

CYSI: BEST IN BREYER

SUMMER
-2016-

10 THINGS: LUKE JENSEN

PONY & style

G A Z I N E

Pony Passion

*Sofia
Roberts*

A PONY MOM'S **SURVIVAL GUIDE** FOR **PONY FINALS**
TREND REPORT: POLISHED PONY • **RIDER SPOTLIGHT:** AVERY GLYNN

Pony Passion

SOFIA ROBERTS

story by Laurie Berglie
photos by Tracey Emanuel
styling by Dana Miller of
Chagrin Saddlery

Even though she is only 12 years old, pony rider Sofia Roberts has already mastered the art of finding balance in her life. Her days are chock-full of school, riding lessons, exercising ponies, and enjoying time with family and friends, but Sofia is an “old soul,” and juggles it all with ease.

Sofia was seven years old when Mindy Darst first worked with her on a pony named Hunter.

That was five years ago, and Sofia hasn’t looked back. Instead, she continues to forge ahead, and with her drive, talent, and a level of maturity well beyond her years, she is a star rising steadily in the ranks.

But success hasn’t appeared overnight, nor has it been handed to her. Her accomplishments are the results of hard work, dedication, and a structured, balanced schedule. Plus, she truly has a passion for ponies.



CHANGING PEOPLE'S LIVES

Families, Facilities and Smiles at the World Equestrian Center



Cute chestnut smiles for the camera in the under saddle line up

Whether or not you've heard of the World Equestrian Center, in Ohio's 'Golden Triangle', you will. Not just because Roby Roberts and his team have been working around the clock to create a world-class facility in Wilmington, Ohio, including a brand new indoor 170' x 350' arena, to complement the two other indoors, a Rider's Lounge, a boutique, a masseuse, an Aveda Day Spa, an on-site vet hospital, on-site lodging, vendors... but because the man has a long-term plan. His vision is five years, even ten years ahead and this grand effort in Ohio is just the beginning.

The physical embodiment started with Roberts Arena – a facility Roby's parents started forty years ago. But the inspiration comes from family. He wants to build a place where everyone – every equestrian – feels at home. It's literally written on the walls. "Welcome HOME Equestrians." And he recognizes the importance of the animal – the horse – who makes it all possible.



Pro and bows study the course



Gorgeous neck sashes



Horse and rider happy to be 'home' at WEC



A smile looks good on Charlie Jayne



Smiles all around in the cool and comfortable WEC Junior Rider Lounge

Tracy Emanuel

Tracy Emanuel was active in the horse world long before she picked up a camera. She worked as a professional groom for some of the East Coast's top show jumping riders, including Peter Wylde, Norman Dello Joio and Jeffery Welles. After moving to the North East, Emanuel continued to work with horses, both as a barn manager for Fran and Joe Dotoli and Tuny (Full) Page, and as a vet tech for Dr. Marty Simensen. Her passion and love for the horses she worked with led her to start capturing them in pictures.

While in the North East she started taking evening photography classes in Boston to advance her skill set and develop her eye as an artist. The more she learned and practiced the more deeply she became inspired by the way a single image could convey the incredible bond between a horse and its person. Capturing those special moments with a documentary style approach became the foundation for her career as an equine photographer.

Over the last 25 years, Emanuel's career has had her shooting horse portraiture, international shows and equine events throughout the United States, and she has enjoyed every minute of it. She also loves to give back to the equine community by photographing at two therapeutic riding schools on the East Coast, Windrush Farm and Vinceremous. The shoots are to benefit the riding school, but also keep Emanuel inspired as she loves capturing how generous and patient the horses are with the students.

Her work has graced the covers and illustrated feature stories in some of the country's top equestrian and lifestyle magazines, but she always remains true to what started it all, a love of horses and her unique perspective. Emanuel explains, "I think we all see the world differently; I love using photography to share with others the way I see it. I am extremely grateful for all the people and animals that allow me to continue to share what I love so much."

tracyemanuel.com
Instagram: @tracyemanuelphotography
Facebook: Tracy Emanuel Photography

