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October 24, 2006

Riding For Reading & Ali Ohringer Team Up to Benefit Schools

Burbank, California. Eighth grader Ali Ohringer joined 49 other young equestrians in the inaugural Riding For Reading Class at the Riding For Reading Benefit Horse Show (Sept. 4, 2006) at the Los Angeles Equestrian Center. By competing on behalf of her school, Colina Middle School, Ohringer earned a grant for her school's library. In fact, all 50 riders in the Riding For Reading Class earned grants for their school's library. What Ohringer did not count on was finishing as the reserve champion. In addition to the library grants for their schools, the riders received prizes from a host of sponsors, including Ariat and USHJA.

Ohringer was so enthused with her experience that she decided to participate more actively with Riding For Reading. Her school holds an annual magazine sale as a fundraiser, and Ohringer saw a perfect opportunity. By selling magazines, her school benefitted. However, Ohringer took it a step further. She collected donations for magazine subscriptions that would go to schools in need. On behalf of Riding For Reading, Ohringer sold more than 40 magazine gift subscriptions for targeted schools throughout the Los Angeles area. "Riding for Reading is a really good cause," Ohringer stated. "When our school had its magazine drive, I decided to do something to help Riding For Reading." Ohringer went door to door in her neighborhood and gave people a pamphlet that explained Riding For Reading's mission and goals. "I got gift subscription cards and used those so the schools would get as many issues of the magazines as possible," explained Ohringer proudly. "It took a long time to fill out all the subscription cards!"

Riding For Reading's Board of Directors gave Ohringer a list of high need schools that ranged from elementary schools to high schools. Nine different schools and more than 5,000 students will benefit from Ohringer's efforts on behalf of Riding For Reading. The non-profit will notify the schools to look out for the new magazine subscriptions they only hoped for, but did not have the funding for. Ohringer enjoyed picking out magazine subscriptions she knew others kids would enjoy. Some of her choices included: Wired, Teen Vogue, Natural Health, Car Craft, Young Rider, Mira!, Time, and Motorcyclist.

The schools receiving the magazine subscriptions are:

Arroyo West Elementary Coli LA Youth Opportunity Movement Mag Nohl Canyon Elementary Spri

Colina Middle School Magnolia Park School Spring View Middle School Echo Horizon School Newbury Park High School Vista Fundamental The students of the schools will enjoy one year subscriptions to magazines provided by Riding For Reading.

Riding For Reading is a non-profit organization (IRS 501 (c)3) dedicated to promotion reading, literacy, and education through equestrian sports and activities. Riding For Reading's three main areas are grants to school libraries via competitions for junior riders of any breed or discipline, book drives at horse shows, and an essay based college scholarship. For more information on Riding For Reading, please visit their website at: www.ridingforreading.org or you can send e-mail to: ridingforreading@aol.com.

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Photos from the September 4 Riding For Reading event and of Ali Ohringer are available upon request. Please contact LEG Up News for photos.