

Annual
**CHAMPION
KENTUCKY-BRED**
Awards Dinner

Presented by



Friday, April 10th, 2026

The Apiary
Lexington, Kentucky

*Kentucky-Bred Champion Bronzes
by Emma MacDermott*

KTDF Bronzes by Steve Johnson



Broodmares of the Year

1946	Bloodroot	1962	Track Medal	1978	Primonetta	1994	Fall Aspen	2010	Liable
1947	Potheon	1963	Misty Morn	1979	Smartaire	1995	Northern Sunset (ire)	2011	Oatsee
1948	Our Page	1964	Maid of Flight	1980	Key Bridge	1996	Personal Ensign	2012	Lisa Danielle
1949	Easy Lass	1965	Pocahontas	1981	Natashka	1997	Slightly Dangerous	2013	Take Charge Lady
1950	Hildene	1966	Juliets Nurse	1982	Best in Show	1998	In Neon	2014	Fun House
1951	Alpenstock III	1967	Kerala	1983	Courtly Dee	1999	Anne Campbell	2015	Littleprincessemma
1952	Ace Card	1968	Delta	1984	Hasty Queen	2000	Primal Force	2016	Leslie's Lady
1953	Gaga	1969	All Beautiful	1985	Dunce Cap II	2001	Turko's Turn	2017	Lemons Forever
1954	Traffic Court	1970	Levee	1986	Too Bald	2002	Toussaud	2018	Stage Magic
1955	Iron Reward	1971	Iberia	1987	Banja Luka	2003	Prospectors Delite	2019	Beyond the Waves
1956	Swoon	1972	*Moment of Truth II	1988	Grecian Banner	2004	Dear Birdie	2020	Drumette
1957	Belle Jeep	1973	Somethingroyal	1989	Relaxing	2005	Baby Zip	2021	Indian Miss
1958	Miss Disco	1974	Cosmah	1990	Kamar	2006	Cara Rafaela	2022	Dreaming of Julia
1959	Knight's Daughter	1975	Shenanigans	1991	Toll Booth	2007	Better Than Honour	2023	Dance Card
1960	Siama	1976	*Gazala II	1992	Weekend Surprise	2008	Vertigineux	2024	Puca
1961	Striking	1977	Sweet Tooth	1993	Glowing Tribute	2009	Sweet Life	2025	Crowned

**Imported*

Horses of the Year

1971	Ack Ack	1982	Lemhi Gold	1993	Lure	2004	Ghostzapper	2015	American Pharoah
1972	Typecast	1983	Slew 'o Gold	1994	Tabasco Cat	2005	Saint Liam	2016	Arrogate
1973	Dahlia	1984	John Henry	1995	Serena's Song	2006	Barbaro	2017	Gun Runner
1974	Forego	1985	Spend A Buck	1996	Serena's Song	2007	Curlin	2018	Justify
1975	Forego	1986	Manila	1997	Favorite Trick	2008	Curlin	2019	Bricks and Mortar
1976	Forego	1987	Ferdinand	1998	Real Quiet	2009	Rachel Alexandra	2020	Authentic
1977	Seattle Slew	1988	Alysheba	1999	Charismatic	2010	Zenyatta	2021	Essential Quality
1978	Seattle Slew	1989	Sunday Silence	2000	Fusaichi Pegasus	2011	Havre de Grace	2022	Flightline
1979	Spectacular Bid	1990	Criminal Type	2001	Monarchos	2012	Wise Dan	2023	Cody's Wish
1980	Spectacular Bid	1991	Suave Dancer	2002	War Emblem	2013	Wise Dan	2024	Thorpedo Anna
1981	John Henry	1992	A.P. Indy	2003	Mineshaft	2014	Untapable	2025	Sovereignty

Horse of the Year/Three-Year-Old Male

SOVEREIGNTY

*Into Mischief-Crowned, by Bernardini
Breeder: Godolphin*

Few horses capture the public's imagination quite like a Classic winner. Dual Classic winner Sovereignty did exactly that during a breathtaking 2025 campaign. A Kentucky homebred for Godolphin trained by Bill Mott, the talented son of Into Mischief out of the Bernadini mare Crowned proved to be a definitive force of his generation. Sovereignty began his march to glory with a game score in the Fountain of Youth Stakes (G2) at Gulfstream Park, followed by a valiant runner-up finish to Tappan Street in the Florida Derby (G1). It was on the First Saturday in May, however, that Sovereignty delivered a career-defining masterpiece. Splashing through the Churchill Downs stretch under a masterful ride by Junior Alvarado, Sovereignty surged past Journalism to claim victory in the 151st Kentucky Derby (G1) by a decisive 1 ½ lengths. After skipping the Preakness Stakes (G1), Sovereignty cemented his status as the leading 3-year-old in the country with a three-length win in the Belmont Stakes (G1). He brought the curtain down on his season with wins at Saratoga in the Jim Dandy Stakes (G2) in July and a devastating 10-length romp in the Travers Stakes (G1) in August. Sovereignty's dominance was reflected at season's end. Finishing an exceptional year with five victories from six starts, he amassed more than \$5.6 million in earnings. That consistency earned him racing's highest honor, as he was named the Eclipse Award Champion 3-Year-Old Male and crowned Horse of the Year.



Broodmare of the Year

CROWNED

*Bernardini-Mushka, by Empire Maker
Breeder: Brushwood Stable*

Impeccably bred Crowned has more than lived up to her \$1.2 million price tag at the 2014 Keeneland September Sale. While the daughter of Bernardini never raced, she has cemented her legacy as a cornerstone of Godolphin's broodmare band, most notably as the dam of Kentucky Derby (G1) winner Sovereignty. A Godolphin homebred trained by Bill Mott, Sovereignty is the latest star in a lineage Mott knows well. While Sovereignty is the first of Crowned's foals to become a black-type winner, greatness is written in his genes. Mott previously conditioned Sovereignty's second dam and Grade 1 winner Mushka, in addition to his third dam Sluice, also a stakes winner. Lakeway, the Derby winner's fourth dam, was a multiple Grade 1 winner and Kentucky Oaks (G1) runner-up. Sovereignty's march to Kentucky Derby glory began at Gulfstream Park with a win in the Fountain of Youth Stakes (G2). Though he narrowly missed winning the Florida Derby (G1), he left no doubt in the Kentucky Derby (G1), delivering a decisive victory. After bypassing the Preakness Stakes (G1), he conquered the "Test of the Champion," validating his status as the nation's premier 3-year-old with a dominant three-length score in the Belmont Stakes (G1). He put an exclamation point on his historic season at Saratoga, sweeping the Jim Dandy Stakes (G2) and the Travers Stakes (G1). Named 2025 Horse of the Year and Champion 3-Year-Old at the Eclipse Awards, Sovereignty isn't just a champion; he is a culmination of four generations of excellence.

Two-Year-Old Male

TED NOFFEY

*Into Mischief-Streak of Luck, by Old Fashioned
Breeders: Aaron and Marie Jones LLC*

Ted Noffey may carry a playful moniker—a nod to Spendthrift Farm's General Manager, Ned Toffey—but his performances on the track were strictly business. Undefeated in four starts as a juvenile, the striking gray colt punctuated a perfect campaign with a remarkable trio of Grade 1 victories. Under the direction of Todd Pletcher, Ted Noffey arrived at Saratoga in August ready for the spotlight. While his 1 ½-length debut victory signaled a bright future, it was his performance in the storied Hopeful Stakes (G1) that turned heads. Shaking off his rivals at the top of the stretch, Ted Noffey powered to an 8 ½-length triumph in the Hopeful (G1). Stretching out to two turns for the first time in the Breeders' Futurity (G1) at Keeneland, Ted Noffey proved his brilliance was not limited to sprint distances. He handled the added distance with his signature ease, drawing clear to win by 2 ¾ lengths. His ultimate test awaited on the West Coast in the \$2 million Breeders' Cup Juvenile (G1). Facing a competitive field, he stalked Grade 1 winner, Brant, before seizing command at the head of the lane. Though Brant offered a stern challenge, Ted Noffey held his foe at bay late to secure a one-length victory. Perfect and peerless for owner Spendthrift Farm, Ted Noffey, a \$650,000 graduate of the Keeneland September Sale, defined excellence in 2025 and was named Eclipse Champion 2-Year-Old Male.

Two-Year-Old Filly

SUPER CORREDORA

*Gun Runner-Super Simple, by Super Saver
Breeder: Woodford Thoroughbreds, LLC*

Super Corredora's ascent to the top of her division was nothing short of a whirlwind. After showing promise in her early starts, the daughter of Gun Runner found her stride at Santa Anita in October, dismantling a maiden special weight field by 8 ¼ lengths over one mile. Just weeks later, she proved that impressive performance was no fluke. Stepping onto the world stage at Del Mar, she reached even greater heights in the \$2 million Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies (G1). Campaigned by the partnership of Spartan Equine Racing LLC, West Point Thoroughbreds, Robert C. Gardiner, and Michael W. Olszewski, and trained by John Sadler, Super Corredora dictated terms in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies (G1). Showing her class, she carved out rapid fractions of :22.42, :43.63, and 1:10.15 and repelled all challengers in the stretch. Super Corredora held off a late surge from previous division leader and race favorite Explora to secure a gritty three-quarter-length victory at the finish. Bred in Kentucky by Woodford Thoroughbreds and a \$400,000 acquisition by her owners from the Denali Stud consignment at the Keeneland September Sale, Super Corredora paid immediate dividends for her connections on the racetrack. By season's end, she had emerged as the nation's leading money-earning juvenile filly with a bankroll of \$1,099,600. Her meteoric rise from a maiden winner to a Breeders' Cup heroine was capped by the highest honor: being crowned the 2025 Eclipse Champion 2-Year-Old Filly.

Three-Year-Old Filly

NITROGEN

*Medaglia d'Oro-Tiffany Case, by Uncle Mo
Breeder: D.J. Stable, LLC*

A Kentucky homebred for the father-son team of Leonard and Jonathan Green, Nitrogen blossomed into a champion in 2025. Trained by Mark Casse, the daughter of Medaglia d'Oro displayed rare versatility in her sophomore campaign, recording five graded stakes victories over both dirt and turf. Her exploits, which included a sparkling win in the prestigious Alabama Stakes (G1) at Saratoga last summer, were rewarded when she was crowned Eclipse Award Champion 3-Year-Old Filly. Nitrogen kicked off her championship season on the turf with graded wins in the Florida Oaks (G3), the Appalachian Stakes (G2), and the Edgewood Stakes (G2). She romped in an off-the-turf Wonder Again Stakes (G3) at Saratoga, scoring by 17 lengths over a sloppy dirt surface in her initial try on the main track. She proved her versatility in the Alabama Stakes (G1) in August, recording a decisive victory on the dirt over Kentucky Oaks (G1) victress Good Cheer. Following the Alabama, Casse kept his charge on the main track the rest of the season. Taking on older mares in the Spinster Stakes (G1) at Keeneland, she finished second to Gin Gin, beaten just a head in her prep for the Breeders' Cup Distaff (G1). Despite a bold bid in the Breeders' Cup Distaff (G1) at Del Mar, Nitrogen finished second to Scylla in a strong performance. Nitrogen won six races in nine starts in 2025, banking \$1,909,400 on the year.



Older Dirt Male

SIERRA LEONE

*Gun Runner-Heavenly Love, by Malibu Moon
Breeder: Debby M. Oxley*

Consistency and class were the hallmarks of Sierra Leone, a horse who never ran a poor race in a career defined by heart-pounding finishes. A \$2.3 million Fasig-Tipton Saratoga sale graduate, the son of Gun Runner was campaigned by the partnership of Peter Brant, Mrs. John Magnier, Michael Tabor, Derrick Smith, Westerberg, and Brook Smith. Under the guidance of trainer Chad Brown, Sierra Leone became one of the most feared closers wherever he surfaced. The 2024 Eclipse Award Champion 3-Year-Old Male, Sierra Leone launched his 2025 campaign with a solid third-place effort in the New Orleans Classic Stakes (G2) off the bench. While he followed that outing with a determined runner-up performance behind Mindframe in the Stephen Foster Stakes (G1), it was at Saratoga where he reclaimed his best form. Delivering a signature effort in the Whitney Stakes (G1), Sierra Leone powered home to a dominant victory that reaffirmed his status as an elite handicap horse. Sierra Leone finished the season with back-to-back second-place finishes in the Jockey Club Gold Cup (G1) and the Breeders' Cup Classic (G1). In the latter, a race he won the previous year, he showcased his trademark grit, closing resolutely through the Del Mar stretch to chase Forever Young (JPN) to the wire. Sierra Leone concluded his racing career with an incredible record of 14-5-6-3, having never finished off the board. He retired to stud duty with earnings exceeding \$8.1 million.

Older Dirt Female

THORPEDO ANNA

Fast Anna-Sataves, by Uncle Mo

Breeder: Judy Hicks

Returning to the races in 2025 as the reigning Horse of the Year, Thorpedo Anna, affectionately known as "The Grizzly," proved that her 2024 brilliance was no fluke. While she faced new challenges in her 4-year-old season, Thorpedo Anna met them with the same class that made her a fan favorite in 2024. Campaigned by Hill 'n' Dale Equine Holdings Inc., Magdalena Racing, Mark Edwards, and breeder Judy Hicks, the daughter of Fast Anna remained a pillar of trainer Kenny McPeck's barn. She opened her year with a pair of scores at Oaklawn Park, taking the Azeri Stakes (G2) before a commanding 4 ¼-length romp in the Apple Blossom Handicap (G1). After a rare off-the-board finish in a roughly run renewal of the La Troienne Stakes (G1), Thorpedo Anna quickly righted the ship with an authoritative three-length win in the Fleur de Lis Stakes (G2). In a stirring edition of the Personal Ensign Stakes (G1) in August, she stared down a relentless challenge from Dorth Vader, refusing to yield in a slugfest to win by a nose. Though her season concluded with a fourth-place finish in the Spinster Stakes (G1), Thorpedo Anna's body of work was undeniable. With four wins from six starts in 2025, she secured yet another Eclipse Award, this time as Champion Older Dirt Female. Retired with earnings of more than \$5.4 million, Thorpedo Anna leaves behind a legacy as one of the most resilient and beloved distaffers of the modern era.

Male Turf Horse

DETERMINISTIC

Liam's Map-Giulio's Jewel, by Speightstown

Breeder: Hinkle Farms

Deterministic embodied his name with precision in a 2025 campaign that was a masterclass in turf dominance. After a mid-summer tear through Saratoga's turf stakes, Deterministic was a deserving Eclipse Award finalist in the Male Turf Horse category. Owned by the partnership of St. Elias Stable, Ken Langone, Steven Dunker, and Vicarage Stable, the son of Liam's Map streaked to a new course record in May, taking the Fort Marcy Stakes (G2) in front-running fashion during the Belmont at the Big A meet. Proving uncatchable, Deterministic ran away from his foes to score by four lengths, stopping the clock in 1:45.70 for 1 ⅛ miles on the turf. Deterministic headed to The Spa after that record-setting performance to anchor a poignant new chapter for the Clement Stable. The colt provided an emotional milestone on June 8, winning the Manhattan Stakes (G1) to give young trainer Miguel Clement his first Grade 1 victory following the passing of his father, Christophe. In his final outing of the year, Deterministic validated his Grade 1 win in the Manhattan and shifted tactics slightly in the Fourstardave Handicap (G1). Instead of his usual front-running style, he sat off the pace in the Fourstardave before rocketing past the pacesetter to win by a widening 1 ¼ lengths over a deep and contentious field. All told, the \$625,000 Keeneland September Sale graduate won three of his four starts in 2025, banking more than \$1.1 million.

Female Turf Horse

SHE FEELS PRETTY

*Karakontie (JPN)-Summer Sweet, by More Than Ready
Breeder: Payson Stud Inc.*

Ever since her breakout 2-year-old season, She Feels Pretty has remained at the top of her class, and 2025 was no exception. What started as precocious brilliance has matured into sustained excellence, as the Lael Stables colorbearer spent the year cementing her status as the standard-bearer in the female turf division. Trained by Cherie DeVaux, the daughter of Karakontie (JPN) began her season with a statement victory in the Modesty Stakes (G3) on Kentucky Oaks day. In the facile score, She Feels Pretty kicked clear late and covered 1 1/8 miles on turf in 1:45.51, establishing a new Churchill Downs course record. Next, She Feels Pretty proved her class in the New York Stakes (G1), turning back a challenge from Beach Bomb (SAF) to conquer her rivals and a yielding turf course. Though denied by a whisker in the Diana Stakes (G1), she regained her winning form in Canada. In a thrilling renewal of the E.P. Taylor Stakes (G1) at Woodbine, she fended off European raider Diamond Rain (GB) to prevail narrowly in a determined performance. A runner-up finish in the \$2 million Breeders' Cup Filly and Mare Turf (G1) served as the final chapter of a successful 2025 campaign. After chasing Gezora (FR) across the Del Mar wire, She Feels Pretty concluded her year with three wins and more than \$1.4 million in seasonal earnings—a resume that earned her the honor of 2025 Eclipse Award Champion Female Turf Horse.



Male Sprinter

NYSOS

*Nyquist-Zetta Z, by Bernardini
Breeder: Susie Atkins*

After a 15-month hiatus that forced Nysos to miss much of his sophomore season, the talented son of Nyquist returned in 2025 to author a brilliant campaign for Baoma Corp and trainer Bob Baffert despite the extended layoff. Following an undefeated season at two in 2023, Nysos launched his 4-year-old year on Kentucky Derby Day in the Churchill Downs Stakes (G2) where he came up just a neck short of Mindframe in a gutsy performance. That narrow defeat served as a springboard; he remained undefeated the rest of the year. He returned to California to dominate his foes by 5 1/2 lengths in the Triple Bend Stakes (G3) at Santa Anita, followed by a 2 3/4-length score in the San Diego Handicap (G2) at Del Mar. Nysos' season reached its zenith back at Del Mar in the \$1 million Breeders' Cup Dirt Mile (G1). In a stretch-long duel, Nysos displayed immense grit to wear down his champion stablemate, Citizen Bull, prevailing by a head to notch the initial Grade 1 victory of his career. He closed out 2025 with a game win over Nevada Beach in the Laffit Pincay Jr. Stakes (G1) at Santa Anita. With four wins from five starts and earnings surpassing \$1.1 million last year, Nysos more than made up for lost time by reclaiming his status as a top-level horse. His consistency and graded stakes success saw him honored as a finalist for two Eclipse Awards—Male Sprinter and Older Dirt Male.

Female Sprinter

SHISOSPICY

Mitole-Mischief Galore, by Into Mischief
Breeders: Bill and Corinne Heiligbrodt

Morplay Racing, LLC and Qatar Racing, LLC's Shisospicy burned brightly in 2025. A daughter of the speedy Mitole, Shisospicy lived up to her genetic billing once trainer Jose D'Angelo made a season-defining decision to move the gray filly to the lawn. After finishing second in the Mockingbird Stakes on the dirt at Oaklawn in January, Shisospicy reeled off dominant victories in the Limestone Stakes on the turf at Keeneland and in the Mamzelle Stakes (G3) over the Churchill Downs turf course. Following an unplaced effort in the Commonwealth Cup (G1) during the prestigious Royal Ascot meet in England, Shisospicy returned home with a vengeance. She rolled to a three-length victory in the \$2 million Music City Stakes (G2) at Kentucky Downs, getting 6 ½ furlongs on the turf in a fast 1:14.54. Shisospicy's crowning achievement came at Del Mar in the \$1 million Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint (G1). Facing a deep field of older males, Shisospicy rocketed to the lead at the start of the five-furlong fixture and never looked back. She won by 2 ½ lengths to become the first 3-year-old filly to ever capture the race. Her impressive effort also produced the largest winning margin in the 18-year history of the race. With five wins from seven starts in 2025 and more than \$2 million in earnings, Shisospicy outpaced all rivals to secure her place in history as the Eclipse Award-winning Champion Female Sprinter.

Steeplechase Horse

SWORE

Broken Vow-Cara Bella, by Ghostzapper
Breeder: Stone Farm LLC

After starting his career on the flat, Swore found a second lease on life when he transitioned to the steeplechase ranks. Trained by Keri Brion and carrying the colors of Stone Farm and Upland Flats Racing, the son of Broken Vow flourished over fences in 2025. Following a promising debut over hurdles at Colonial Downs in July, he quickly found the winner's circle in his second attempt, setting the stage for a daring jump into Grade 1 company. In the \$150,000 Lonesome Glory Handicap (G1) during the Belmont at the Big A Meet in September, Swore displayed the heart of a champion. Ridden by Stephen Mulqueen, Swore established the front early in the 2 ½-mile event. He raced in hand along the inside early, leading by as many as two lengths over a field of seasoned rivals. He was displaced at the front nearing the eighth pole and dug in gamely under a drive in the final 40 yards to prevail narrowly at the wire, securing his first top-level victory in just his third start over fences. Swore concluded his season in November with a dominant performance in the Aflac Supreme Hurdle Stakes at Pine Mountain in Georgia, leading from start to finish to win by 5 ¾ lengths. An Eclipse Award finalist for Outstanding Steeplechase Horse, Swore ultimately came up short, missing out to Cool Jet (IRE), however, his three wins from five hurdle starts attest to the versatility of the Thoroughbred.

Racing Abroad

HIT SHOW

*Candy Ride (ARG)-Actress, by Tapit
Breeder: Gary and Mary West Stables Inc.*

A gem of consistency throughout his accomplished racing career, Hit Show solidified his status as a world-class handicap horse with an emphatic victory in the \$12 million Dubai World Cup (G1) at Meydan in the United Arab Emirates in 2025. Last year's Dubai World Cup attracted a field of elite international competitors. Hit Show was an eight-time winner heading into the race, but he had never won a Grade 1 race. He erased that asterisk in the grandest fashion possible, delivering a breakout performance that proved he belonged in the upper echelon of the global pecking order. Hit Show received a patient ride from jockey Florent Geroux in the approximately 1 ¼-mile event. The gray horse settled well back in the field before weaving his way through traffic with his patented late surge. In a dramatic final furlong, Hit Show wore down fellow Kentucky-bred Mixto and held off favored Forever Young (JPN) to claim one of the world's richest prizes for owner Wathnan Racing and trainer Brad Cox. Before his historic triumph in Dubai, Hit Show captured the Louisiana Stakes (G3) at Fair Grounds, winning by 1 ½ lengths in his seasonal bow. He later bookended his season with a repeat victory in the Fayette Stakes (G2) at Keeneland, proving his class remained sharp back on American soil. Hit Show boasts more than \$9 million in career earnings and now owns a signature win on the global stage.



Hardboot Breeders' Award

JUDY HICKS

The Hardboot Breeders' Award honors breeders who are well-established but not typically acknowledged through other awards, paying tribute to distinctive but overlooked or unsung breeders who form the backbone of the industry. This year's Hardboot Breeders' Award recipient is Judy Hicks of Brookstown Farm.

Hicks is best known for breeding and co-owning the 2024 Horse of the Year Thorpedo Anna. By Fast Anna and out of the Uncle Mo mare Sataves, Thorpedo Anna enjoyed a remarkable run as a 3-year-old. Her campaign included victories in the Kentucky Oaks (G1), Acorn Stakes (G1), Coaching Club American Oaks (G1), and the Cotillion Stakes (G1). She punctuated her historic season with a decisive win in the Breeders' Cup Distaff (G1). As a result, Thorpedo Anna was crowned Eclipse Award Champion 3-Year-Old Filly and Horse of the Year in 2024, becoming only the second 3-year-old filly and just the seventh female ever to receive racing's highest honor. Thorpedo Anna's success shined a spotlight on her dam, Sataves. Gifted to Hicks by her breeder Sanford Robertson, Sataves was named the 2024 Broodmare of the Year by the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association (TOBA). Other notable horses associated with Hicks are homebred graded stakes winner My Majestic Rose and graded stakes-placed McAfee, a half-brother to Thorpedo Anna whom she bred and co-owns.

William T. Young Humanitarian Award

B. WAYNE HUGHES

Established in 2003 by the KTA/KTOB the William T. Young Humanitarian Award honors those whose impact stretches beyond the winner's circle. While it replaced the Coman Humanitarian Award (the inaugural award fittingly was presented to the Young family), its mission remains unique: it does not measure success by bloodlines or wins. Instead, it celebrates an individual or organization within the Thoroughbred community that has shown extraordinary devotion to the human endeavor, selflessly serving the people of our industry, our city, and the Commonwealth.

Though the Thoroughbred industry lost a titan in 2021 at the age of 87, B. Wayne Hughes combined business brilliance with a humanitarian spirit. A graduate of the University of Southern California in 1957, Hughes began his career in real estate in Los Angeles in the early 1970s and established Public Storage in 1972. Among his many philanthropic endeavors, Hughes created and funded the Parker Hughes Cancer Center in Minnesota, which undertakes the research to develop drugs and treatment for children's leukemia and cancer. After a \$5 million donation to his alma mater, the Galen Center's basketball court was named after his high school classmate and longtime friend Jim Sterkel. Through 2019, Hughes' donations exceeded \$100 million (much of it anonymously) to USC, making him the most generous donor in the history of the university. In 2014, Hughes was awarded an honorary Doctor of Business Administration from USC. By restoring historic Spendthrift Farm to its status as a leading commercial operation, Hughes proved his dedication to the horse. Through his service and philanthropy, he demonstrated his dedication to people. In celebration of a lifetime defined by kindness, Hughes is posthumously recognized as this year's distinguished William T. Young Humanitarian Award recipient.

Charles W. Engelhard Award

AMERICA'S DAY AT THE RACES

First presented in 1970, the Charles W. Engelhard Award honors its namesake, who became renowned in 1962 as a buyer and owner of championship Thoroughbreds. The award recognizes a media-related entity or person for outstanding coverage of the Thoroughbred industry and the KTA/KTOB Board of Directors votes on the recipient.

This year's winner is America's Day at the Races, a national horseracing television show produced by the New York Racing Association (NYRA) in partnership with FOX Sports. Broadcasting across FS1, FS2, and FOX, and streamed on YouTube and NYRA.com, the show provides live coverage, analysis, and handicapping of major stakes races from top tracks across the country. The popular program serves both casual fans and industry stakeholders, offering in-depth insights and coverage of major events. America's Day at the Races is hosted by Greg Wolf and Laffit Pincay with a broadcast team of handicappers and analysts that includes Andy Serling, Maggie Wolfendale, Sara Elbadwi, Richard Migliore, Acacia Clement, and Jonathon Kinchen.

2025 Kentucky Thoroughbred Development Fund Leaders

*P.A.B. Widener Award/KTDF Owner of the Year/
KTDF Breeder of the Year*

GODOLPHIN

The global powerhouse of Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid al-Maktoum's Godolphin operation continues to rewrite the record books. At the Eclipse Awards in January, Godolphin achieved a feat unparalleled in the modern era, celebrating its fifth consecutive year sweeping the titles for both Outstanding Owner and Outstanding Breeder. In a weekend etched in racing lore, Godolphin achieved the ultimate double last year. The long-awaited dream of a Kentucky Derby (G1) trophy became reality as Sovereignty surged to a historic victory in the Run for the Roses. His triumph served as the perfect encore to a celebration that began just 24 hours earlier when another Godolphin homebred, Good Cheer, won the Kentucky Oaks (G1), completing a rare sweep of America's most prestigious Classic races. The extraordinary double places Godolphin in the rarest of company. By capturing both the Oaks and the Derby, Godolphin became the first sole owner-breeder to sweep both races in the same year since Calumet Farm in 1952. Godolphin's celebrations spanned the Atlantic that unforgettable weekend as Kentucky-bred Ruling Court added to the haul by winning the Group 1 English 2000 Guineas. By year's end, Godolphin led the nation in every meaningful category, topping the owner and breeder lists by total earnings, graded stakes wins, and Grade 1 victories. Godolphin also topped the KTDF leaderboard (at Kentucky tracks only) with earnings of \$2,526,572 as an owner and \$2,799,187 as a breeder.

Sire of the Year
NOT THIS TIME

In 2025, Taylor Made Stallions' Not This Time solidified his place as a force in the stallion ranks. His runners didn't just win; they won at the highest level. Topping the North American charts with an incredible 31 stakes winners, Not This Time proved himself a prolific sire of elite talent. His dominance was especially felt at home, where his progeny helped him outpace the competition to lead all Kentucky stallions with \$3,580,298 in KTDF earnings. On the national stage, Not This Time finished 2025 as the No. 2 General Sire with \$24,360,423 in progeny earnings. His versatility was on display all season with four Grade 1 winners led by Goal Oriented, Rhetorical, and his leading earner Troubleshooting, who banked \$1,706,532. Not This Time also reigned as the 2025 Champion Sire of 2-Year-Olds, a group headlined by Cy Fair, winner of the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf Sprint (G1) and an Eclipse Award finalist. All told, his 2-year-olds accumulated a whopping \$5.5 million in earnings on the year.



Earner of the Year
TROUBLESHOOTING

Troubleshooting, a homebred for Donamire Farm trained by Gregory Foley, was the standout Kentucky-bred of 2025. He topped the KTDF earnings list with \$730,237, fueled by a win in the \$2 million Franklin-Simpson Stakes (G1) at Kentucky Downs in September. In that contentious 6 ½-furlong turf sprint, Troubleshooting unleashed a massive late charge to score by a half-length at the finish. He stopped the clock in a fast 1:14.33, just ticks off the course record of 1:14.19 set by Ag Bullet in 2024. With an additional graded stakes victory in the Bryan Station Stakes (G3) at Keeneland in October, the son of Not This Time ended the year with four victories and earnings of \$1,706,532.

Trainer of the Year
BRAD COX

A two-time Eclipse Award winner (2020-21) as Outstanding Trainer, Louisville, Ky., native Brad Cox captured his third earnings title in 2025. He was the only trainer in the nation to surpass \$30 million in earnings last year. All told, Cox racked up 277 wins from 394 starters making 1,068 starts. Additionally, Cox led all trainers with \$4,980,515 in KTDF earnings (available only at Kentucky tracks). North American Grade 1 winners for Cox last year included Tappan Street, winner of the Florida Derby (G1); Good Cheer, victorious in the Kentucky Oaks (G1); Patch Adams, winner of the H. Allen Jerkens Memorial Stakes (G1); and Fionn, winner of the Belmont Oaks Invitational Stakes (G1). He also sent out Kentucky-bred Hit Show to win the 2025 Dubai World Cup (G1).



Committed to long-term solutions that will enable us to protect and promote the Thoroughbred industry

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