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For Immediate Release – West Springfield, Mass.

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IN THE COLISEUM: BIG E HORSE SHOWS, DEMONSTRATIONS AND SPECIAL PERFORMANCES

Trot on over to the Eastern States Exposition's Coliseum to witness elegant horse shows and demonstrations sponsored by *Williams Distributing*. Since 1917 The Eastern States Exposition Horse Show has been a beloved tradition for riders across New England. From petite Hackney ponies to giant Drafts, riders and their skilled equines exhibit amazing athleticism as they compete in a variety of classes.

The Eastern States Exposition Horse Show was granted the USEF Heritage Competition Designation on July 1, 2016. This prestigious designation places the show with an elite group of Federation licensed competitions that have been established for a long period of time and have made substantial contributions toward the development and promotion of the sport.

Look for **The Hunter Show** Sept. 11—two days before Opening Day. The show will continue through Sept. 15 and includes the **Zone 1 HOTA Finals**. The annual **\$15,000 Hunter Classic** will take place Friday, Sept. 13 at 7pm—the opening night of The Big E!

Saddlebreds, Hackneys, Morgans, Friesians and Open Opportunity Classes enter the Coliseum Sept. 19–22.

Check out **The Big E Draft Horse Show**, Sept. 26-29. Where Belgians, Clydesdales, Shires and Percherons take over the Coliseum. Watch horses compete for the top prizes in a variety of classes for carts, tandems, unicorns, teams and fours. Enjoy the following during the show:

- Sept. 29: **The \$50,000 Six Horse Hitch Showdown**
- Sept. 29: **The 2018 North American Classic Cart Series Finals**
- Sept. 29: **The Haflinger and Hitch Pony Finals**

For additional excitement, mark your calendars for the following competitions:

- Sept. 16: **Horse Pulling**
- Sept. 17: **Ox Pulling**
- Sept. 18-21: **4-H Horse Show**
- Sept. 23: **Sheep Dog Trials**

Equestrian Hall of Fame Induction, Sept. 21 at 6pm

Join us to honor the sixth inductee into the Eastern States Exposition Equestrian Hall of Fame! The Hall of Fame was established in 2014 to recognize individuals and equines that have shown excellence in their discipline, made significant achievements in the competition world and made outstanding contributions to

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the sport and equestrian community. Nominations are open to actively competing or retired horses as well as individuals who have been affiliated with Eastern States Exposition at year-round shows or Big E horse shows.

The Big E takes place Sept. 13 – 29 in West Springfield, Mass. and will be jam-packed with food, entertainment, and so much more! Visit TheBigE.com to sign up for emails and connect on social media to be the first to get exclusive information. Join us with #BigEMoments.

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