



# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For Distribution after August 1, 2016

## Minnesota Horse Council Offers Scholarships, Grants, Funding and Awards

These programs are funded from the proceeds of the Minnesota Horse Expo

**Scholarships:** The Minnesota Horse Council/Tony Gasser Memorial Scholarships are offered for high school seniors, undergrads, graduate, and vocational students, to be used toward education that would further the applicant's career in and contributions to the horse industry in Minnesota. Applications are due by November 1<sup>st</sup>. A number of \$3,000 scholarships will be presented at the MHC Annual Meeting in January. For more information contact Trina Joyce at 612-729-7798 or [scholarships@MnHorseCouncil.org](mailto:scholarships@MnHorseCouncil.org)

**Grants:** The Minnesota Horse Council offer grants of \$7,000 maximum to Minnesota charitable/non-profit equine-related organizations as "seed money" to inspire new projects or capital improvements, or for expansions of existing projects or services. Applications are due by October 1<sup>st</sup>. Grants are presented at the MHC Annual Meeting in January. Funds will be paid out as your project progresses. For more information contact Tim Bonham at 612-721-1007 or [Grants@MNHorseCouncil.org](mailto:Grants@MNHorseCouncil.org).

**Direct Funding:** The Minnesota Horse Council offers direct funding assistance (up to \$500) to any non-profit horse related organization that develops or organizes any public clinic, program activity, or publication that advances the goals of the Minnesota Horse Council. Applications are accepted any time during the year with a Minnesota Horse Council response generally within 30 days. For more information contact Mark Ward at 651-436-6557 or [DirectFunding@MNHorseCouncil.org](mailto:DirectFunding@MNHorseCouncil.org).

**Sponsorships:** As part the Minnesota Horse Council's advertising budget, the Minnesota Horse Council will sponsor your event in exchange for advertising. Events can be horse shows, club dinners, trail rides, educational events and fundraisers, etc. For more information contact Meg Sax at 320-761-3990 or [Promotions@MNHorseCouncil.org](mailto:Promotions@MNHorseCouncil.org).

**Horse Person of the Year Award:** Each year the Minnesota Horse Council honors someone as the "Minnesota Horse Person of the Year" and places his or her photo in the Horseman's Hall of Fame at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds. The Minnesota Horse Council is seeking nominations of people for this award. This person should be an outstanding person in the horse industry – someone who stands above the rest for long-term contributions to many areas of equine activity. Nominations are accepted all year, but must be received by November 1<sup>st</sup> to be considered each year. The individual selected will be announced at the MHC Annual Meeting in January. For more information contact Dawn Moore at 952-949-6659 or [HorsePerson@MNHorseCouncil.org](mailto:HorsePerson@MNHorseCouncil.org).

**Pioneer Award:** This award is given to a deceased person who was a Minnesota horse pioneer – someone who led others to horses. Nominations are due by March 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. The individual selected is presented at the Minnesota State Fair. For more information contact Doug Persian at 763-242-5570 or [Pioneer@MNHorseCouncil.org](mailto:Pioneer@MNHorseCouncil.org).

**Horse of the Year:** The Minnesota Horse Council honors lesson horses in our state as well as great/foundation horses and exceptionally talented horses by the "Horse of the Year" award. Applications are due by October 1<sup>st</sup>. For more information contact Meg Sax at 320-761-3990 or [Promotions@MNHorseCouncil.org](mailto:Promotions@MNHorseCouncil.org).

Further information about any of these programs, including application information is available from:

- The Minnesota Horse Council website at [www.mnhorsecouncil.org](http://www.mnhorsecouncil.org)
- By writing to Minnesota Horse Council, P.O. Box 96, Monticello, MN 55362

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**Note:** Please let us know if we are sending this press release to the wrong person or address at [scholarships@MNHorseCouncil](mailto:scholarships@MNHorseCouncil). Thanks.

For a downloadable version of this Press Release please contact our administrative assistant at [mn.horsecouncil@comcast.net](mailto:mn.horsecouncil@comcast.net) or 763-755-7729 or see [www.mnhorsecouncil.org](http://www.mnhorsecouncil.org).