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Announces Winners at 2007 Awards Banquet**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**For More Information and Photos**

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**Certified Horsemanship Association Announces Winners at  
2007 Awards Banquet**

The Certified Horsemanship Association honored top members and organizations at the annual awards banquet held at the international conference in Orlando, Florida at the CHA accredited facility – the Grand Cypress Equestrian Center in September.

**The Partnership in Safety Award went to the American Quarter Horse Association** . This award is given to an outstanding organization that has demonstrated excellent commitment to safety in equestrian endeavors. AQHA has many programs including Junior Master Horsemen, Professional Horsemen and Regional Experiences that denote safety and education to the horse public at large. “It is truly an honor for AQHA to win the Partnership in Safety Award from CHA,” says Ward Stutz the Director of Education, Member Programs and Youth Activities for AQHA. “This award speaks well for the American Quarter Horse as a kind, gentle and safe mount that is well suited to help students get the most out of their lesson experience.”

### **The Volunteer of the Year is Lynn O'Brien from Franklinville, New York.**

Lynn has been involved with CHA for over 10 years. She has been on the CHA Board of Directors as a member and Secretary. Lynn was instrumental in the move of the CHA office from Texas to the Kentucky Horse Park. She drove from New York on numerous occasions to help physically set up the new office at the Horse Park. Lynn is a CHA Clinic Instructor and is always donating her time to do clinics. She is also readily available by email and phone to do extra work as needed for CHA.

### **Clinic Instructor of the Year is Jo-Anne Young from Houghton, New York.**

Clinic instructors are the CHA Master Level Instructors that are clinic staff and certify instructors for CHA throughout North America. At the end of each clinic, participants write evaluations of the clinic staff. It is from these evaluations that the winner is chosen. "It was a surprise, an honor, and a privilege to receive the Clinic Instructor of the Year award," says Jo-Anne. "How fun to be involved in helping people learn to enjoy horses safely while building their skills as riders and instructors. Thank you to CHA and to the board and the members for this honor. It is my intention to continue to represent CHA as a worthy member supporting its wonderful goals and mission as I have been doing for the last 17 years."

### **CHA Instructor of the Year is Jennifer Willey from White Bear Lake, Minnesota.**

This award is given to an outstanding CHA certified instructor who demonstrates safe, effective and fun lessons. Students from around the continent send in nominations about their instructor and why he/she should be given this honor. "It is amazing to be recognized for something I work so hard at and love to do," says Jennifer. "I teach because I love working with people just as much as I love working with horses. It is a great honor, thank you."

The purpose of CHA is to promote excellence in safety and education for the entire horse industry. CHA certifies instructors and trail guides, accredits equestrian facilities, publishes manuals and provides support and educational resources. For more information on the largest riding instructor certification association on the continent, please visit [www.cha-ahse.org](http://www.cha-ahse.org) or call toll free 800-399-0138. The 2008 CHA Conference is set for October 30 – November 2 at the Kentucky Horse Park.

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