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Contact:

Nicole Speeding, Western Horseman Marketing Manager 817-569-7144
nicole.speeding@cowboypublishing.com
www.westernhorseman.com

BEST OF WESTERN HORSEMAN AWARDS PRESENTS 2023 WINNERS

World's Leading Horse Magazine Since 1936 Honors Western Industry Icons

FORT WORTH, TEXAS, November 15, 2023 — The Best of *Western Horseman* Awards aims to shine a spotlight on companies and individuals that have pioneered the future for the Western industry. Earlier this year, *Western Horseman* launched this multifaceted campaign with the goal to bring awareness and celebration to brands and industry icons who are dedicated to keeping the Western way of life alive and thriving.

Nominees were selected based on a number of factors, including fan nominations and editorial and staff recommendations. The 388 nominees were organized in five sections: People, Apparel, For Your Horse, Home & Ranch and Culture. Those sections were divided into 28 different categories, such as Hats, Equipment, Retail Stores, and Tack & Gear. The nominees were then published and voting opened. The winners were reader-voted.

As the voting concluded on August 20, 2023, *Western Horseman* staff tabulated the votes and dedicated the December "Best of *Western Horseman*" issue to the top three finalists in each category. *Western Horseman* editor, Amanda Devan, noted in the December *Western Horseman* issue, "For 87 years, *Western Horseman* has been a part of numerous Western industry milestones and innovations. It only made sense to us to celebrate others who are doing the same."

The Best of *Western Horseman* Awards parallels the company's core values of authenticity, cowboy spirit and the Western way of life. The "world's leading horse magazine since 1936" has stood the test of time, and the same dedication to producing quality content is alive and well today.

"It's an honor to recognize so many incredible individuals and brands that exemplify the cowboy spirit and continue to make a difference in their communities," said Director of Western Brands Dani Licklider. "The Best of *Western Horseman* Awards is a small token of our appreciation for those who continue to support and protect the Western way of life that we all love."

Visit shop.westernhorseman.com to purchase a copy of the December issue of *Western Horseman* or visit https://westernhorseman.com/best-of-western-horseman/ to view the 2023 Best of *Western Horseman* winners.

Nominations for the 2024 Best of *Western Horseman* Awards are currently open at: https://westernhorseman.com/best-of-western-horseman/

ABOUT WESTERN HORSEMAN

The Western Horseman brand is dedicated to protecting and preserving Western traditions, promoting the sport of rodeo, elevating horsemanship principles and promoting the authentic Western way of life. Since its first issue published in January 1936, Western Horseman has embodied the true, cowboy spirit through exceptional storytelling, educational resources and live events. Currently, the Western Horseman brand consists of a 12-issue per year print magazine and monthly digital edition, a comprehensive website, dynamic social media channels, a robust books and merchandise division and several Western events. For more information, visit westernhorseman.com or follow on Facebook at Facebook.com/WesternHorseman or Instagram at Instagram.com/WesternHorseman.

Western Horseman is owned by Morris Communications Company, LLC (MCC), which is part of a privately held company with diversified holdings in media, real estate, property development and agribusiness. MCC is based in Augusta, Georgia. MCC's current media holdings include Morris Media Network (MMN), which reaches millions of consumers with diversified content brands in print, digital, products and live events, including Western Horseman, Barrel Horse News, Quarter Horse News, Road to the Horse, EquiStat and the National Barrel Horse Association. A portfolio of lifestyle publications and digital assets serve enthusiasts of the outdoors, sporting and traveling, with Alaska magazine, The MILEPOST, Gray's Sporting Journal, Charlotte magazine, Orlando Magazine, Savannah magazine, Where visitor publications and more. MCC also owns the first-ever Professional Bull Riders Team Series Champions Nashville Stampede.