



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Carlisle Foundation Launches to Expand Impact of Community-Based Programs; Revitalized Cowboy Ball to Serve as Marquee Fundraising Event

Lyman, Maine — The newly established Carlisle Foundation, a 501(c)(3) public charity, proudly announces its formation as the official philanthropic partner to Carlisle Academy Integrative Equine Therapy & Sports. Alongside its launch, the Foundation is reviving the historically beloved Cowboy Ball, set to take place on Saturday, August 22 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., as its premier fundraising event.

The Carlisle Foundation (www.carlislefoundation.org) is governed by an independent Board of Directors responsible for setting strategic priorities, overseeing resources, and approving grantmaking efforts. The Foundation is dedicated to advancing human and equine enrichment through innovative, inclusive, and sustainable charitable initiatives. Its mission is to raise funds that support social benefit programs, training and leadership development, and horse stewardship activities both at Carlisle Academy and through partnerships with community-based equestrian centers nationwide.

“Our vision is rooted in the belief that the connection between humans, horses, and nature can be transformative,” said Carlisle Foundation Board of Directors President, Dr. Julia Burns. “We believe that through collaboration and innovation, we can broaden access to these powerful experiences while strengthening the equestrian industry’s impact.”

The Foundation focuses on three key principles: leveraging partnerships to expand reach, promoting inclusion in equestrian and nature-based initiatives, and empowering the next generation of leaders and practitioners.

The Foundation’s funding priorities encompass three critical areas:

- **Social Benefit Programs:** Supporting health, education, and well-being through subsidized or free equine-assisted services, community riding, para-equestrian sports, and nature-based programs. Beneficiaries include youth and adults with and without disabilities, individuals recovering from addiction, cancer survivors, at-risk youth, and low-income families.
- **Training and Leadership Initiatives:** Providing opportunities for students and professionals through internships, certification programs, clinics, research, and service-learning experiences that foster growth and innovation in the field.
- **Horse and Farm Stewardship:** Ensuring the responsible care of horses and farm resources through daily care, facility management, and support for the acquisition, retirement, and long-term well-being of schoolmaster horses.

Kicking off this new chapter, the Foundation’s first event will be a revitalization of the Cowboy Ball which promises an evening of community celebration. Guests will enjoy great food, a silent auction,

and dancing to the country swing sounds of *Haggard and Cashed*. Proceeds from the event will directly benefit the Foundation's programs.

"The Cowboy Ball is more than an event—it's a celebration of community and the meaningful work made possible through generosity and shared purpose," said Sarah Armentrout, Carlisle Academy Co-Founder.

Tickets and sponsorship opportunities for the Cowboy Ball are now available. Community members, partners, and supporters are invited to join in launching the Carlisle Foundation and investing in a future where humans and horses learn, grow and thrive together.

For more information, please visit www.carlislefoundation.org contact Katrina Vallario at (207) 985-0374 or katrina@carlisleacademymaine.com.



Nature Explorers

Para-Dressage

Equine-Assisted Learning