaches aspiring competitors. Her favorite thing about being an NE is the travel and she especially appreciates and enjoys the dedication and enthusiasm of the upper level candidates as she watches them progress through the levels. Cathy's son, Sam, an H-B graduate and a US Marine.

**Emily Wiley** is a molecular biology professor at Claremont McKenna, Pitzer, and Scripps colleges in southern California. After earning her PhD in Molecular Genetics from the University of Washington, she was a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Rochester, then a Visiting Professor at Mount Holyoke College before joining the faculty in the Joint Science Department of the Claremont Colleges. Emily's research investigates mechanisms the cell uses to regulate the reading of genetic information – how genes are appropriately turned on or off, or finely tuned in their expression. She regularly publishes her work in this area, and she recently received a grant from the National Science Foundation to support both her research and the development of a national initiative to involve undergraduates in genomics research. Emily has kept horses, and particularly Pony Club, as a priority in her life. Since graduating as an 'A', she continues to compete in dressage and eventing. She has been a National Examiner for 11 years and devotes much of her summer to clinics and testings. Emily was inducted into the USPC Academy of Achievement in 2002, and is the former Chair of the NYC Organizing Committee. In addition to riding, she is enthusiastic about any activity that gets her outside enjoying nature.

**Jennifer Goss** is a high school Social Studies teacher in Staunton, Virginia and a nationally-recognized Holocaust educator. She holds a Master's degree in Holocaust and Genocide Studies and is a United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Teacher Fellow and member of their Regional Education Corps, responsible for delivering Holocaust education and outreach on behalf of USHMM. In addition to her work for USHMM, Jennifer also does trainings for the ADL's Echoes and Reflections Holocaust program and consulting work for a variety of Holocaust-related organizations including the USC-Shoah Foundation. In 2014, Jennifer was nominated for 2 Emmy Awards related to her work as a producer and screenwriter for the film, *Misa's Fugue*, which tells the story of Holocaust survivor, Frank Grunwald. The mother of a 2-year-old future Pony Clubber, Jennifer continues to ride and looks forward to getting back into actively competing in the upcoming year. An HA graduate of Berks Pony Club, Jennifer continues to volunteer as a board member and examiner for the Glenmore Hunt Pony Club. In 2015, Jennifer was inducted into the USPC Academy of Achievement bringing her NYC experience as one of the original delegates in 1998 (& 2000) full circle. In addition to her professional and equine-related activities, Jennifer and her husband also enjoy restoring classic cars and traveling.

**\*Connie Jehlik (staff liaison)** joined the staff of USPC in June of 2010 as Instruction Services Director. She holds a B.S. degree and teaching certificate in Agricultural Education and Middle School Science from California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo, CA. She also holds a Masters of Education in Instructional Design. Connie taught middle school science and high school agriculture for a total of 22 years. She joined Contra Costa Pony Club when she was 11 years old and received her A from Morgan Territory Pony Club. Connie has stayed active in Pony Club through the years by being involved as a Chief Horse Management Judge, DC of Hoofbeats Pony Club, and HMO for Sierra Pacific and MidSouth regions. Connie has been married to Michael since 1984 and they have two daughters, Molly and Mary both Pony Club graduates. Connie and Michael own a farm in Mount Sterling, Kentucky where they enjoy the outdoors, riding, quilting and spending time with family.

\*Present



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## The National Youth Congress and Academy of Achievement Sponsored by

*Nancy Ambrosiano, Academy of Achievement Class of 2005*

*Heather Bell, Academy of Achievement Class of 2013*

*Ben Duke*

*Frances Gillikin*

*Jennifer Goss, NYC Classes of 1999 and 2000, Academy of Achievement Class of 2015*

*Katie Graham*

*Ann Haller, Academy of Achievement Class of 2006*

*Melanie Heacock*

*Lori Pickett*

*Sophie H. Pirie, Academy of Achievement Class of 1999*

*Nancy Pittman*

*Susan Pogue, NYC Class of 2011*

*Lisa Reader*

*Mary Ann Turner*

*Emily Wiley, Academy of Achievement Class of 2002*

*Krystal Wilson-Campbell*

*Georgine Winslett*