

# THE SPANISH MUSTANG FOUNDATION

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OUR MISSION IS TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC ABOUT THE SPANISH MUSTANG AND THE NEED TO PROTECT AND PERPETUATE THE BREED.



## RETURN OF THE HORSE

The Spanish Mustang Foundation is proud to announce the completion of “Return of the Horse” a film by Sharon Eliashar and Leo Hubbard.

Return of the Horse (2012, Runtime 61 minutes, Spanish Mustang Foundation) chronicles the North American horse as it became one of the most significant animals in human history — the virtual engine of civilization: moving material, plowing fields and propelling large armies to victory. The horse returned home to America with Spanish explorers, quickly re-adapting to its native habitat and developing into a distinct breed commonly known as the Mustang.

‘Return of the Horse’ is a beautiful object of art and thought and combines scientific and historical precision with artful filmmaking; that’s a rare thing. And the music. . . ! Dan Flores, University of Montana

Return of the Horse premiered to a sold out crowd in Santa Fe on August 27th at CCA and proceeded to win Best Animal Full Length Documentary at the Montana Cine International Film Festival. Its next stop is at the prestigious Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian in Washington DC, where it will close the museum’s exhibit A Song for the Horse Nation. Screenings are scheduled for January 6-7, 2013.

This powerful documentary traces the origins of the modern horse, explores its pivotal role in the settling of our country, and examines the

fate of Mustangs in their native homeland.

“The Horse, *Equus caballus*, is perhaps the oldest native North American large mammal alive today,” according to Ross MacPhee, Ph.D., Curator, Department of Mammalogy at the American Museum of Natural History.

Yet, rather than being celebrated as one of America’s oldest and most successful native species, the wild horse is under constant assault as it is perceived as competing with cattle and big game animals.

Return of the Horse takes an unflinching look at how the Euro-American relationship to land collided with migratory Indians, buffalo and wild horses. The film investigates the slaughter of Indian horses as a military tactic as well as the extermination of horses belonging to Native Americans on reservations. It reviews historical efforts by the U.S. government to eradicate wild horses and takes a hard look at current policy, which holds more than half of America’s wild horses in containment facilities.

Return of the Horse is a gripping and long overdue portrait of America’s most controversial native wildlife species. Above all it is the story of perseverance. The North American horse has been pursued by saber-toothed tigers, eaten by predators with stone tipped spears, poisoned, run off cliffs and hunted from aircraft, yet it still survives — wild, in its native homeland.

## FUNDRAISER AT CABALLADA MUSTENADA “herd of Spanish Mustangs”

The SMF looked to the Caballada Mesteneda Ranch to host a celebration in honor of the life and legacy of the Spanish Mustang horse. The event was co – hosted by Julia and Doug Lanham, Lynn and Creed Ford, and Linda and Ronnie Wallace and brought together family, friends and board members of Nolan Ryan’s, All Natural Beef. Roeliff Annon and Jill Felice highlighted the evening with a demonstration of the Spanish Mustang ‘in action.’ Guests found Roeliff’s straightforward and logical approach to horsemanship refreshing. “The demonstration was awesome. I will hang the picture of Oshoto on my wall forever” says Caroline Ryan, granddaughter of Nolan Ryan. “It was so cool.” Images touched lightly by photographer Daniel Nadelbeck, not only captured the experiences of the guests but restored the timelessness of the Spanish Mustang horse. The SMF expresses its gratitude to Marianne Deery, Fernando and Ofelia Flores, Josie Ortega, Regina Ritchie and Michelle Rodriguez and Jinja Bar and Bistro, Robert Sewell and Rudy’s Country Store and Bar – B – Q for their extraordinary support and dedication to perfection!



curious Spanish Mustangs



Creed Ford, Doug Lanham, Nolan Ryan, Ronnie Wallace



Roeliff Annon and Jill Felice



Creed and Lynn Ford, Doug and Julia Lanham

## YOUTH PROGRAM

The Foundation Youth Program has continued while expanding this horsemanship program with Robin Doughman at the Rock Ridge Corral in Lamy, NM. The number of children participating through our scholarship outreach mission has increased while the original students continue to broaden their understanding and become valuable assistants to new corral-mates. The Program informs children of the place in history the Spanish mustang holds. The characteristics of the Spanish mustang are part of the course study. At the same time partnerships with a mustang uncover the healing power of horses.

*“Horsemanship based on natural partnerships is a technique with many rewards. It can build confidence and patience that can lead to self-worth.” -- Robin Doughman*

The core curriculum is the presentation of the seven basic ground work maneuvers with the rope that delivers safety and communication proficiency. When ground work mastery is achieved leadership is the result. The skills to be mastered are: leading, backing, turning the front end, disengaging the hind quarters, moving the shoulders, lunging, pressure and release.

## STUDENTS SPEAK OUT

*“The 7 maneuvers are something I already knew when the foundation started the program, but I didn’t know them well. And now I have a very good grasp on them. I have greatly improved my understanding of horses and how they learn. I have learned much more than just the maneuvers though. I learned more about how the horses move and how they respond to the way you move.”*

-- Rhiannon Doughman



Rhiannon works with Arapaho

*“The skills that I have learned have helped me not only with horses, but also with people. Such as: Learning the right balance of being respectful and calm, yet firm. I’m so grateful to have the chance to work with these mustangs and everyone who’s made this experience possible.”*

-- Lillawah Andes



Lillawah guides Cassiana in working with Ruby



Robin teaches Aidan to work with Ruby

## OUR THANKS

The SMF was started to help Spanish mustangs that are in need of protection, care, nourishment and shelter and we are committed to continuing that tradition as we continue to feed horses in need. We want to thank all those who have helped us accomplish our goals.

Please show further support by sharing this issue with anyone and everyone and you will be speaking on behalf of these horses with no voice of their own.

We extend our sincere gratitude to the JW and Ethel I. Woodruff Foundation at the request of Mrs. Vikki Woodruff Lepper for their continued and generous support in the expansion of our horsemanship programming.

Thank you to Sharon Eliashar, Leo Hubbard, Margaret Mooney, and Ann Church for their promotion work on “Return of the Horse”.

A special thank you to Muriel Fariello for her dedication to the Spanish Mustang Foundation.

Article contributions made by Connie Doughman, Julia Lanham and Ann Church.

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## **THE SPANISH MUSTANG FOUNDATION**

**WE INVITE YOU TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE  
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***WE APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT!***



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