

# Educational Scholarship Opportunities for Iowa Horse Enthusiasts

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As fall approaches, bringing with it a new school year, parents with students heading for college in the fall of 2009 are beginning to search for scholarship opportunities to ease the economic crunch. Though the current economic news is not always good, the good news is that Iowa horse enthusiasts have a number of scholarship opportunities available to them.

Many of the scholarships offered pay \$500 a year, but they are not exclusive. This means students can apply for more than one scholarship. For instance, if you are a member of the Iowa Paint Horse Club (IPHC) you can apply for their state scholarship. Additionally, you could apply for scholarships offered nationally by the American Paint Horse Association (APHA) and/or scholarships offered by the Iowa Horse Council (IHC). The same can be said of the other breed associations such as, Appaloosas, Arabians, Buckskins, Minis, Morgan's, Palomino's, Pinto's, POAs, or Quarter Horses.

The Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, Horse and Dog Breeding Bureau, maintains a list of scholarship opportunities for Iowans. Please feel free to contact them at 515.281.4103 or by e-mail at [Jill.Paxton@iowaagriculture.gov](mailto:Jill.Paxton@iowaagriculture.gov)

If your Saddle Club or breed association offers a scholarship opportunity, please contact Jill Paxton so she can add it to the growing list. The Department of Agriculture wants to keep our rural communities informed of opportunities available to our students of all ages.

Below is a random sample of the scholarship opportunities available to our Iowa horse enthusiasts.

## **Iowa Quarter Horse Racing Assoc. (IQHRA)**

The Prairie Meadows Youth Days Program held in late July and early August is sponsored by the IQHRA and the ITBOA. It offers 10 youths (ages 15-19) the opportunity to learn about the racing industry. Accepted applicants spend 4 days at the backside of the race track working with trainers and Prairie Meadows staff. At the end of the 4 days over \$16,000 in scholarships are awarded. Participants are selected from the received applications based on their submitted written essay and general application. This is an opportunity to experience the challenges and rewards

[www.applesnoats.com](http://www.applesnoats.com)

that center around the horse racing industry. The goal of this program is to give young adults the opportunity to work firsthand alongside horsemen, increasing their knowledge and appreciation of the horse racing industry. Applicants do not need to be ITBOA or IQHRA members. Applications must be received by June 1 of the scholarship year.

*The 4-day agenda includes:* •Care & maintenance of race horses, •Morning workouts & training, •The starting gates, •The racing office & entry process, •Farrier work, •Track maintenance & repair, •Tour of the test barn, •Meet the stewards & racing officials, •Meet & talk with jockeys, •Race preparation of horses, •Awards banquet, •Race sponsorship with group trophy presentation in the Winner's Circle, •Scholarships to be awarded, and a •Tour of one of our area's finest ranches. For applications or more information contact: Butch Hammer 411 5<sup>th</sup> Street, West Des Moines, IA 50265 / [butchhammercarpet@msn.com](mailto:butchhammercarpet@msn.com)

## **Iowa Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association (ITBOA)**

The ITBOA works with the IQHRA on the Youth Days scholarships as well as providing additional opportunities for their members. For applications or more information contact: <http://www.iowathoroughbred.com>

## **Iowa Harness Horseman's Assoc. (IaHHA)**

The IaHHA offers scholarship opportunities for their members. For applications or more information contact: <http://www.iowaharnessracing.com>

## **Iowa Horse Council (IHC)**

The application materials for the Iowa Horse Council educational scholarships are available to IHC members in the equine community who would like to continue or enhance their education.

Applications must be postmarked by February 15, of the current year.

The application guidelines include:

1. *Renewal:* for any student who has, at any time, previously received an IHC scholarship.
2. *Current 2009 High School Graduate:* for 2009 high school graduates.
3. *Open:* for any student other than described above, including but not limited to graduate students.

Applicants awarded an IHC scholarship, will be notified by March 15 or before. Scholarship winners will be asked to assist in some way at the Iowa Horse Fair and be

present for the award ceremony, which is also held at the Iowa Horse Fair.

Members of the Iowa Horse Council hope you will take advantage of this scholarship opportunity. Please contact Barb Zukowski (641.396.2935) or [bluebarn@netins.net](mailto:bluebarn@netins.net) if you have any questions.

## **Iowa Paint Horse Club (IPHC)**

The IPHC offers \$500 scholarship opportunities for their members. For applications or more information contact: [JZKincaid2@hotmail.com](mailto:JZKincaid2@hotmail.com)

## **American Paint Horse Association (APHA)**

For the 25th consecutive year, the American Paint Horse Foundation (APHF) will award college scholarships to deserving students for the academic year. Since 1983, students have been awarded over 409 scholarships, worth more than \$407,000. In the 2007-2008 academic years, 14 new and 22 renewed \$1,000 scholarships were awarded.

## **Pinto Horse Assoc. of America (PThA)**

Iowa is proud of its newly formed Pinto Horse Club (IPtHC). If you are interested in the new club, please contact Kris Madden [pkmadden@iowatelecom.net](mailto:pkmadden@iowatelecom.net)

National PThA scholarships include:

- \$500 Phil Sandusky Memorial Scholarship available for Youth and Amateurs
- Orren Mixer Youth Scholarship available for Youth only
- \$500 PThA Youth Scholarships available for Youth only

Applicants must be at least a high school senior and be enrolled or have applied for full-time enrollment at an accredited post secondary educational institution. The recipients will be notified by March 1<sup>st</sup> of each year and announced at the Pinto Horse Association Annual Spring Convention. Scholarship funds will only be paid to the educational institution to which the student pays tuition. Application and all required materials must be completed and postmarked no later than January 15<sup>th</sup> of the current year and submitted to: PThA Scholarship, 7330 NW 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, Bethany, OK 73008.

The list provided in this article is a random sample of scholarship opportunities available to our Iowa riders. It is intended to be thought-provoking, and not comprehensive.

If you are interested in additional opportunities, please contact your Saddle Club, Breed Association or the Iowa Department of Agriculture. Do not miss the opportunity for scholarship assistance. The Iowa horse industry proudly supports its student riders with educational scholarships and grants for leadership opportunities.