Working with Schools

Bay Area high schools choose to participate in City Horse based on studies that find exposing inner-city, at-risk youth to horsemanship in a safe rural outdoor environment can sharpen student focus and academic performance.

Recognizing such differences (i.e., urban/rural, school/stable, etc.) are quite important. City Horse cultivates relationships with schools and stables and pairs them based on their likely ability to maintain long-term partnerships that promote student success.

School Partners

The Bay Area schools that participate in City Horse are well established urban alternative and continuation high schools that serve students at-risk of dropping out. Students participate free of charge. As a school partner, the school identifies the most deserving students and helps prepare them for the program.

The teachers and staff work with City Horse and their stable partners to ensure lessons satisfy required academic standards. The lessons integrate experiential and classroom learning techniques. Students are exposed to topics ranging from nutrition and anatomy to barn management and horsemanship while they muck stalls, groom and feed horses and learn to ride.

City Horse

415 Cornell Avenue, Suite 303
Albany, CA 94706
P 510-912-4775
E cityhorseprogram@gmail.com
www.cityhorse.us

City Horse

Inspiring At-Risk Students Through Horsemanship

City Horse partners high schools in the Bay Area with local horse stables for sessions that provide students with life lessons and academic credit

Working with Stables

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Stable Partners

The Bay Area stables that participate in City Horse are well-established large facilities with trainers that offer instruction in a wide variety of equestrian disciplines and introduce students to the rich California history with horses. Practitioners in horse-related disciplines such as farriers, veterinarians, breeders, cattlemen, ranchers, competitors and other agri-business people provide added context to the students experience by sharing information about their chosen profession, sport or agriculture industry.

As City Horse partners, the stables provide the horses, guest speakers and facilities for the students. They also share their knowledge and expertise to work in unison with schools in order to create a fun and interactive learning environment.

In introducing the students to horses, the trainers emphasize an awareness of horse behavior. Students learn how their actions impact the behavior of the horses. Trainers encourage the students to be calm, patient, aware, and consistent in their interaction with the horses. The self-discipline students acquire in the process facilitates stronger academic achievement and enhances the capacity of students to handle personal challenges.

City Horse also provides students with opportunities beyond school by introducing them to agriculture organizations throughout the Bay Area geared toward youth such as 4-H, FFA, Pony Club, horse training apprenticeships, and internships among others.

Next Steps

The first City Horse class is scheduled for 2015. Get involved! Support from individuals as well as a wide range of government, non-profit, and business groups are vital to our success. Please contact us if you are interested in supporting City Horse!

Brandi Weintraub

The director of City Horse grew up in the flatlands of East Oakland. As a former alternative high school student, Brandi understands the value of such schools to urban at-risk students. As a horse owner and former participant in a horse program for at-risk high school students, Brandi understands the confidence and discipline gained thru working with horses.

While studying animal husbandry at UC Davis, and assessing access to horses for Bay Area urban youth while completing a masters in urban planning at UCLA, Brandi never forgot how her teenage experiences helped her overcome some of the challenges she faced. City Horse exists to give other youngsters the same opportunity.

Brandi invites you to learn more about City Horse!

http://www.cityhorse.us