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### **Purina Mills to Provide Travel Scholarships for NARHA Conference Banquet**

**Denver**—NARHA is pleased to announce that Purina Mills, LLC, has signed a contract to be the title sponsor of the 2011 NARHA National Conference and Annual Meeting. Purina Mills will provide travel scholarships for the equestrian award winners, who will accept their awards at the 2011 NARHA Awards Banquet, Friday, November 10, 2011. The national award winner for each equestrian category, Independent Adult Equestrian, Adult Equestrian, Youth Equestrian, Child Equestrian and the NARHA Horses for Heroes Equestrian, will receive travel scholarship reimbursement funds.

Brant Gilbert, Marketing Director of the Horse Business Group at Purina Mills, attended last year's awards banquet in Denver. He was so impressed by what he saw that he wanted to make a special contribution to help alleviate a hardship that travel to the banquet might cause.

The funds may be used to cover the price of round trip flights or car rental and mileage to and from Lexington, KY, and the winner's hometown, hotel, taxi, shuttle or meals for the winner and his/her family or friends for the purpose of attending the 2011 awards banquet.

The national conference is NARHA's premier educational opportunity for member centers and instructors who attend from all across the USA and internationally, and who provide equine-assisted activities and therapies for people with physical, mental, emotional and learning challenges.

NARHA's conference is in Lexington, KY, this year and features an impressive array of educational sessions presented by equine industry experts. For information about the NARHA 2011 National Conference, visit [www.narha.org](http://www.narha.org) and click on national conference or call 800-369-7433.



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*About NARHA:*

*NARHA was formed in 1969 as the North American Riding for the Handicapped Association to promote equine-assisted activities and therapies for individuals with special needs. At over 700 member centers, a total of 42,000 children and adults find a sense of independence through involvement with horses. These member centers range from small, one-person programs to large operations with several certified instructors and licensed therapists. In addition to therapeutic equitation, a center may offer any number of equine-assisted activities including hippotherapy, equine-facilitated mental health, driving, interactive vaulting, trail riding, competition, ground work, or stable management. Through a wide variety of educational resources, the association helps individuals start and maintain successful equine-assisted activities and therapies for individuals with special needs. There are more than 24,000 volunteers, 2,000 instructors, 5,700 therapy horses and thousands of contributors from all over the world helping people at NARHA centers.*