FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact: Natalie Rietkerk, CARMA Project Manager (626) 574-6654



FINAL PREP FOR THOROUGHBRED CLASSIC SHOW UNDERWAY, CLASS ENTRIES FILLING FAST

Arcadia, CA, March 7, 2016 – Final preparations are underway for the 10th installment of the popular Thoroughbred Classic Horse Show (TCHS), set for March 25 and 26 at Galway Downs near Temecula, CA. Sponsored by the Siegel CARMA (California Retirement Management Account) Foundation, the two-day event is open to all registered Thoroughbreds and offers classes in just about every equine discipline, from hunters and jumpers, to dressage, western and gymkhana.

Class lists and fees are available at <u>ThoroughbredClassic.org</u>, and can be viewed online or downloaded. Additionally, quick entry links can be found at <u>Horseshowtime.com</u>. Classes are filling up fast, so prospective participants are encouraged to enter as soon as possible.

This year's judging panel will include several top names in the equestrian community, including world-renowned San Diego-based hunter/jumper trainer and clinician James Waldman, who will oversee the hunter ring.

"Galway is a unique facility that allows us to offer something for everyone," CARMA Executive Director Lucinda Mandella said. "We can utilize the grass ring for the jumpers and excellent sand rings for hunters, dressage and western disciplines. Mostly notably, our OTTBs and their riders have the opportunity to compete on a CCI3*cross-country course.

Headlining the weekend are the enormously popular \$1,500 Hunter Derby, \$1,500 Jumper Stakes, \$1,500 Event Challenge and \$1,000 Dressage Challenge, which everyone looks forward to either riding in or watching.

Additionally, this year a special class has been created which is open to all Thoroughbreds available for sale or adoption. The non-judged and free-formatted presentation is designed to showcase the horse to potential new owners. Options for disciplines include jumping, dressage, pole bending, barrels and trail obstacles. Pertinent information about each horse will be read by the ring announcers and the \$25 class fee will be waived for all CARMA Aftercare Partners.

The class, Mandella explains, is something she hopes will lead to more OTTB adoptions.

"I can't think of a better way to showcase the potential of an OTTB," Mandella said. "It really is another way for these horses to prove what they're capable of, and I'm excited to see the future stars of our Thoroughbred Classics in this class and even more excited to see these horses find their forever homes."

Since its inception in 2013, thousands of OTTBs have participated in the many Thoroughbred Classic shows hosted all over Southern California, from rescues and lower end claimers to grade 1-winning millionaires, a true testament to the versatility of a Thoroughbred and to the loving people who guide them in their second careers.

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(California Retirement Management Account (CARMA) is a 501c3 non-profit organization founded in 2007 to raise money for retired racehorses. It is responsible for hosting fundraising events, educating owners and trainers on equine retirement, raising awareness and working to unify the racing industry in support of its equine athletes. Ways in which this is accomplished include facilitating the transition of racehorses off the track through its Placement Program and showcasing the breed's versatility as equestrian mounts at its Thoroughbred Classic Horse Show.)