

HT-P HORSE SHOW,
EMPOWERED BY SPECIAL OLYMPICS EGYPT
AN EQUESTRIAN EXTRAVAGANZA

By Menna Loutfy

ON A FRIDAY WINTER MORNING IN FEBRUARY, WE WERE BLESSED BY BRIGHT SUN THAT SPREAD ITS SHINING RAYS ON THE STEPS OF THE COLISEUM SEATING ARENA OF EQUICARE RIDING CENTER. AT EXACTLY 10 AM SPECTATORS STARTED TO FLOOD IN, EAGER TO BECOME PART OF THE FIRST HT-P HORSE SHOW, A CELEBRATION OF HORSE TIMES MAGAZINE'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PLATINUM CLUB.

THE IDEA WAS TO SPREAD AWARENESS ABOUT THE SPLENDOR OF THE EQUESTRIAN SPORT BY DESIGNING A GREAT DAY-OUT FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY WHERE THEY CAN EXPLORE HORSEMANSHIP DISCIPLINES AND ACTIVITIES. WITH THE COOPERATION OF MANY SPONSORS, INCLUDING THE EGYPTIAN CHAMBER OF HANDICRAFTS, TOYOTA EGYPT, GATEWAY SCHOOL, UBER, EGYPTAIR, AL AHLY FOR REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENTS, NEFERTARI INTERNATIONAL TRADING, CHANGE CONSULTANCY, WELLSPRING EGYPT, EL- MAGHRABY PHARMACY AND TALA MEDICAL CENTERS - EVERYONE HAD A WONDERFUL DAY !

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“IN CRAFTING THERE ARE NO MISTAKES, JUST UNIQUE CREATIONS”

As a kick start of the day, the Egyptian Chamber of Handicrafts provided space for 50 exhibitors to showcase their fabulous handmade crafts. We also crafted our day very well, so that parents wouldn't have to worry about their children while shopping at the festival. As we provided arts and crafts activities, in addition to “free pony rides”, a special gift by Equicare riding center. The beautiful essence of music was a delight to HT-P's attendees when Sawah, a famous Egyptian saxophone player, performed live on stage several times throughout the day. Afterwards, people enjoyed a bit of love by Wellspring Egypt Team, as they spoke to everyone about the “Five Languages of Love”.

“DO YOU KNOW WHAT MY FAVOURITE PART OF THE GAME IS?”

THE OPPORTUNITY TO PLAY” – Mike Singletary

The riding courses performed at the HT-P Horse show were divided into two competitions which caught the attention and enthusiasm of the audience. First of which, was the “Jumping with costumes” where young riders wore a variety of magnificent costumes, and not only that!

They actually dressed their horses in a matching costume along with a unique choice of music to be played during the course completing the theme of their ride. You could hear the triumphant music track of Lawrence of Arabia elevating as Salvador Pinto Da França entered the arena in his white robes and golden headdress, known as a keffiyah. He was galloping at an astonishing pace on the beautiful black mare “No Limit”.

The prize money for this competition was a total of 4500 Egyptian Pounds to all three winners presented by HORSE TIMES Magazine. The lucky winner also received a gift worth 11,000 Egyptian pounds from the Egyptian Chamber of Handicrafts. All in all it was an amazing show, you can definitely tell that riders enjoyed their time rather than worrying about winning or losing.



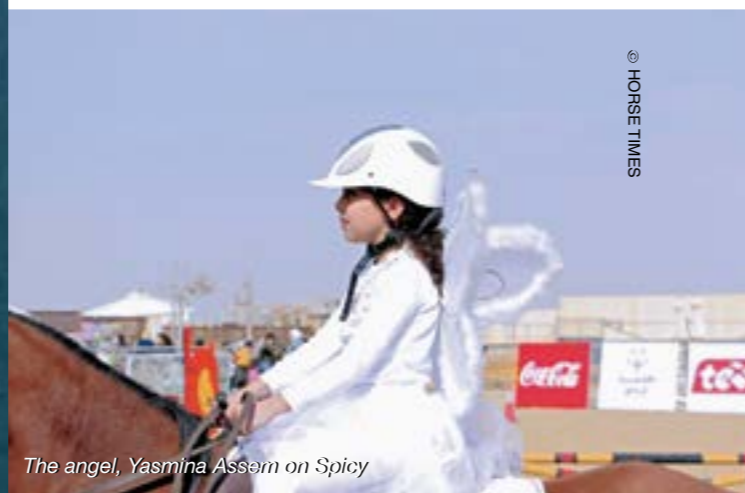
The winner of the Jumping with Costumes competition, Ahmed Fahmy on Alice

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Sawah from the blowers' band

© Mohamed Kormod



The angel, Yasmina Assem on Spicy

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Ahmed Magdy on Gemma dressed as a Sheikh in the Jumping with Costumes competition

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Special Olympics champion, Marlam Naeem

© Boody Fawzy



Special Olympics champion, Mazon El Samahy

© Boody Fawzy



The winner of the Jump & Drive competition Mahmoud Kerdia on Classic Candy



Sarah Zayed on Caramella



Representatives from Al Ahly for real estate developments



Equicare riding center team; Ahmed fahmy, Alia Hassan, Zeina Hassan & Celina Hesham



Toyota C-HR 2017



The three winners of the Jump & Drive competition Salvador Pinto da França, Yassin Ramy & Mahmoud Kerdia



HT Chairman Khaled Assom during an interview with Nile TV



Jump and Drive competition

WATCHING AN EXCITING GAME IS ALWAYS A THRILL

As the sun was setting and a breeze of cold air started to blow the grains of sand in the arena of Equicare riding center, the Jump & Drive competition's thrill and adrenaline started giving warmth to the attendees. Teams of riders and drivers were competing to achieve the best time with the least number of faults. That was when the unconventional family-sized coupe-crossover Toyota CHR 2017 carried out the task perfectly. Winning teams were given silver plates presented by Toyota Egypt, as well as 4500 Egyptian Pounds prize money.

GOOD PLAYERS INSPIRE THEMSELVES, GREAT PLAYERS INSPIRE OTHERS

The Egyptian Special Olympics champions were an inspiration and a motivation to everyone who watched their performance. The sounds of the crowds rose up as four boys and two beautiful girls of the Equestrian team performed. All the cheering suddenly stopped when unfortunately one of the riders fell off his horse after the jump, Mazen El Samahy, a former Bronze medalist in the China World Games 2007 and the Gold medalist of the UAE'S 6th Regional Games that same year.

After the fall, Mazen was dazed but shortly he pulled himself together and asked one of the commentators to give him the microphone because he had something to say to the audience. In a confident manner he said, "There are people in my life without whom I couldn't have been who I am today. First one is my coach, who never gave up on me, the one who dedicates all his time and effort only to make me a better jockey. Second is my beautiful mother who is sitting in the audience and I hope she will be always proud of me." Following that Mazen surprised the audience by singing a song that he dedicated especially to his mother. This incident left a smile on the faces of the audience and a tender feeling of warmth in their hearts. At the end of the day, all six riders took home a special Equestrian trophy presented by Toyota Egypt. 🏆