

Lipizzaner Stallions & Horses of the World to Perform at State Fair Meadowlands

The show will feature the stunning Royal Lipizzaner breed, as well as Friesian sport horse stallions and a dancing Andalusian horse

East Rutherford, NJ – May 14, 2015 – State Fair Meadowlands, the largest fair in the New York metro area with over 150 rides and attractions, today announced that for the first time ever, it will be welcoming the **Lipizzaner Stallions & Horses of the World Show**, featuring the stunning Royal Lipizzaner breed, as well as Friesian sport horse stallions and a dancing Andalusian horse. The fair runs June 19 through July 5, at the State Fair Meadowlands Fairgrounds, next to MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford.

Two accomplished equestrians, Gabriella Herrmann and Caroline Williams, will demonstrate a number of different performance techniques, including Classical Dressage – an elegant series of movements that will delight and amaze audiences with its beauty and grace. The show will be held two times per day on weekdays, and three times per day on weekends, while the fair is open. The show is free with entry ticket to the fair.

Gabriella Herrmann comes from a long line of Lipizzaner trainers. In Europe, her family trained and rode the horses – known as the Royal War Horses of Austria – for the House of Hapsburg for six generations. The Lipizzaner stallions Gabriella will be bringing to State Fair Meadowlands are descendants of horses bestowed to her family in the early 18th century. Gabriella is the daughter of Sir Ottomar Herrmann, who, along with her grandfather, assisted General George Patton in rescuing Lipizzaner stallions during the World War II Nazi occupation in Europe. Together, they smuggled the horses under the cover of night from behind Russian enemy lines – a story that inspired the 1963 Disney movie, *Miracle of the White Stallions*.

Caroline Williams, who will be performing with Gabriella, is an eighth-generation member of a European Circus family that came to the U.S. in the late 1960s, with all their animals in tow, to perform for Ringling Brothers. She began performing on horseback at two years old, and as an adult, she developed her own exhibition horses, performing in North America, Europe and Asia. While in Germany in the late 1990s, she earned her FEI-certified degree in Competitive Dressage at Wahrendorf. Later in her career, she was hired by Cirque du Soleil's Gilles St Croix to be the principal female rider in his elaborate Equine Theatre, "CHEVAL". Caroline specializes in "at Liberty" horse training, in which a horse, not tethered in any way, performs based simply on communication and partnership with its trainer.

“We are truly lucky this year to be sharing such accomplished, world-class equestrian performers with our fairgoers. Adults and children alike will love these elegant trainers, as they prance and perform astride their stunning horses. Spectators will learn about the horses’ rich history, personalities and breeds, and even see some of them perform ‘at liberty.’ It is truly a beautiful sight,” said Al Dorso, president of State Fair Meadowlands.

In addition to the horse show, other Fair entertainment that is FREE with entry ticket is as follows.

- **The Great American Thrill Show** – an open-air performance of daredevil acrobats and aerialists; performing twice daily on weekdays and three times daily on weekends
- **The Racing Pigs** – back by popular demand for their 27th year on their real piggy racetrack; performing five times on weekdays and seven times on weekends
- **Master Hypnotist Steve Bayner** – a long-time favorite who manages to be silly and amazing at the same time; on the Main Stage daily. Times to be announced.
- **NJ Hall of Fame Mobile Museum** – offers educational exhibits about famous New Jerseyans; open to the public throughout the fair.
- **Live Concerts on the American Stage**, including RIFF, the band best-known for its music in films such as *Lean On Me* on June 19; EagleMania, the #1 Eagles tribute band, on June 26; Almost Queen, the #1 Queen Tribute Act on June 28; and Citizens Band Radio, a country music act, on July 2nd.
- **Lizard Lick Towing Meet & Greet** – Meet Ron, Amy, Krazy Earl, Cousin Johnny and Big Juicy from June 24-28. Times and details at www.njfair.com.
- **Educational Petting Zoo** – kids will love getting up close and personal with animals of the world; open to the public throughout the fair (rides on the elephant are an extra fee).

State Fair Meadowlands also features over 50 exciting rides and the largest Kiddieland in New Jersey. A family favorite, the **Sky Ride**, is back this year, providing sky-high views of the fair, and for Batman fans, the **Batcopter** will provide rides with panoramic views of the fair in the original helicopter from the 1966 TV series.

State Fair Meadowlands occupies over 35 acres of fairgrounds plus parking. Fair hours are Monday through Thursday, 6 pm to midnight; Fridays 6 pm to 1 am; Saturdays 2 pm to 1 am; Sundays 2 pm to midnight. On opening Dollar Night, June 19, the fair is open 4 pm to 1 am. On Friday, July 3, the fair is open 2 pm to 1 am; on Saturday, July 4 from 2 pm to 1 am.

Parking is free Monday through Wednesday, and \$5 Thursdays through Sundays. Opening night, parking is just \$2. The fair will again be offering free shuttle buses from/to Secaucus Junction; details to come. Visit www.njfair.com for information about the event, Bargain Days and to buy Advance Sale Tickets.

Note to Editors

Photos are available for download here: <http://njfair.com/in-the-news-2/>.

Media Contact (*journalist queries only*):

Patty Buchanan

Fastlane on behalf of SFM

(973) 670-1203

patty@fastlane.co