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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Agriculture and New York State Horse Breeding Development Fund
Awards Roughly \$470,000 to 2025 Grant Applicants**

***Photos available at the bottom of release.**

SCHENECTADY, N.Y. – The Agriculture and New York State Horse Breeding Development Fund has awarded approximately \$470,000 in grant funding to six organizations across the horse breeding and harness racing industry. The Fund’s Board of Trustees approved these grants based on the strength of proposals and alignment with the statutorily mandated mission of the Fund: to promote and support standardbred breeding, racing, education, and research in New York State.

“We are honored to present this funding to organizations that demonstrate exceptional commitment to the future of standardbred horse breeding, racing, and education,” said Ralph Scunziano, Executive Director of the NYS Horse Breeding Development Fund. “These programs strengthen the industry today while inspiring the next generation of participants.”

The Fund awarded the following grants:

- **Harness Racing Museum and Hall of Fame** – awarded **\$54,716** for their Education Department.
- **Goshen Historic Track** – awarded **\$91,194** for their Grandstand and Bandstand Renovations.
- **New York State 4-H Program** – awarded **\$200,000** to support youth development initiatives across multiple 4-H program areas.
- **Harness Horse Youth Foundation** – awarded **\$6,840** to create video content accompanying its harness racing–focused youth education workbooks.
- **Morrisville College Foundation** – awarded **\$109,543** to continue to expand their Standardbred Breeding Program.
- **Therapeutic Horses of Saratoga** – awarded **\$10,943** to support their “Harnessing Hope” Program.

Funding for these grants is derived from statutory payments made by racetracks, off-track betting corporations, video lottery terminal facilities, and casinos. Following a comprehensive review of submissions, the Fund’s Board of Trustees voted unanimously to award grants to these six organizations, recognizing their vital contributions to the standardbred and harness racing industry in New York State.

About the Agriculture and New York State Horse Breeding Development Fund:

The Agriculture & NYS Horse Breeding Development Fund is a public benefit corporation established in 1965 by the Laverne Law (Laws of New York, Chapter 567 of the Laws of 1965). The mission of the fund is to promote agriculture through the breeding of Standardbred horses and the conduct of equine research within the state. To carry out its legislative mission, the Fund administers the New York Sire Stakes races, Excelsior, and County Fair Races.

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