



To whom it may concern,

I am writing on behalf of your student who has the unique opportunity to attend and compete at the 2018 Grand National & World Championship Morgan Horse Show® in Oklahoma City. For more than 40 years, the Grand National has represented the pinnacle of achievement in the Morgan Horse world.

Young riders qualify to attend this prestigious show by successfully training and exhibiting their horses against hundreds of competitors at the local, state and regional level shows. Each year only a select group of riders qualify to participate at this high level of competition. They have the opportunity to interact with young people and adults from all parts of the United States, Canada, and abroad.

The Grand National is held from October 6-13 and is owned by the American Morgan Horse Association and licensed to the American Morgan Horse Educational/Charitable Trust, a 501(C)(3) tax-exempt organization, to support AMHA educational programs and services, and other charitable organizations.

Every year, the Grand National hosts the AMHA/UPHA Open Gate Learning Center, an on-site study and learning center which provides academic support to young riders which many riders utilize. Participants can stay abreast of their academic requirements by studying, completing assignments and taking exams in a structured learning environment. The center is supervised by a professional teacher who will work with a student's school to guide activities or monitor exams, if needed.

As the Director of the American Morgan Horse Association, I have had the opportunity to view firsthand the chance these athletes have to achieve excellence and practice good sportsmanship. It is a wonderful learning experience. Additionally, this year the show will offer over \$300,000 in prize money, scholarships, and awards to the owners and exhibitors of the over 1,000 horses competing.

I hope you will support your student's desire to attend this important competition. Please feel free to contact me for further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carrie J. Mortensen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Carrie J. Mortensen
Executive Director
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