



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lake Austin Room – Wyndham Garden Austin
3401 S IH-35 – Austin TX 78741
Thursday – November 17, 2016

Call to Order

President Bruce Gros called the meeting to order at 10:00 am Central Time.

Welcome and Introductions

President Gros welcomed everyone to the meeting, and introductions followed.

Roll Call

Secretary Ron Trusley called roll; see attached sign-in sheet.

Adoption of Rules of Debate

Bruce Roby moved to use the same rules of debate that are used in the annual convention. Roger Japp seconded the motion. Motion carried by voice vote.

Approval of Minutes

Bruce Roby moved to approve the minutes of the July 08, 2016 board of directors meeting. Roger Japp seconded the motion. Motion carried by voice vote.

Officers and Administrative Reports

President – Bruce Gros

President Gros reported:

- Appointed Lilia Pflieger as Women of Gay Rodeo Chairperson.
- When fines are assessed, they need to be very clear.
- Insurance for our rodeos is a necessity. Insurance must be in place in a timely manner.
- The Executive Board suspended Standing Rule XX, Section 7(F).
- Thanks to everyone for your continued work.

Vice President – Jason Bernard

Jason reported that he plans to be more active with the WGRF Committee to ensure we schedule properly to ensure that all who are involved with finals weekend get the proper time scheduled. He also recommended that each of the three charities chosen by the 2016 Royalty Team receive \$2,500.00. Recommendation was approved.

Secretary – Ron Trusley

Deferred to convention.

Treasurer – David Hill

David reported the following accounts receivable that need to be taken care of in order for the association to be seated in convention:

MIGRA	\$ 879.58
NMGRA	\$ 1,000.00
OGRA	\$ 85.34
SGRA	\$ 279.58
SCCGRA	\$ 1,000.00

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BigHorn Rodeo (NGRA)

Sep 22-24, 2017

John King moved to approve. David Hill seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2017 IGRA Royalty Charities Recommendations

The committee recommends the following charities:

Joshua Tree Feeding Program - Phoenix, AZ

Stupidcancer - New York, NY

Equest - Wylie & Dallas, TX

No objection was expressed, but approval should be an action item for the first board meeting in 2017.

2017 Preliminary Budget

David presented a Year-to-Date Actual Budget (Jan-Oct 2016) Report and a preliminary 2017 budget. Both were reviewed and comments accepted.

2017 WGRF Chair

President Gros stated this will go to the Executive Board for action.

2017 WGRF Hotel Contract

The Finals Committee recommends approval of the contract with Sheraton Albuquerque Airport Hotel. The contract was reviewed and committee recommendation was approved.

2017 WGRF Arena Contract

The Finals Committee recommended approval of the proposed arena contract. The contract was reviewed, questions asked, and various sections clarified. The committee recommendation was approved.

Guy Puglisi moved to reconsider the motion to approve the arena contract. Roger Japp seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Questions asked and areas of concern in regards to arena contract:

Livestock could be brought in until Friday and have to be out by midnight Sunday.

Nothing mentioned as to when horses can be brought in.

Question about required security and police force.

Need clarification if we would have to buy water from the arena, or if we could bring in water for contestants.

Lisa Smith said she is attempting to reach the Event Coordinator at this time to get answers. Later, Lisa reported:

We can bring in water for contestants; we just cannot sell water.

Committee recommendation to approve the arena contract was accepted by the board.

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Review of IGRA Forms

IGRA Rodeo Partner Participating Rodeo Association Agreement:

Clarification that more than one rodeo can participate, and association chapters can also participate.

Change required payment submittal date from at least 90 days prior to the participating rodeo to 30 days.

IGRA Rodeo School Support Request:

Add that support is guaranteed for at least one rodeo in each division.

IGRA Rough Stock Riding Development Progressive Prize Pool Agreement:

Change required payment submittal date from at least 90 days prior to the participating rodeo to 30 days.

IGRA World Gay Rodeo Finals® Added Prize:

Change requirement payment submittal date from at least 90 days prior to the participating rodeo to 30 days.

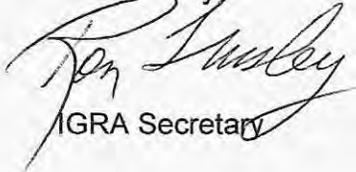
Special Marketing Presentation

Bradley Houseton sent out a survey form, but there was minimal response. She reviewed the form and results, and stated she would send it out again.

Adjourn

President Gros adjourned the July 08, 2016 Board of Directors Meeting at 1:12 pm Central Time.

Ron Trusley



IGRA Secretary



COMMITTEE REPORTING FORM

Committee Name: Vice President Report

Committee Chair(s): _____

Committee Members: _____

Date & Time of Last Meeting: _____

Brief Overview of Last Meeting: _____

Items of Critical Importance (to be discussed at the next BOD meeting):

I would like to thank the Executive Board for their support of the 2016 IGRA Royalty Team.

It was an Amazing yr and this next year seems to be just as great. I do plan to be more active with the WGRF Committee to ensure that we schedule properly to ensure that ALL that are involved with Finals weekend gets the proper time schedule for all involved in the weekend

Items Requiring Action (to be voted on at the next BOD meeting):

No report at this time

Respectfully submitted, Jason Bernard



Joshua Tree

feeding program, inc.

feeding the hiv+ community in metro phoenix since 1988

2016

To the IGRA Royalty Team

My name is Joseph A. Gaxiola and I am the chairman of Joshua Tree Feeding Program, Inc. Joshua Tree Feeding Program is a food pantry for the HIV/AIDS Community here in Phoenix, Arizona. This past October we just celebrated our 28th year of existence. Joshua Tree Feeding Program is a 100% volunteer non-profit. We have no paid staff.

Joshua Tree Feeding Program services between 100 – 125 clients every Wednesday from 10 am – 12 pm. The food room is set up as a store so our clients can pick and choose which items they need or like. So no food is wasted and this set up empowers our clients.

Joshua Tree Feeding Program is part of the St. Mary's Food Bank Alliance and Feeding America Alliance.

Sincerely,

Joseph A Gaxiola
Chairman
Joshua Tree Feeding Program, Inc.

530 East McDowell Road suite 107-247 Phoenix, AZ 85004-1549
phone: 602-264-0223 fax: 602-277-4767 x103
e-mail: joseph@itfpadmin.org website: www.itfp.org



Joshua Tree

feeding program, inc.

**ALL SERVICES ARE
PROVIDED AT NO COST
TO OUR MEMBERS
LIVING WITHIN
MARICOPA COUNTY.**

**NO FEDERAL OF STATE
FUNDING IS RECEIVED**

This institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider



Joshua Tree

feeding program, inc.

Mission Statement:

"With arms outstretched, the goal of Joshua Tree Feeding Program is to provide nourishment to low income HIV/AIDS residents of Maricopa County."

We provide balanced meals from our pantry as well as medical and community resources to encourage self-sustainability of our clients in a social, supportive and welcoming environment where privacy, cultural, spiritual and religious values are respected."



THE SPIRIT OF

Joshua Tree

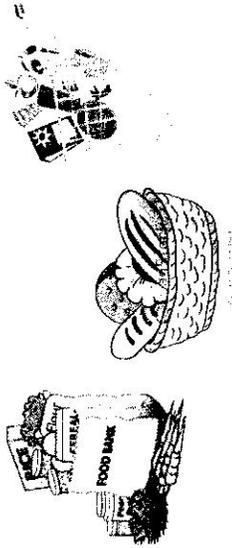
Joshua Tree Feeding Program was started in 1988 to provide a safe environment where people living with HIV/AIDS could share their experiences, find mutual support and enjoy a nourishing selection of food and grocery items to take home.

From this humble concept, Joshua Tree has grown into a well-established and committed HIV/AIDS service organization that provides over 4,500 food boxes annually to its members!

Joshua Tree is a non-profit, tax-exempt, and **ALL VOLUNTEER** organization. We depend on the generosity of exceptional people and other community organizations that donate their time, food and money to allow our program to continue to assist the ever-growing HIV/AIDS community.



Feeding the HIV/AIDS Community in Metro Phoenix since 1988



Joshua Tree is:

- A safe, comfortable and welcoming place for individuals living with HIV/AIDS
- A social, supportive and safe environment for making new friends.
- A place where there are educational, encouraging and empathetic conversations.
- A great place where there is a wide assortment of nutritional food for members to select from and take home.
- A valuable, reliable and established community resource for people with HIV/AIDS

Anyone wishing to:

- Make a donation of food or money
- Volunteer their valuable time
- Find out more about Joshua Tree Feeding Program, Inc.
- Or Drop by and visit our facility

Contact us by...

Email: admin@jtftpadmin.org

Website: www.jtftp.org

Regular mail:
530 E. McDowell Rd #107-247
Phoenix AZ 85004

Or drop in and visit us during normal operation hours at:
214 E Willetta St
Phoenix, AZ 85004

Telephone: 602.264.0223

Donate At:

<https://squareup.com/store/joshua-tree-feeding-program/item/donation>



We distribute food every
Wednesday from 10am to
Noon..

For more information on
how to become a client,
visit our website at
www.jtftp.org

Joshua Tree Feeding Program
Fiscal Year 2015 - Operating Budget

Total
2015

1.

Income

Community Donations

AGRA RRRR Bar Tips	1,938.20
AGRA RRRR Booth Donations	-
AGRA Rodeo Donation	670.00
Aunt Rita's Foundation	6,000.00
Black and Blue Ball	1,190.00
DodgeHunger	3,117.31
GALA Anniversary	4,322.36
GLAD Dart League	4,550.00
Phoenix Pride Beverage Cart & tips	4,765.00
Men of Charlies	7,223.00
Monthly Contributors	-
Other Fundraisers -	11,600.59
Other Misc Donations	1,375.64
Rainbows Fest. Booth Donations	-
Total Community Donations	46,752.10

Corporate Donations

7,000.00

Individual Donations

3,627.47

Other Income

6.82

Interest

7.04

Total Income

57,386.39

2.

Expenses

Program	
Auto Insurance	1,321.50
Auto Maintenance	361.27
Auto Reg/Tags/Emmissions	147.62
Auto Repairs	195.94
Electric/Utilities (80%)	5,006.73
Equipment Repair	-
Facility Rent (80%)	15,040.00
Food	3,018.24
St Mary's Weekly Purchases	2,668.24
PowWow Fee	350.00
SWC	8,942.04
Gasoline	1,316.66
Van-two tanks/mo	
Other-volunteer	
Gov't Licenses and Fees	-
Hygiene - In Kind	-
Other Supplies	1,614.16
Monthly Meals/Holiday/Brunches	3,581.96
Pest Control	330.00
Pet Food - In Kind	-
Security	347.56
Total Program Expenses	32,281.64

Administration:

Bank Fees/Interest	382.00
Computer Supplies/Software	285.77
D.O. Insurance	540.00
Electric/Utilities (20%)	1,300.11
Facility Rent (20%)	3,817.35
Ink and Toner/Paper Supplies	507.20
Internet Access	1,781.54
CenturyLink	
Network Solutions	
Liability Insurance	1,510.99
Mail Box UPS	125.62
Membership Fees	10.00
Office Supplies	491.08
Other	917.48
Postage	136.64
Telephone Ring Central)	749.12
Printing	-
Professional Fees	800.00
Other	311.94
Total Administration Expenses	13,666.84

Fundraising/Promotion:

Direct Mail	-
DodgeHunger Fundraiser	669.64
Pride Festival	30.09

3.

Program Brochures/T Shirts/Polo Shirts	1,702.21
Rainbows Festival Booth	485.00
Aunt Rita's Red Brunch/Viva Vegas/AIDS Walk	1,450.00
Anniversary GALA	6,792.57
Other	1,151.31
Total Fundraising/Promotion Exps.	12,280.82
TOTAL EXPENSES	58,229.29
Net Loss (Target Additional Fundraising Goal)	(842.90)

stupidcancer[®]

stupidcancer[®].org

40 worth street, suite 808 | new york, ny 10013 | p: 212-619-1040 | f: 877-794-6902

Proposal to the International Gay Rodeo Association Board of Directors

501c3 Charitable Organization

Submitted by the 2017 IGRA Royalty Team

about us

Founded in 2007 by Matthew Zachary, a young adult brain cancer survivor, Stupid Cancer has become the largest US-based charity that comprehensively addresses young adult cancer through advocacy, research, support, outreach, awareness, mobile health and social media. The organization has proudly emerged as the dominant support community and social influencer for this underserved population and now serves as a bullhorn for the young adult cancer movement.

Stupid Cancer proudly supports a global network of patients, survivors, caregivers, providers and advocates to ensure that no one affected by young adult cancer go unaware of the age-appropriate resources they are entitled to so they can get busy living. Our innovative and multi-award-winning programs—such as [CancerCon](#), [Instapeer](#), [The OMG! Cancer Summit for Young Adults](#), [The Stupid Cancer Road Trip](#), [The Stupid Cancer Store](#) and many others—have brought the cause of 'cancer under 40' to the national spotlight and rallied a brand new generation of activists to give a much needed voice to our forgotten population.

mission / vision / charter

Our mission is to empower those affected by young adult cancer by:

- building community
- improving quality of life
- providing meaningful survivorship

Our vision is no survivor alone.

Our charter is to ensure that no one affected by young adult cancer go unaware of the age-appropriate support resources they are entitled to so they can get busy living.

history

Stupid Cancer was borne out of an inequity. In 1995, at the age of 21, concert pianist, composer and college Senior Matthew Zachary was diagnosed with pediatric brain cancer and told he'd likely not survive six months let alone never perform again. He and his family were thrust into a cancer landscape much different than today.

The Internet was in its infancy, cancer resources for young adults were few and far between and 'surviving' meant living beyond five years. Although Matthew and his family were offered comfort through a small, fragmented community, they were not able to benefit from many of today's survivorship resources. Like millions of other families, they had to go it on their own and hope for the best.

Since 1996, there has been an upsurge of young adult advocacy organizations whose programs, tools and services are specifically directed at the unique needs of those aged 15-39. Many of these groups were founded by young survivors like Matthew. Unfortunately, 10 years later in 2006, despite living in an age of unbridled interconnectivity and global communications, most young adults affected by cancer (and their caregivers) are simply not aware of—and therefore do not even have the option to access—the myriad of resources at their disposal—and this is a shame.

In 2004, Matthew founded Steps For Living (which became I'm Too Young For This! Cancer Foundation in 2007 and then Stupid Cancer in 2012), a progressive social enterprise that linked his worlds of music, cancer advocacy, consumer health marketing and technology to ensure that people like he, his wife, brother and parents would have the opportunity to benefit from community and support resources they only wished they had in 1995.

Today, Stupid Cancer is the largest nonprofit of its kind worldwide. Hailed as "the dominant youth cancer nonprofit" by MTV, Stupid Cancer's global following would not be possible without its millions of subscribers, friends, fans, readers, listeners and members. A hip and edgy lifestyle brand for the youth culture, the foundation has been recognized as a innovator at the nexus of social media, youth culture and digital health, garnering international accreditation throughout the cancer continuum. In addition to being named

a TIME Magazine Best 50 Website, the organization was named a Top 10 Healthcare Blog for 2010 by FOX News and accredited by the Washington Post as "an unparalleled resource for cancer patients in their teens, 20s and 30s."

Over the past eight years of operation, Stupid Cancer has forged alliances with national public health institutions and young adult advocacy organizations, launched the Web's premiere online young adult resource community, produced more than a dozen annual young adult cancer conferences, innovated social media and mobile health platforms for improved patient outcomes, connected thousands of cancer centers to its resources and socially mobilized millions to a progressive new movement that is demanding change from an establishment that they have been ignored by for far too long.

i'm too young for this!

Stupid Cancer, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, is the largest charity that comprehensively addresses young adult cancer through advocacy, research, support, outreach, awareness, mobile health and social media. Our innovative, award-winning and evidence-based programs and services serve as a global bullhorn to propel the young adult cancer movement forward.

Young adult cancer (age 15-39) is largely unknown in the war on cancer with 72,000 new diagnoses each year. That's one every eight minutes. **This is not OK!** This neglected group—now millions strong—has limited resources, inadequate support, and, more importantly, a lack of awareness and understanding from the community around them.

Manifesto web link: <http://www.stupidcancer.org/about/manifesto.shtml#stats>

*"Within the young adult cancer community, we hold no one's disease above anyone else's. It is not a contest about body parts because the playing field is leveled when stupid cancer comes along. There are no "good" cancers. Benign tumors can be just as devastating as malignant ones. Issues of isolation, fertility, relationships, fear, parenting, caregiving, careers and insurance are equally shared. We believe that when the doctor says, "You're cured. Go home.", that's not the end of the story. We have the right to survive with dignity and quality and we deserve to be treated age-appropriately. Cancer survivorship is an art; and the art of your survivorship is how you choose to get busy living. This is who we are. We are one community. We are hundreds of thousands strong. We are changing the rules. **WE ARE STUPID CANCER!***

stats & facts

Young adults can and do get cancer. Most people, when they think of cancer, don't even consider for a moment that it can happen to an 18 year old. Or a 25 year old. Or a 37 year old. But it does. 72,000 times per year. Help us change this stigma and spread the word that our generation deserves better. The public needs to be aware that we exist... and that we matter, too.

Each year:

- *72,000 adolescents and young adults aged 15-39 are diagnosed with cancer. ⁹*
- *That's one every eight minutes.*
- *10,000 young adults die annually due to cancer. ⁹*
- *That's one every hour.*

Over the past 30 years:

- *Cancer incidence in young adults has increased more than any other age group. ¹*
- *Survival rates have not improved at the same rate as other age groups. ¹*
- *Cancer has become the number one disease killer in young adults. ¹*
- *Young adults are now the most underserved patient population by age. ¹*
- *Delayed cancer diagnosis is now disproportionately higher in young adults. ¹*

Fun with numbers:

- *There are ~1M young adult cancer survivors in the United States. ¹*
- *Of the 14M cancer survivors in the United States, one in 5 is under 40. ¹*
- *One in 100 US college students is a cancer survivor. ¹*
- *There are over 420,000 long term childhood cancer survivors in the US under 40. ¹*

Interesting Stuff:

- *Young adults get entirely different cancers than other age groups.*
- *The reasons why young adults get cancer are entirely different than that of other age groups.*
- *Clinical trial participation in young adults is lower than other age groups.*

- *There is currently no "young adult cancer clinical research."*
- *Funding traditional cancer research will most likely not help a young adult with cancer.*

Young Adults Are Different:

- *Young adults have unique needs that other age groups do not such as fertility, relationships, dating, intimacy, sexuality, singlehood, parenting, insurance, financial assistance, career planning, education and age-appropriate peers support.*
- *Social isolation is the number one issue faced by young adults with cancer.*
- *Quality of life for these patients is as important as quality of care.*
- *The entire medical community and cancer continuum at large is grossly uneducated as to how to effectively communicate with, diagnose, treat, support and follow-up with young adults.*

Final Thought

• *Many big box cancer organizations have not yet caught on to the young adult bandwagon and do not provide young adult direct patient services, provide funding to young adult research (or clinical trials) or support the critical programs of young adult advocacy organizations. If these facts make you want to puke and you truly want to start helping this new generation of cancer survivors, give to the groups without middlemen, where you know where your dollar goes and there is measured impact. Don't get lost in a sea of people racing for cures that might help someone someday. Join us, get help and help someone else today. That's right. Today. It's time to get busy living.*

⁰ source: [NCI SEER Data, 2005](#)

¹ source: [NCI 'Closing The Gap', 2006](#)

² source: [IOM 'Cancer Care For The Whole Patient', 2007](#)

³ source: [US Census, 2007](#)

Create a Fundraiser

Whether you're running in a marathon, giving up your birthday for charity, doing a tribute, volunteering on weekends, or anything else, use CrowdRise to raise money for charity and make a real-life impact.

Fundraiser Title:

Fundraising Goal:

\$

About Your Fundraiser:



support us

At Stupid Cancer, our mission is to build community, improve quality of life and provide meaningful survivorship for anyone affected by young adult cancer. Our charter is to ensure that age-appropriate resources are made available to everyone affected by young adult cancer, enabling them to get past cancer and Get Busy Living.

[DONATE ONLINE](#)

[FUNDRAISE FOR US](#)

transparency

Stupid Cancer works tirelessly to be the best stewards of the revenue it receives from its supporters and corporate partners. We are as mission-driven as they come and strive to wake up every day knowing we're maximizing our impact to empower young adults affected by cancer.

On behalf of those served through our mission, we thank you for your trust, belief and commitment to our growth, impact and success.

Since 2007, we have raised more than \$5M to fight cancer in young adults with 82% of every dollar going directly to supporting our award-winning programs and services.

Download all of our annual tax returns here: <http://www.stupidcancer.org/about/give.shtml#transparency>

MEDIA KIT

stupidcancer[®]

stupidcancer[®].org

40 worth street, suite 808 | new york, ny 10013 | p: 212-619-1040 | f: 877-794-6902

about stupid cancer

Stupid Cancer, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, is the largest charity that comprehensively addresses young adult cancer through advocacy, research, support, outreach, awareness, mobile health and social media. Our innovative, award-winning and evidence-based programs and services serve as a global bullhorn to propel the young adult cancer movement forward.

why young adults?

Young adult cancer (age 15–39) is largely unknown in the war on cancer with 72,000 new diagnoses each year. **That's one every eight minutes.** This is not OK! This neglected group—now millions strong—has limited resources, inadequate support, and, more importantly, a lack of awareness and understanding from the community around them.

mission & purpose

BUILD
community

IMPROVE
quality of life

PROVIDE
meaningful survivorship

ADVOCATE
on behalf of
the voiceless and
underserved

ENERGIZE
a social movement
with unbridled
momentum

SERVE
those affected
with value and
opportunity

ACTIVATE
brand loyalists
to engage with the
greater change

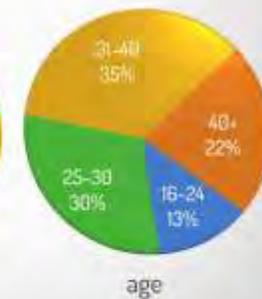
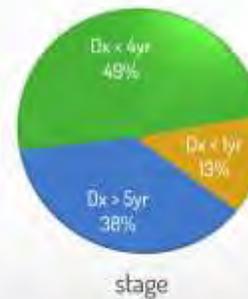
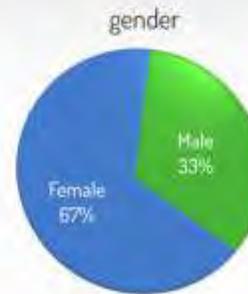
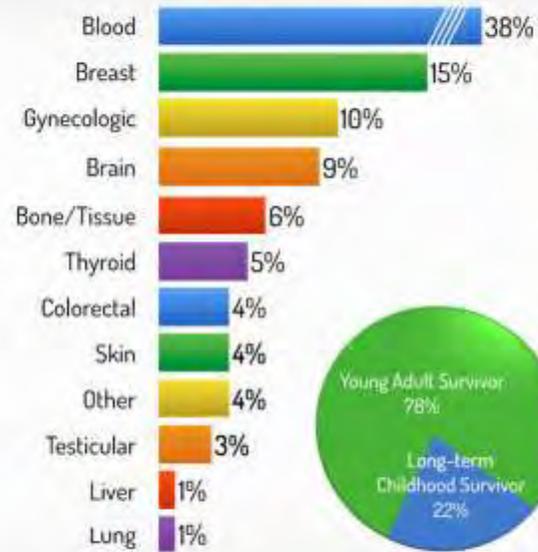
DISRUPT
the very
definition of
nonprofit

EDUCATE
the general public
through action
and awareness

our audience

20M

Today, 20 million Americans are impacted by young adult cancer. Our current audience reflects a diverse and growing population.



our community



Angel Reynoso, 32
Survivor: Brain Cancer

"When I was first introduced to the organization, I knew instantly that I was home for the first time since my diagnosis. My life is forever changed with Stupid Cancer as my home."



Brianna Commerford, 17
Survivor: Hodgkin's Lymphoma

"Surviving childhood cancer is hard enough, but growing into your teenage years without a community like Stupid Cancer is now an unthinkable idea. Every teen needs us."



John Sabia, 35
Caregiver: Brain Cancer

"Life. Living. Community. Hope. Trust. Faith. There really aren't enough words out there that sum up what this incredible community of friends mean to me and to the world."



Jennifer & Chad Rachman, 37
Survivor/Caregiver: Ovarian Cancer

"Cancer made us feel very alone, but through Stupid Cancer, we realized that we became part of something much larger than ourselves. We now know we're all in this together."



Jess Maic, 23
Survivor: Stomach Cancer

"My doctor may have cured me but Stupid Cancer saved my life. I try to live every day to it's fullest in spite of the daily challenges I face living through and beyond by diagnosis."



Philotmina Varghese, 29
Survivor: Hodgkin's Lymphoma

"I spend my days dancing, singing karaoke with my friends, and trying to make the world a better place by working for and volunteering at various nonprofit organizations."

what we do



CancerCon is our annual global congress as well as the premier oncology conference and social networking event for the young adult cancer movement.



The **Stupid Cancer Road Trip** is an annual two-week, cross-country goodwill tour hosting special local events along the way with cancer centers and survivors in major US markets.



The **OMGI Cancer Summits for Young Adults** are large regional conferences and networking events for patients, survivors and caregivers affected by young adult cancer.



Stupid Cancer Hospital Kits supply thousands of hospitals and cancer centers with branded patient support literature for their young adult patient and caregiver population.



Instapeer is an anonymous mobile matching and messaging platform that ends isolation and improves quality of life for young adult cancer patients, survivors and caregivers.



Stupid Cancer For Dummies is an innovative take on cancer support literature. Filled with expert advice, age-appropriate content and links to targeted programs, services and resources.



Stupid Cancer Boot Camps are single-day regional young adult cancer support workshops produced in partnership with local cancer centers to build and empower communities.



Stupid Cancer Meet-ups are our signature community development, outreach, awareness and peer-connection program, complementing existing support group services in local areas.



The **Stupid Cancer Show** is our award-winning talk radio podcast that, since 2007, has given voice to the young adult cancer movement and elevated the cause into the global spotlight.



The **Stupid Cancer Store** is the epicenter of our global eCommerce platform and catalyzes our brand awareness and public image through a compelling consumer retail experience.



Stupid Cancer Town Halls are single-topic evening seminars produced collaboratively with community cancer centers and local retail or commercial partners and collaborators.



The **Stupid Cancer Community Forums** are where thousands convene to connect, share wisdom, exchange ideas and actively benefit from a safe and supportive online experience.

our impact



2007 · 2008 · 2009 · 2010 · 2011 · 2012 · 2013 · 2014 · 2015 · 2016



street cred



"...an unparalleled resource for cancer patients in their teens, 20s and 30s." – *The Washington Post*

"...the dominant youth cancer non-profit in the country." – **MTV NETWORKS**



our partners



[~~man-uh-fes-toh~~] "Within the young adult cancer community, we hold no one's disease above anyone else's. It is not a contest about body parts and the playing field is leveled when stupid cancer comes along. There are no "good" cancers. Benign tumors can be just as devastating as malignant ones. Issues of isolation, fear, relationships, fertility, parenting, caregiving, careers and insurance are equally shared. We believe that when the doctor says, "You're cured. Go home.," that's not the end of the story. We have the right to survive with dignity and quality and we deserve to be treated age-appropriately. Cancer survivorship is an art; and the art of your survivorship is how you choose to get busy living. This is who we are. We are one community. We are hundreds of thousands strong. We are changing the rules. **We are Stupid Cancer!**"





Proposal to the International Gay Rodeo Association Board of Directors

501c3 Charitable Organization

Submitted by the 2017 IGRA Royalty Team

November 17, 2016



About Us

Research shows the therapeutic benefits from riding and interacting with a horse can result in physical, psycho-social and life skills improvements that result in an increased quality of life all through the power of the horse.

As the first therapeutic riding program in Texas, Equest has become one of the largest non-profit therapeutic riding centers in the nation. Equest is considered an industry leader in equine assisted therapy programs and offers a unique solution to help over 1,200 individuals each year overcome physical, social, emotional and psychological challenges. Equest serves children (beginning age 2) and adults with all types of physical, cognitive, social-emotional and learning disabilities, including veterans diagnosed with PTSD. Equest client diagnosis encompass over 100 different unique disabilities and challenges.

Humans. Horses. Hope.

For 35 years, Equest has provided equine activities and therapies to thousands of children and adults with disabilities. In 2012, Equest began serving veterans and their family members through a variety of equine assisted programming including mental health counseling, physical and occupational therapy, horsemanship clinics, and educational workshops. Equest is strategically located to serve North Texas with two locations: Wylie TX (Rockwall County) and the new opened Equest at the Texas Horse Park located in south Dallas. Equest utilizes over 300 community volunteers each week in order to provide a safe and effective program.

Humans.



"In riding a horse, we borrow freedom."

— Helen Thomson, Milagros

Equest helps clients exceed expectations.

Physical

The horse rhythmically and naturally moves the body in a manner similar to the human gait, improving posture, balance and muscle control. Notably, equine-assisted therapy also provides cardiovascular benefits.

Psycho-socially

Equine-assisted therapy increases concentration, improves sequential thought processing, increases riders' abilities to articulate emotions, develop spatial awareness/orientation and expanding their self-esteem, general awareness and self-discipline.

Life Skills

The benefits of riding can influence daily living skills, foster independence and consistently improve peer-to-peer and family relationships, resulting in increased socialization and participation in areas such as at home or at school.

Horses.



There is something about the outside of a horse that is good for the inside of a man”

—Winston Churchill

Extraordinary things happen when Equest riders and their horses connect.

At Equest, some of our most prized assets are our Famous Therapy Horses – they are invaluable, indispensable and cherished! They are our keys to therapy. They are our friends. They are our family. They are our heroes.

Our stories are about people who reach beyond the confines of their special needs through the intervention of these special animals.

Equest treats our horses with the same level of care afforded to our human clients. We have implemented a horse management program that emphasizes an optimum nutrition, exercise and preventative care regimen that maximizes soundness and productivity. Because of the quality of care provided to the Equest Famous Therapy Horses; they often remain on active duty for 5 or more years against the national average of 2 service years for therapy horses.

The Equest Schooling Program contributes to the horses’ well-being by riding and schooling them in a manner that keeps the horses fit, agile, balanced, supple, relaxed and able to perform their important and stressful jobs to the best of their abilities. Research has proven when therapy horses are regularly schooled, they stay

sounder and are more comfortable in therapy settings than horses that are not. Equest relies on our staff and selected experienced, trained lead volunteers to school our horses.

Your generosity will offset the cost of equine care and directly support Equest mission & programs.

Hope.



"We appreciate the power of the horse to change lives"

—Dr. Paul Spiers, Past PATH Intl President

Perhaps one of the most life changing effects of the Equest experience is the self-confidence each rider gains through the process, which becomes a permanent part of his or her world outside of Equest, as well.

Miracles can be found here every day.

They're found in people who stretch beyond the limitations of their special needs thanks to the assistance of equine-assisted therapy.



Our Mission

To enhance the quality of life for children and adults with diverse needs using horses to bring hope and healing through equine assisted activities and therapies.

EQUEST is a 501 (c)(3) public charity, IRS Tax ID 75-1823701. All donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law. Our organization receives no federal or state funding, nor is a United Way Agency. We are completely dependent upon charitable gifts and grants to support our programs.



The Soul

Equest serves individuals of all ages with diverse needs and diagnoses.

Currently, our client base includes individuals with more than 100 collective physical, cognitive and psycho-social diagnoses, including but not limited to: Down Syndrome, intellectual disability, learning and developmental delays, autism, cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, spina bifida, stroke, closed-head injury, post-traumatic stress (PTS), various mental health disorders (e.g.: anxiety; affective; impulse control; etc.); hearing impairment and vision impairment. The relationships that develop between the riders, their riding instructors, their volunteer team and their special therapy horses are the catalysts to transformation in our clients' lives.



The Heart

We are nothing without our volunteers.

Our dedicated community of volunteers generously donate their time and energy to keep our mission moving forward. Each day we are fortunate to have trained volunteers committed to work with our riders and horses. The only requirement to be an Equest Volunteer is a commitment to our mission and values, respect for our clients, horses, and teams, as well as pledge of time. Each year, our volunteers donate 35,000+ hours of direct service hours, worth more than \$789,000 to Equest. We provide extensive and ongoing training, so no previous experience with horses or the special needs community is required. Please visit our [Volunteer page](#) for more information on volunteering with us.



The Distinction

100% of Equest clients grade Equest as above average...

Founded in 1981, Equest Therapeutic Horsemanship was the first therapeutic riding center in Texas. Our program quickly became an industry leader, building a solid base in the North Texas community serving thousands of clients with our unique therapy tools ~ our horses! Equine-assisted therapy is well-known throughout the world, and Equest continues to lead the industry with our staff of [PATH International](#) certified instructors. We also offer a PATH International approved instructor certification program, teaching students from all over the world. Equest-trained instructors now serve as program directors in many other therapeutic riding centers and teach world-wide. The instructor training course enables us to make a difference in the professional expertise of therapeutic riding instructors, creating a positive world-wide impact on the quality of services available to the special needs community.

"I met several Equest staff members a year before at a certification workshop and was so impressed! Their professionalism, enthusiasm, knowledge, and kind natures confirmed in me the need to study with these folks. I made my decision the last day of the regional conference and my life has never been the same. Returning home, I hurried to make all of the needed preparations. So what would life be without a paycheck for six weeks? Livable. How do you place a value on such an experience? You don't... you just do it! Pulling into the driveway that day in August I knew that I was home. Weird but true! Just few months later, I really was home! The wealth of knowledge, Team Work, compassion, humor, dedication and professionalism, shows the world everyday what a special and important place Equest holds for all who come to learn, heal, and improve the quality of life for others."

– Jen Donahue, Therapeutic Riding Instructor, Equest

The Present & the Future

Wylie – Our Home Base

When Equest began more than 30 years ago, we had five riders, two horses, one instructor and ten volunteers. To say we have grown is an understatement. Today our Wylie facility has:

- Approximately 295 more riders
- 36 more horses
- 11 more instructors – now all certified
- 700+ more volunteers
- And the addition of physical therapists, occupational therapists and an extensive Executive and Administrative Team

Located on 48 acres in Wylie, Texas (just north of Dallas), this riding center has both indoor and outdoor riding arenas, a specialized treatment facility, a 38-stall barn, two out barns, administration offices, conference room and dormitory housing for our interns and instructor candidates.

The Programs

[HIPPOTHERAPY](#)|[THERAPEUTIC SPORTS RIDING & ACTIVITIES](#)|[EQUEST VETERANS' PROGRAM](#)|[HORSE SHOWS & COMPETITIONS](#)|[MINI AMBASSADOR PROGRAM](#)|[INSTRUCTOR TRAINING COURSES](#)

"My life was changed in 3 seconds... I went from independent working woman and international able-bodied athlete to a...woman in a wheelchair with no freedom and total [dependence] on friends, family and sometimes even total strangers! Then came Equest. I connected spiritually with these huge, gentle horses and this helped my heart and soul heal. My courage, internal strength and self-confidence were boosted... What a wonderful feeling to gain back some independence again... When I ride, I feel like I have the use of my legs again..!"

— Deb Lewin, Equest Rider



Therapeutic Riding

Our Therapeutic Riding instructors teach riding skills to participants with special physical, cognitive and/or emotional needs.

Our instructors work with the riders to participate in a recognized sport, which helps develop independent skills that carry over to their everyday lives. Once they are mounted, many of our riders experience a freedom of motion and ability they simply don't or can't enjoy in other aspects of their lives.

Riders are encouraged to set individual goals and progress is made at each individual's pace. Goals may range from seemingly simple tasks, such as holding the reins for one full circuit of the arena, to more complex challenges, such as qualifying for and competing in the international arena. Targets are set according to the ability of each rider, and once each goal is achieved, the rider's accomplishment is celebrated.

- **Physical Benefits:** The horse in motion moves a rider with special needs rhythmically and naturally through space in a way that simulates the human walking gait. This type of motion develops core muscle strength, balance and posture, and develops gross and fine motor control, promoting coordination.
- **Mental Benefits:** Concentration increases, sequential thought processing improves and spatial awareness develops when riding a horse.
- **Emotional Benefits:** Riding provides an opportunity for each rider to bond with his or her horse, instructor and volunteers, ultimately creating a bond of trust and reinforcing positive behaviors.
- **Social Benefits:** Horseback riding nurtures positive self-image and self-confidence as skills improve and develop. Our riders often experience independence for the first-time in their lives as they become a member of the Equest team. Equest is often their first experience with self-respect and being part of a supportive and encouraging team environment.

Hippotherapy - FROM THE EQUEST DICTIONARY: hip·po·ther·a·py (hipō'THerəpē) – a Treatment with the help of the horse.

Did You Know?

Using the equine movement of Hippotherapy as a treatment strategy has been successfully used to achieve functional outcomes in therapy throughout the United States since the late 1970's

Equest Therapy Services provides outpatient physical and occupational therapy to children and adults with movement dysfunction.

Special needs that benefit from Hippotherapy include, but are not limited to: cerebral palsy, stroke, traumatic brain injury, and multiple sclerosis.

In Hippotherapy, the client receives treatment while mounted on the horse. Hippotherapy is used primarily to achieve physical goals. Importantly, equine-assisted therapy may also affect psychological, cognitive, behavioral, and communication outcomes. At Equest, our therapists have strong treatment backgrounds in posture and movement, and neuro-motor function. They are all state-licensed therapists and are specially trained in the use of Hippotherapy as a treatment strategy.

The therapy team consists of the therapist, a [PATH International](#) certified riding instructor, three volunteers, the horse, and the client – each member of the team plays a unique role to ensure the client receives the best and most effective treatment. New clients receive an initial evaluation to establish functional goals and a Neurodevelopment Treatment Approach (NDT) based plan of treatment before beginning a therapy regimen.

For additional information about Hippotherapy please visit these pages:

www.americanhippotherapyassociation.org

www.ndta.org

www.pathintl.org

*A Physician's prescription is required for treatment.

Veteran's Programming: Hooves for Heroes



Equest's HOOVES FOR HEROES empowers veterans and military families to take charge of their civilian transitions and assume new roles as civic leaders.

Thanks to generous grant funding, charitable donations and underwriting, our Equest Veterans Program services are offered at no cost to active duty service personnel, members of the Guard or Reserve, honorably discharged veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces, and their immediate family members.

Equest's programs are individually tailored to meet the unique needs of the client.

Our goal is to leverage the power of the horses to ease the participant's transition to civilian life and help them realize their potential as civic assets and community leaders. Among the benefits:

- Improved self-awareness
- More effective communication skills
- Healthier relationships
- Enhanced emotional regulation
- Greater self-confidence
- Fellowship and camaraderie
- Opportunities to serve the community

The Five Components of Therapeutic Horsemanship offered:

Horsemanship 101



Participants spend an afternoon learning the basics of ground handling plus enjoy fun and insightful team building activities -as part of the herd. It is a family *friendly* introduction to the power of horses.

Therapeutic Riding



Equest Veterans Program HOOVES FOR HEROES participants join with fellow Veterans and military spouses to learn mounted equestrian skill development and progression while building meaningful relationships with their horses and each other. Most volunteers assisting with this program are also Veterans or Armed Forces family members.

Carriage Driving



Clients learn to drive a horse drawn carriage which results in motor-sensory skill development and strengthening. Drivers master this task with precision and purpose.

Hippotherapy



Hippotherapy is a unique form of physical, occupational and speech therapy using the movement of the horse to accomplish therapy treatment goals.

Equine Facilitated Counseling (EFC)



Many of our clients find EFC uniquely suited for achieving enhanced emotional wellness and a more satisfying life. Working with a licensed mental health professional, an equine specialist and one or more horses, clients work towards their goals. Many develop a deeper self-awareness, improved self-efficacy, richer interpersonal relationships and greater resilience in the face of life's challenges.

Equest's Mini: Ambassadors



"Sometimes the little things in life mean the most."

— Ellen Hopkins, Glass

Perhaps you've seen them around. Our Mini Ambassadors are becoming well-known Equest celebs in the Dallas / Fort Worth area. As regulars in television and news interviews, these friendly mini equines reach out to children and adults who might be intimidated by a large horse. The ultimate goal of the Equest Mini Ambassador Program is to help people of all ages learn about the unique healing bond between humans and horses. Our team of specially trained miniature therapy horses delivers the message of Therapeutic Horsemanship to people at locations that cannot accommodate a full-sized therapy horse, even indoors. Such places include, but are not limited to:

- Hospitals
- Assisted Living Programs
- Hospice Centers
- Schools
- Libraries

Financial Assistance

Equest is a nonprofit organization, and we work hard to ensure that our services are available to all individuals who need them.

In that spirit, we are proud to be able to offer limited supplemental scholarships to individuals who do not have the financial means to afford the standard cost of Equest group sports riding classes and Hippotherapy sessions. We are also pleased to partner with several agencies who have contracted with us to help underwrite the cost of Hippotherapy and/or Therapeutic Riding for clients in need.

Volunteer

We have an opportunity that is right for you!

Whether you want to be working directly with children and adults and/or our therapy horses, to help us raise money or simply to have a little something to do during the weekdays – we have a volunteer opportunity that will be a perfect fit for you!

Most dictionaries generally define a volunteer as “somebody who offers himself freely or spontaneously.” The Equest Team agrees with this definition from a practical viewpoint – and from a very personal stance, our definition is something more like:

One of the hundreds of individuals who make the Equest mission happen each day.

Volunteer Opportunities

- Equest Program Volunteers - The heart of our mission...working directly with our clients and horses.
- Equest Administrative Volunteers: Behind the scenes...occasions to support the Program Team in clerical and office responsibilities.

- Equest Development Volunteers: Carrots don't grow on trees... occasions to participate in shorter-term/single-day roles and/or to help the Development/Fundraising Team in the office.

Age Requirements

- Program Volunteers must be at least 14-years-old*
- Facility and Barn Volunteers must be at least 12-years-old*
- Development Volunteers must be at least 18-years-old*

*Equest Volunteers under the age of *18 or who are under the legal guardianship of another responsible party must have signed permission of their parent or guardian to volunteer.

Make a Gift to Equest

We know there are many incredible and worthwhile causes out there. We also know you have a choice when it comes to deciding which ones you get involved with and support.

We hope you'll consider giving to Equest – and we would like to give you a few reasons why:

Our Clients / Riders:

Individuals of all ages, races and socio-economic backgrounds, including American heroes from the US Military... People with fantastic spirits, heartwarming smiles and amazing, often untapped, potential... All of these people share something very unique – they all live with diverse needs and can be positively and forever impacted through equine-assisted therapy and activities.

Consider a donation of \$6,500 to support a rider/client

Consider a donation of \$13,000 to support a Veteran

Our Horses:

These gentle giants, Equest's very own Famous Therapy Horses (and 4 minis) are by far the most powerful therapeutic tools we have at Equest. Our horses facilitate an almost magical change in our Clients/Riders: a healing of mind, body & spirit.

Consider an annual sponsorship of a Famous Equest Therapy Horse for \$5,000

Our Volunteers:

These people lead busy lives: Jobs. Carpools. Dinner parties. Errands. The gym. Little League. Dog parks. Monday Night Football. Just like everyone else. But don't be fooled – they are different! Why? Because...despite their busy, even hectic, lives, these fantastic people still make time to give their valuable time as Equest Volunteers, making a direct impact on the lives of people with diverse needs.

Our Reputation:

Founded in 1981, Equest Therapeutic Horsemanship was the first therapeutic riding center in Texas and has been PATH International since 2001. Our program quickly became an industry leader,

building a solid base in the North Texas community serving thousands of Clients/ Riders with diverse needs for 34 years. Equest has touched so many lives - making a positive difference emotionally, physically and mentally in the lives of children and adults with special / diverse needs. We are committed to high standards of resource stewardship while providing affordable access to our therapeutic equine-assisted services and all of our clients are supported by tuition subsidization on a case-by-case basis.

Our Need:

Equest is a private, nonprofit organization. This means your tax-deductible donation is absolutely critical to the existence of our program. Our organization receives no federal or state funding, nor are we a United Way Agency.

Consider a donation of \$1,000, \$100 or \$50

[GET THE FACTS](#)

Equest Facts

100% of clients have experienced improvement since starting the program with the top five categories being: physical, social/confidence, communication, daily living skills and behavior.

- Cost per client/ per year: \$6,500.
- Equest subsidizes 86% of all civilian client costs and 100% of all veteran's fees.
- Over The Next Two Years Equest anticipates serving **300-400 clients** and an additional **3,500 children** via community education and outreach programs.
- 21% of clients have reduced or eliminated daily medications.
- Quality of Service: 100% of clients rate Equest as "above average" in service.
- Equest at Texas Horse Park will house the Equest Veterans Program, currently serving approximately 100 veterans.
- PATH Intl. Premiere Accreditation designation since 1989.
- **Volunteers:** Over **400** trained community volunteers a week working in all aspects of our program that provide in excess of **38,000 direct service hours** annually.
- Equest at Wylie is located on 43 acres, administration buildings, dormitories and a Stable Manager's home.
- Equest at Texas Horse Park is located on 300+ acres with stalls for 38 horses and 2 riding arenas.

Equine Facilitated Learning Study Results:

- Significantly decreases depression
- Develops open and direct communication, honesty, patience, respect
- Positively affects ability to make friends and interact with others
- Increases self-esteem



GROUP SALES AGREEMENT

This agreement (the "Agreement") is made and entered into by and between International Gay Rodeo Association (IGRA) (referred to as 'Group') and **Interstate Management Company, LLC, as agent for VWI Operations 3 LLC dba Sheraton Albuquerque Airport Hotel** (referred to as 'Hotel') for an event over the official dates of **10/19/2017-10/23/2017** (the "Event").

Hotel shall provide accommodations for the following Event as pursuant to the terms and conditions of this Agreement:

ARTICLE I: DESCRIPTION OF THE EVENT

Hotel shall provide accommodations for the following Event as pursuant to the terms and conditions of this Agreement:

Event Name and general description of event: World Gay Rodeo Finals (WGRF)

Group Contact Name: Bruce Gros, President

Group Contact Phone: 720-413-2250

Group Contact E-Mail Address: igrabruce@gmail.com

Group Contact Address: 20140 E. Maplewood LN
Centennial, CO 80016-1279

Contact Agent Name: Mark Suleiman

Contact Agent Phone: 816-651-9386

Contact Agent E-Mail Address: marks@functioneer.org

Contact Agent Address: 2899 Collins Ave. Unit 947
Miami Beach, FL 33140

ARTICLE II: GROUP ROOM RESERVATIONS

2.1 Sleeping Rooms and Rates. Hotel agrees that it will provide, and Group agrees that either Group or guests attending the Event (as specified below) will purchase, room nights in the Hotel in the following pattern (the "Room Block"):

Blocked Room Flow

Day #	Date	Day	2 beds	1 bed	5 VIP Upgrade	Single/Double Rate	Quantity
1	Oct, 19, 2017	Thurs	30	10	5	\$99.00	35
2	Oct, 20, 2017	Fri	50	20	5	\$99.00	75
3	Oct, 21, 2017	Sat	80	25	5	\$99.00	110
4	Oct, 22, 2017	Sun	80	25	5	\$99.00	110
5	Oct., 23, 2017	Mon	45	10	5	\$99.00	60
	Total Revenue						\$38,610.00

2.2 Additional Agreements

- 5 club level rooms at the group rate
- 1 per 40 complimentary rooms applied to master
- 2 week cut-off date.
- 10% commission on all sleeping rooms paid to - IATA # 1054 0526
- Complimentary meeting space for duration of stay provided group meets 80% of Sleeping Room Block
 - Space on tentative hold until July 18th at which time group can release without penalty
- SPG reward points to designated planner **SPG#** _____

2.3 Attrition: Should your event generate less room night revenue (excluding taxes) than the anticipated revenues set forth above, an attrition fee will be due. At the conclusion of your event, we will subtract the room revenue derived from your room block from the anticipated room night revenue as set forth above (less the allowable 20% attrition). A Charge in the amount of 80 percent of the remaining amount will be posted to your account, plus applicable taxes.

2.4 Taxes. The above rates do not include any applicable state or municipal taxes, fees or assessments. Group shall be responsible for any applicable taxes, fees or assessments, the amounts of which are subject to change by applicable government agencies with or without notice. If Group is claiming tax-exempt status, then (1) Group must present all documentation required by Hotel and pay in the manner specified by Hotel and (2) Group hereby accepts all liability and agrees to indemnify Hotel for all taxes paid and all costs incurred, including attorney fees, if a taxing authority requires that Hotel remit tax for the room nights covered by this

2.5 Arrival Date: 10/19/2016

The term “**Arrival Date**” in this Agreement refers to the earlier of the first date of the Room Block and the first of any Functions.

2.6 Cutoff Date: After **10/05/2016** (the “**Cutoff Date**”), Hotel shall be permitted to release, for sale to the general public or to other groups, any room nights in the Room Block that have not been reserved as provided in this Agreement. Hotel will continue to accept reservations from Group’s attendees after that date at the prevailing room rate, subject to availability. The release of room nights after the Cutoff Date shall not release Group from any liability for Sleeping Room Performance as provided in this Agreement.

2.7 Intermediary Commission or Fee. 10% commission on all sleeping rooms paid to - IATA # 1054 0526

2.8 Sleeping Room Reservations. Each individual guest must make his or her own reservation by calling 505-462-3966 or 888-625-4937 no later than the Cutoff Date. Guests making such reservations must identify themselves as members of Group, with World Gay Rodeo Finals (WGRF). All reservations must be accompanied by a guaranteed with a major credit card. If a guest does not cancel a reservation within 24 hours before **10/19/2016** of the guest’s check-in date, then Hotel may charge the credit card one night’s room fee plus any applicable taxes.

ARTICLE III: FUNCTION ROOM AND CATERING SERVICES

3.1 Function Rooms. Hotel shall make the following reservations of meeting spaces for group functions during the Event (“Functions”) without a food and beverage minimum. Hotel has waived the \$1000.00 rental provided the group picks up a minimum of 80% anticipated room night revenue as set forth above:

Function Agenda

Day#	Start Day	Start Date	Start Time	End Time	Function Name	Function Type	Function Space	Setup Style
1	Fri	10/20/2017	8:00AM	11PM	Meeting	Alvarado	Alvarado	Classroom
1	Sat	10/21/2017	8:00AM	11PM	Meeting	Alvarado	Alvarado	Classroom
1	Sun	10/22/2017	8:00AM	11PM	Meeting	Alvarado	Alvarado	Classroom
1	Mon	10/23/2017	8:00AM	11PM	Meeting	Alvarado	Alvarado	Classroom
1	Tues	10/24/2017	8:00AM	1PM	Meeting	Alvarado	Alvarado	Classroom

Hotel reserves the right to assign and change specific Function space at its discretion. Group must obtain final approval from Hotel before publishing function room names.

3.2 Function Room Set-up and Operation. Group must obtain advance written approval from Hotel before Group, or any independent contractor of Group, may set up its own equipment, displays or facilities for any Function. Group and/or any such contractor shall coordinate all such deliveries/set ups with sufficient advance notice to Hotel. Group will be responsible and shall indemnify Hotel for any damage that Group, or its employees, agents or contractors, causes to persons or property within Hotel arising out of or related to any property brought to Hotel’s premises by Group or any contractor of Group or by setup or operation of any equipment, facilities or displays on the premises of Hotel by Group or any independent contract of Group.

If there are extensive function room set-ups or elaborate staging, Hotel may charge additional set-up fees. If equipment is necessary that exceeds Hotel’s inventory, then Group agrees to pay for the cost of renting the additional equipment. If any rigging is required, it must be arranged through the Hotel and Group shall be responsible for all rigging costs.

3.3 Outside Contractors. If Group intends to use the services of any contractor unaffiliated with Hotel to provide any services within the Hotel’s premises before, during or after the Event (including, without limitation, security companies, decorators, florists and audio-visual service providers), Group shall provide written notice to Hotel at least 30 days before the Arrival Date identifying the contractor(s), and the contractor(s) shall not be allowed onto the premises of the Hotel without Hotel’s advance written consent. If Hotel is required under any collective bargaining agreement, requirements contract or any other contract to incur any expense if a particular service provider or set of employees does not perform services that Group wishes to perform itself or to have performed by an outside contractor, then Group shall be responsible for those expenses, which shall be added to the Master Account. Hotel may require a representative any outside contractor invited to Hotel by Group to sign a release and indemnification of Hotel, in a form provided by Hotel and to provide evidence of insurance reasonably acceptable to Hotel. Hotel will provide Group a copy of its standard form for this purpose upon request.

The Group shall be responsible for the additional Net Exhibit Fees that would have accrued if the Exhibit Minimum were met, which amount shall be added to the Master Account.

3.7 Additional Food & Beverage Policies. Unless otherwise agreed by the parties in advance and in writing, all food and beverage served on the premises of Hotel must be supplied and prepared by Hotel. In addition, no remaining food or beverage shall be removed from the premises of the Hotel. At the conclusion of any Function, such food and beverage shall become the property of Hotel.

3.8 Parking. Hotel will provide complimentary parking to guests attending the Event for one vehicle per room night. This concession is based on the Room Block and Functions booked under this Agreement and is subject to adjustment by Hotel if the size or scope of the Event is reduced.

ARTICLE IV: BILLING/CREDIT PROCEDURES

4.1 Sleeping Room Payment. Individual guests will pay their own sleeping room rates (including any tax) and incidental charges (e.g. room service, gift shop charges and in-room entertainment fees). At the time of check-in, each guest will be required to present a major credit card whose brand is accepted by Hotel, on which Hotel may place a hold or process a prepayment in the amount of the guest's estimated charges.

4.2 Function and other Event-Related Charges. Group will be responsible for all other charges incurred pursuant to this Agreement, including (without limitation) any Function Room Usage Fees, audio visual charges, fees for food and beverage at Functions. All such charges shall be billed to Group's Master Account and will be subject to applicable sales tax.

4.3 Group's Master Account. The term "Master Account" means a running invoice that includes all amounts payable by Group to Hotel under any provision of this Agreement. At least forty-five (45) days before the Arrival Date, Group will identify to Hotel, in writing, at least one representative of Group who will be present on the premises of Hotel throughout the Event (each an "Authorized Representative"). Group hereby authorizes each Authorized Representative to incur charges to the Master Account, for example by signing banquet event orders. The following individual(s), whether or not they are present at the Event, shall have authority to incur charges to the Master Account: _____

4.4 Direct Billing. Group may hold the Event without making any advance deposit, and be invoiced for the amount of the Master Account ("Direct Billing") if Hotel provides advance written approval of such direct billing. Group may apply to Hotel for Direct Billing by requesting, completing and submitting an application form provided by Hotel. Hotel shall have sole and absolute discretion to deny any credit application or to approve less than the full amount of credit requested.

4.5 Outstanding Balance. Any outstanding balance of the Master Account will be due and payable by Group upon receipt of any invoice from Hotel. If payment is not received within thirty (30) days, a finance charge equal to the lesser of one and one half percent (1-1/2%) per month (18% Annual Rate) and the maximum allowed by law will be added to the unpaid balance commencing on the invoice date. Any payment by Group or acceptance by Hotel of any amount less than any amount due by Group shall be deemed solely as a partial payment of the full amount due. No endorsement or statement on any check or any letter accompanying any payment shall be deemed an accord and satisfaction, and Hotel may accept such check or payment without prejudice to Hotel's right to recover the balance of all amounts due or pursue any other remedies available to Hotel under this Agreement or in law or in equity.

ARTICLE V: CANCELLATION

5.1 Cancellation by Group. The following table contains an estimate (which the parties acknowledge and agree is reasonable) of the revenue to be generated from this Event. The table itself is not intended to warrant that the Event will generate these amounts of revenue. Neither is the table intended to prevent the Hotel from generating more than these amounts of revenue from the Event.

Summary of Revenue Anticipated by Hotel from the Event	
Meeting Room Rental	\$0.00* (\$1,000.00 meeting room rental is waived if group meets 80% of sleeping room block)
Anticipated Additional Revenue from Group.	\$38,610.00
Total Anticipated Event Revenue**	\$38,610.00
**This figure does not include gratuities, taxes or fees for services by any authorized outside vendors.	

Group acknowledges that if it cancels or otherwise substantially abandons the Event (a “**Cancellation**”), the Hotel will be harmed. Group further acknowledges that the later Group notifies Hotel of a Cancellation, the more harm Hotel will likely incur, because Hotel will have less time to mitigate its damages by marketing the sleeping room nights and function rooms to other customers and individual guests. Group also acknowledges that the actual amount of Hotel’s damages from any Cancellation would be difficult to calculate. Therefore, the parties agree that if a Cancellation should occur for any reason (including Group’s relocation of the Event to another hotel or resort), then Group shall pay Hotel, as liquidated damages and not as a penalty, the applicable amount identified below, plus any applicable taxes (a “**Cancellation Fee**”).

Date of Written Cancellation Notice	Amount of Cancellation Fee
0-90 days prior to arrival	80% + applicable taxes and service charges
91-180 days prior to arrival	70% + applicable taxes and service charges
181-365 days prior to arrival	60% + applicable taxes and service charges

Group must provide Hotel any notice of a Cancellation in writing. If Group does not provide written notice of any Cancellation, then Hotel may assess any higher Cancellation Fee owed under the above schedule at the time it receives written confirmation of the Cancellation or the highest amount identified above if it receives no written confirmation. The parties agree that the amounts in the above schedule are based on reasonable estimates of Hotel’s harm from Cancellation. Any Cancellation Fee will be added to the Master Account. Any Cancellation Fee shall be due and payable immediately upon Cancellation.

5.2 Force Majeure. Either party may cancel the Event without liability to the other party upon the occurrence of any event or circumstance beyond the control of such party, including acts of God, declared war in the United States, acts of terrorism in the city where the Hotel premises is located, government regulations, disaster, strikes or civil disorder, to the extent that such event or circumstances makes it illegal or impossible for Hotel to provide, or for groups in general to use, the premises of Hotel. The Event cannot be cancelled under this section because of general economic conditions, including (without limitation) any recession or governmental budget cut. Either party that wishes to cancel the Event pursuant to this section must provide written notice to the other party identifying the even or circumstance. If the Event is duly cancelled under this Section, then Hotel shall, within thirty (30) days after such cancellation, refund any deposits made by Group.

ARTICLE VI: MISCELLANEOUS

6.1 Signs and Displays / Use of Hotel’s Name. Group shall not display signs in Hotel or use the name or logo of the Hotel or any franchisor of Hotel in any promotional materials without prior written approval of the General Manager of the Hotel. Group further agrees that no sign, banner or display shall be affixed to any part

of the Hotel without the prior written consent of Hotel. Group will be responsible for the cost of repairing any damages to the walls, fixtures or carpet caused by any such sign, banner or display.

6.2 Security. Hotel may, in its sole and absolute discretion, require additional security procedures, at Group's sole expense, because of the size or nature of the Event or any Function. These procedures may include the assignment by Hotel of any additional security personnel employed by Hotel or Hotel's independent contractor (which may be the local police department). Hotel may allow Group to retain an outside security service provider that is approved in writing by Hotel prior to the Event or the applicable Function. If Group hires an outside service provider, Group must provide Hotel with a copy of its agreement with the service provider, which shall indemnify Hotel, its owner, its management company and their respective parents, subsidiaries and affiliates, and all of their respective owners, members, partners, directors, officers, employees, representatives and agents, from and against any liabilities related to the security services. Under no circumstances shall any armed security personnel be permitted onto the premises of Hotel without Hotel's advanced written approval, which Hotel may withhold in its sole and absolute discretion.

6.3 Shipping and Packages. If Group will be shipping packages to Hotel, Group must notify Hotel at least one week in advance. Each package sent to Hotel must include the name of Group, the Arrival Date and the number of items contained in the package. Each package should arrive no earlier than three (3) days before the Arrival Date. Hotel reserves the right to add storage fees to the Master Account for any packages that arrive earlier. Hotel shall have no liability for the delivery, security or condition of the packages.

6.4 Notices. All notices, offers, acceptances, requests and other communications hereunder shall be in writing and shall be deemed sufficient if hand delivered (against receipt) or sent by a commercially recognized express delivery service (e.g. FedEx or UPS), or certified or registered U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, to the Group Contact, at the address for the Group Contact, both identified on the first page of this Agreement; or, if to Hotel, to the street address of the Hotel premises to the attention of its General Manager, with a copy to Interstate Hotels & Resorts, Inc., 4501 N. Fairfax Drive, Suite 500, Arlington, VA 22203, Attn: General Counsel. Hotel may change Hotel's designated contact at any time upon notice. Hotel will not be bound by any notice unless delivered to Hotel in the manner specified herein.

6.5 Damage to Hotel Premises. To the fullest extent permitted by law, Group assumes full responsibility for any damage done to the Hotel during your Event or any setup for the Event or disassembly after the Event, to the extent that such damage is caused by Group, its employees, guests, agents, or contractors (other than Hotel and its subcontractors), including any damage resulting from the installation, placement, and removal of Group's displays, equipment, exhibits, or other items.

6.6 Indemnification. Group shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless Hotel, its owner, its management company, their respective affiliates and all of their respective officers, directors, partners, members and employees from and against all demands, suits, judgments, settlements, claims, damages to persons and/or property, fines, liens, losses and other liabilities, including reasonable attorneys' fees (collectively "Claims") arising out of related the negligence or intentional misconduct of Group, its contractors or exhibitors, or their respective employees, agents, contractors or attendees. Group does not waive, by reason of this section, any defense that it may have with respect to such Claims.

6.7 Disturbances. Group agrees that its use of assigned Function spaces will not create any unreasonable disturbance to other guests or meetings, such as excessive noise, smoke, fog or offensive smells. Neither Group nor its contractors will use such features without advance approval of Hotel.

6.8 Additional Remedies. If this Agreement is one of a group of (any two or more) agreements between Hotel and Group and/or any of Group's affiliates for Hotel to host events, then Hotel reserves the right to terminate this Agreement and/or other agreement(s), without liability to Hotel, if (a) Group (or, if applicable, its affiliate) fails to timely pay any amounts due and owing under, or commits any other material breach of its obligations under, this Agreement or any of the other agreements; or (b) Group, its affiliate or any of their respective employees, agents or contractors causes damage or disruption to the Hotel's premises, operations, guests or

reputation. Notice of any such termination by the Hotel shall be made to Group in writing. If Hotel cancels the Event pursuant to this section, Group shall be responsible for the applicable Cancellation Fee as if Group cancelled the Event. If, pursuant to this section, Hotel cancels any other event(s) it had booked for Group or one or more affiliates of Group, then Group shall be responsible for any applicable cancellation fee(s) provided for under the applicable agreement(s).

6.9 Group's Property. Group agrees Hotel will not be responsible for the safe-keeping of equipment, supplies, written material or other valuable items left in meeting rooms, sleeping rooms or anywhere on Hotel's premises. Group is responsible for securing any such aforementioned items and hereby assumes responsibility for loss thereof. Group may not rely on any verbal or written assurances provided by Hotel staff, other than as provided in this Agreement. Property of Group is the sole responsibility of Group and/or its owner. Group warrants that it has procured sufficient insurance to cover the loss of such property and waives any claims under Hotel's insurance policy for the loss of Group's property or the property of any of its attendees or invitees.

6.10 Choice of Law. This Agreement will be interpreted in accordance with the laws of the state in which Hotel premises is located, without giving effect to any conflict-of-law principles thereof that would result in application of the laws of any other state.

6.11 Dispute Resolution.

- a. The parties shall exercise commercially reasonable efforts to informally and timely resolve any dispute arising under or related to this Agreement before commencing litigation, unless the litigation seeks emergency injunctive relief.
- b. Any action between the parties arising out of or related to this Agreement shall be filed solely in the United States District Court for the district in which the premises of Hotel is located or, if subject matter jurisdiction in that court is lacking, in a state court in whose jurisdiction Hotel is located. Each of the parties hereby consents to the personal jurisdiction of these courts and venue of any such action in these courts, and hereby waives any objection based on the doctrine of *forum non conveniens* to any such action being adjudicated by any such court.
- c. If action by either party against the other to enforce its rights under this Agreement, including (without limitation) any litigation and/or other efforts to collect any payments due under this Agreement, the non-prevailing party shall be responsible for the prevailing party's costs related to such action, including (without limitation) reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses, collection costs and pre- and post-judgment interest.
- d. **THE PARTIES HEREBY KNOWINGLY, VOLUNTARILY, INTENTIONALLY AND MUTUALLY WAIVE ANY RIGHT TO A TRIAL BY JURY IN ANY CIVIL ACTION BASED ON, ARISING FROM OR IN CONNECTION WITH THIS AGREEMENT, THE EVENT, OR ANY COURSE OF CONDUCT, COURSE OF DEALING, STATEMENTS (VERBAL OR WRITTEN) OR ACTIONS BY THE PARTIES.**

6.12 Entire Agreement. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties with respect to the Event and supersedes any previous agreements, communications, representations or agreements, whether written or oral. Any modifications, additions or corrective lining out made on this Agreement will not be binding unless such modifications have been signed or initialed by both parties. Any amendments to this Agreement must be made in writing and signed by authorized representative of each party. For the avoidance of doubt, this section shall not prevent Group from ordering particular or additional services from Hotel through a banquet event order or other document signed by an Authorized Representative.

6.13 No Assignment. Neither party may assign or transfer this Agreement or any of its rights (other than rights to receive payments) or obligations hereunder without the written consent of other party, unless the assignment is to an affiliate of the assigning party pursuant to an internal reorganization or acquisition of the assigning party, or the assignment is made to an entity that acquires all or substantially all of the assigning party's assets. Any attempted assignment or transfer by Group without such consent may, at the option of Hotel, be deemed to be a Cancellation, in which case Group shall be liable for a Cancellation Fee set forth herein.

6.14 Miscellaneous. Each person signing this Agreement warrants that he or she is authorized to bind the party for which he or she is signing. Any provision of this Agreement that is deemed unenforceable shall be ineffective to the extent of such unenforceability without invalidating or rendering the remainder of this Agreement invalid. Each party shall execute such other and further documents as may be necessary to carry out the intention as well as to comply with the provisions of this Agreement. The failure of either party to insist, at any time, on strict performance of any terms or conditions of this Agreement, or to exercise any option, right or remedy contained in this Agreement, shall not be construed as a waiver or as a relinquishment for the future of such term, condition, option, right or remedy. No waiver by either party of any term or condition hereof shall be deemed to have been made unless expressed in writing and signed by such party.

ARTICLE VII: EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT

7.1 Hotel's transmission of an unsigned copy of this Agreement to the Group or its Agent shall be deemed an invitation for Group to make an offer. The Group or Agent's return of its signature on a copy of this Agreement shall be deemed an offer by the Group. Hotel's subsequent signature of the Agreement shall be deemed an acceptance of the Group's offer by Hotel.

7.2 This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts, which together shall constitute one and the same Agreement. Signatures sent by facsimile or equivalent means shall be deemed original, valid and binding signatures to this Agreement.

7.3 Any handwritten changes to this document will not be binding unless initialed by an authorized representative of both parties.

7.4 Each individual signing this document represents and warrants that he or she has authority to bind the party for which he or she signs.

7.5 Group must sign and return contract by November 23, 2016 otherwise, Hotel has the right to release any function space and/or sleeping rooms holding and resell to another group if needed.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Hotel and Group have entered into this Agreement in matter and form sufficient to bind them effective as of the last date identified below.

Interstate Hotels & Resorts
As agent for **for VWI**
Operations 3 LLC d/b/a
Sheraton Albuquerque Airport Hotel

International Gay Rodeo Association
(IGRA)

By: _____

By: _____

Name: Tabitha Stallworth
Title: Sales Manager

Name: Bruce Gros
Title: President

Date: _____

Date: _____

Expo New Mexico Event Estimate

Events Department P.O. Box 8546 Albuquerque, NM 87198-8546 (505) 222-9700 Fax (505) 266-7784

	Event Name -	The World Gay Rodeo Finals	Date of Event -	October 2017
	Contract # -	N/A	Contact Person -	Mark Suleiman
	Contract Name -	Mark Suleiman	Contact Phone -	816 651 9386
	Address -	2899 Collins Ave. Unit 947	Move In Date -	
	City, State, Zip -	Miami Beach, FL 33140	Move Out Date -	

Item	Description	Rate	Multiple	Charge
1st Building/Area -	Indoor Horse Arena	\$ 660.00	day	\$ 1,980.00
2nd Building/Area -	Warm-up arena included with Indoor Arena	\$ -	day	\$ -
3rd Building/Area -	-	\$ -	day	\$ -
Tables -	10 tables included with building	\$ -	each	\$ -
Stalls/Tacks -	120 stalls/tacks at \$10 a day for three days	\$ 10.00	ea/day	\$ 3,600.00
Chutes -	Rodeo Chutes and Pens	\$1,650.00	Flat	\$ 1,650.00
Wash Racks -	Included with stall/tack	\$ -	ea/day	\$ -
Stage/Risers -	-	\$ -	hr/prsn	\$ -
Equipment Rental -	-	\$ -	hour	\$ -
Parking Passes -	-	\$ -	ea/day	\$ -
Ticket Takers / Sellers -	-	\$ -	hr/prsn	\$ -
Panels -	-	\$ 15.00	each	\$ -
Tractor Driver	Three days	\$ 100.00	each	\$ 300.00
PA System -	For three day use	\$ 105.00	flat	\$ 105.00
Pass Through:				
Audio Services -	-	\$ -	flat	\$ -
Phones -	-	\$ -	flat	\$ -
Electric -	-	\$ -	flat	\$ -
Additional Electric -	-	\$ -	each	\$ -
Insurance -	-	\$ -	flat	\$ -
Security: Peer/Uniform -	-	\$ -	hr/prsn	\$ -
Armed Guard -	-	\$ -	hr/prsn	\$ -
EMT -	-	\$ -	hr/prsn	\$ -
State Police -	-	\$ -	hr/prsn	\$ -

Grand Total - \$ 7,635.00

Attendance 521

Notes -
Estimate does not include Damage Deposit

Deposits -				
Date	Check#	Receipt#	Amount	
-	-	-	\$ -	
-	-	-	\$ -	
-	-	-	\$ -	

Complete this section by hand:		
Final Payment -		
Date	Check #	Receipt #

Less Total Deposits - \$ -

Total -	\$
Post Event Outstanding Balance -	\$

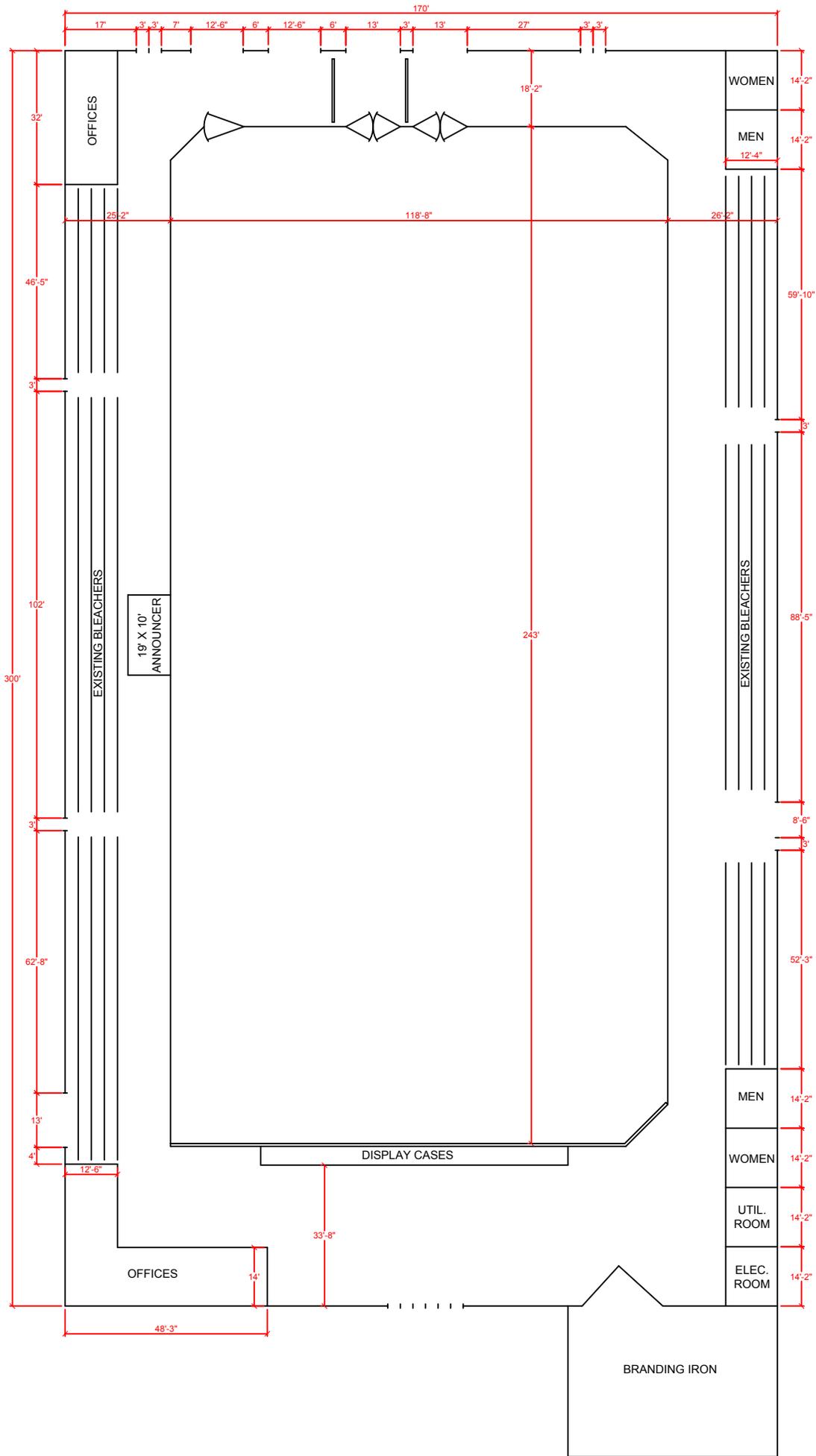
Final Balance Due - \$ 7,635.00

The above invoice represents the estimated costs for the event listed at the top of the page and is presented with the understanding that additional related costs cannot be assessed until after the conclusion of the event.

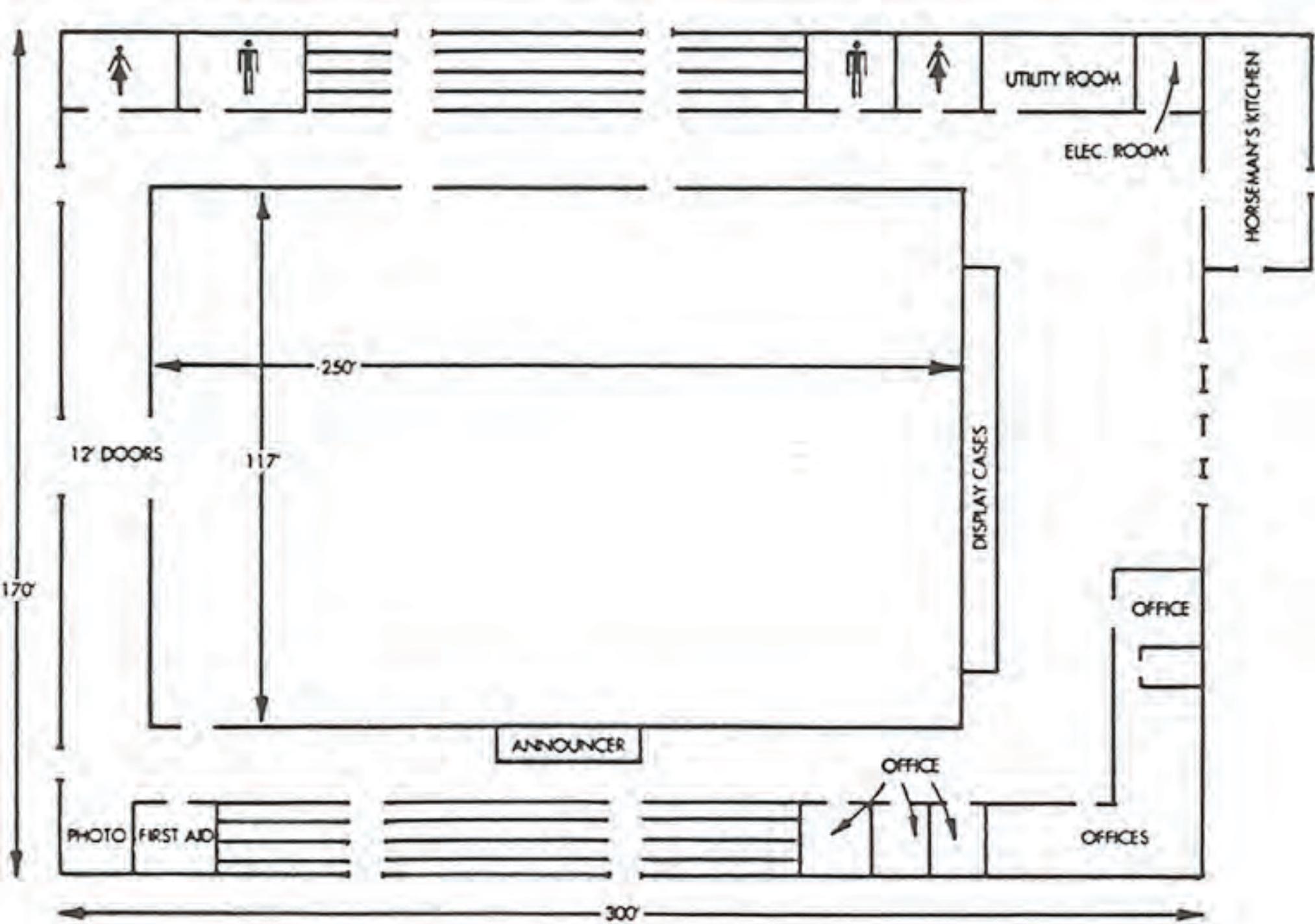
Balance to be paid upon receipt of this invoice

X _____
Mark Suleiman (Rep.) Date

X _____
Sabrina Garza (Event Manager) Date

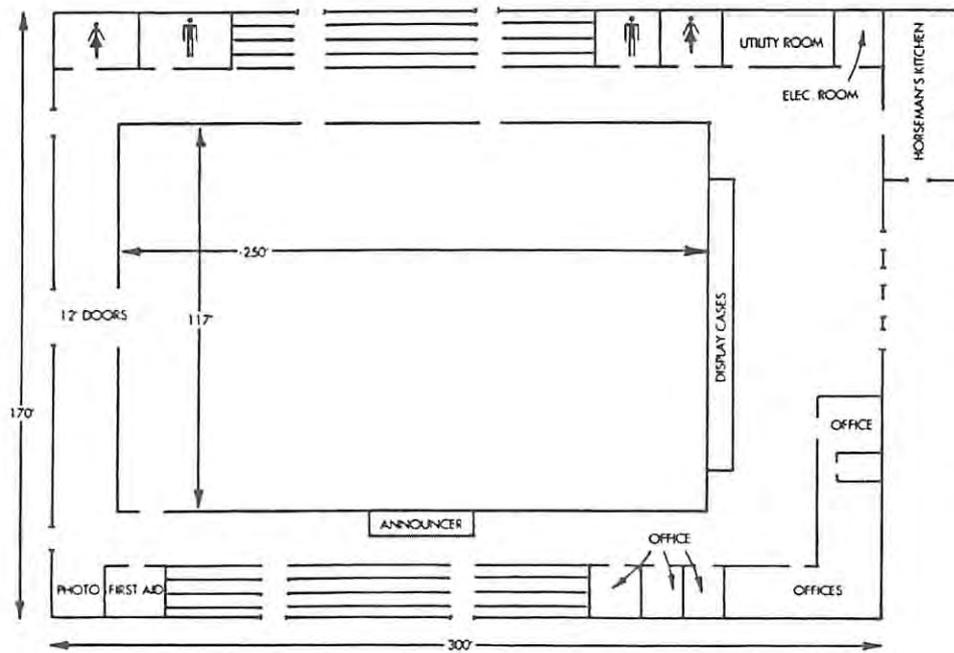


INDOOR HORSE ARENA



HORSE ARENA

The Horse Arena is one of the most widely recognized structures on the Expo New Mexico Grounds. This completely self-contained facility provides an excellent perspective for both audience and participant. Spacious bleacher seating comfortably sits 1,800 people. Features include a lighted canopy over stock entrance, offices, six glass cases, a snack bar with full liquor service, and an on site feed store.



Dimensions:	170' x 300'
Arena:	117' x 246'
Seating:	1,800 bleacher seats – two sides
Pens:	Permanent – outside. Ten at northwest corner
Ceiling:	19' x 25' (at center)
Warm-Up Rings:	Two outside rings – attached East – lighted – 117' x 240' (single bulb poles) West – 140' x 240'
Lighting:	Arena - vapor bulbs
Floor:	Arena - dirt
Parking:	Ample with handicap
Temp. Controls:	Three central gas-heating units with exhaust fans (Limited heat during winter months)

Access Doors:

Six single front entrance doors
Four single, two double exit-only doors
Maximum clearance
Three 13' x 12' roll-up service doors at north end. Team roping roll-up door on west side. Team penners and cutters roll-up door on east side

Additional Features:

- One small office at the south east corner and one large office at north east corner
- 30' x 40' lighted canopy over stock entrance
- 15' x 10' (28' above floor) announcer's platform wired for phones and PA
- Two payphones
- Three large display cases 4.5' x 24' x 5.5'
- Two small cases 4' x 8' x 9"
- One small case 4' x 5' x 6"
- Concession restaurant



- Feed store on premises
- Two public restrooms
- Emergency first aid, photo area
- Excellent access to nearby stalls

Featured Events:

Horse shows, rodeos, roping, cutting and jumping clinics



BOD Meeting
11-17-16

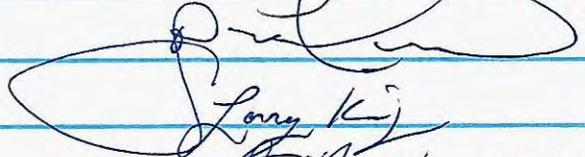
Print Name		Signature
Bruce Gos		Bruce Gos
Guy Puglisi		Guy Puglisi
Tommy CHANNEL	Adm. Asst.	Tommy Channel
Gene FRANKS	NSGRA Trustee	Gene Franks
Terry Covington	TGRA	Terry R. Covington
Carly Pratt	RRRA	Carly Pratt
Will Hann	NMGRA	Will Hann
JAMES GALUCCI	KSGRA	James Galucci
Michael Norman	SGRA	Michael Norman
Roger JAPP	CGRA	Roger Japp
Bruce Roby	GSGRA	Bruce Roby
Tom Lott	ASGRA	Tom Lott
LISA SMITH	DSRA	Lisa Smith
KENNETH HALL	MGRA	Ken Hall
AMY GRIFFIN	ILGRA	Amy Griffin
JOHN A. KING	AGRA	John A. King
Mark Scammell	SCCGRA	Mark Scammell
David Hill	Treasurer	David S. Hill
Ron Trusky	Secretary	Ron Trusky
David Hallwood	MIGRA	David Hallwood

Guest
Board Meeting
11-17-16

Print Name

Signature

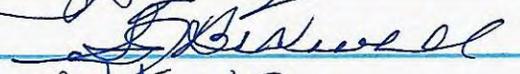
Lesly Munsard



LARRY KING

Larry King

SANDY BOWELL



MILLIE ROGERS

Millie Rogers

RICHARD ROGERS

Richard Rogers

ROBERT HURTELL

