The companion animal industry has been an industry that has continued to grow during the recent economic recession. With the industry continuing to grow, the demand for companion animal students is at an all-time high. According to the American Pet Products Association (APPA) survey in 2011, approximately 62% of U.S. households own a companion animal such as a dog, cat, bird, fish, reptile, guinea pig, hamster, or rabbit and are spending over $50.84 billion on their pets’ supplies and care. With this increase in animal care and products, there has been an increase in the demand for professionals with knowledge of the companion animal industry to fulfill companion animal related careers.

When people think about careers in companion animal sciences, the most common career everyone mentions is veterinarian. A veterinarian is a professional who practices veterinary medicine to diagnose and treat diseases and injuries on animals. Today, veterinarians are able to specialize in areas like nutrition, ophthalmology, behavior, shelter medicine, orthopedics, and more. Veterinarians also have opportunities to help develop products for companion animals and work with lab animals in research facilities. Other possible health care careers with companion animals include research scientists, veterinary technicians, and geneticists.

With the increase in sales of products and services, there are several jobs available in this area. Pet service jobs include behaviorists, trainers, groomers, boarding and daycare facility employees, and photographers. Other careers in companion animal care are animal control officers, humane educators, and sheltering professionals.

There are also several opportunities in the pet food industry. There has been a demand for high quality pet foods, so pet food companies must hire research scientists to develop the diets, animal care technicians to oversee research animals, quality control specialists to ensure that the product is consistent and safe, and sale and marketing personal to showcase their products to customers.

To find more information on companion animal careers visit our website at: http://go.unl.edu/companion

Events to look forward to:

Equestrian Team Meeting
- August 23, 2012 7:00-8:00pm
Nebraska State Fair Dog Show
- August 25, 2012
Nebraska State Fair Companion Animal Show
- August 26, 2012
Nebraska State Fair Rabbit Show
- September 2, 2012
Equestrian Team Tryouts
- September 4-5, 2012 5:00-8:00pm
4-H Horse Judging Workshop
- September, 2012
Companion Animal and Equine Open House
- September 24, 2012
Companion Animal and Wildlife Career Day
- October 3, 2012
- December 5, 2012
Canine Companions for Life 4-H Dog Expo
- October 13-14, 2012
UNL Equestrian Team Home Show
- October 20-21, 2012
UNL Boo @ the U
- October 25, 2012
Equine Judge’s Seminar
- December 1, 2012

Careers in Companion Animal Science

Are you in high school and want to explore our careers with companion animal. Join us for the...

Companion Animal and Wildlife Career Day
October 3, 2012 & December 5, 2012
9:00 a.m.-2:15 p.m.

Event Highlights

♦ Career Panel
  ◇ Zoo, Pet Food Company, Humane Society, Game and Parks Directors and Experts

♦ Student Panels
  ◇ Learn about internships and careers

♦ Educational Sessions

To register contact:
Sue Ellen Pegg
spegg2@unl.edu
402.472.7471
Careers of Graduates
What are our graduates doing now?

Allison Leimer (Mead, NE) is a master’s student at New Mexico State University. 2010 Graduate, Major: Animal Science, Animal Biology and Fisheries and Wildlife option.

Christina Brezack (Omaha, NE) is the marketing and sponsorship coordinator for the National Reining Horse Association in Oklahoma City, OK. 2010 Graduate, Major: Animal Science, Animal Biology and Fisheries and Wildlife option.

Emily Burback (Lincoln, NE) is in the Profession Program in Veterinary Medicine between UNL and ISU. 2011 Graduate, Major: Animal Science, Veterinary Animal Sciences option.

Megan Brincks (Carroll, IA) is a writer for The Chronicle of the Horse in Warrenton, Virginia. 2011 Graduate, Major: News-Editorial, UNL Equestrian Team Member.

Megan Malloy (Decatur, NE) is an Ag Research Technician III with the Institutional Animal Care Program at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. 2012 Graduate, Major: Animal Science, Companion Animal option.

Mikki Nienhueser (Gurley, NE) is the Animal Emergency Coordinator for the Nebraska Department of Agriculture, 2008 Graduate, Major: Animal Science.

College and Horses
Making the Best Choice for Your Future!

By: Kathy Anderson

Are you getting ready to graduate from High school and your dream is to pursue a college degree involving horses? Fortunately now you now have many opportunities! Institutions which offer various types of equine programs has flourished recently. Therefore, high school students need to do their homework to seek the best school for their future plans.

When searching for the best college selection, youth must take a hard, honest look at their future plans, earning potential and realistic employment opportunities. They must realize plans often change and determine if their career path will have direct or indirect daily involvement with horses. Further, determining the purpose of the college experience will help to narrow the scope. Is an equine concentrated degree essential, or do they simply desire to take a few equine related courses? What types of actual equine courses are offered at the school they are looking at? Do they have only lecture type courses or are there “hands-on” opportunities as well? Another factor to examine is the benefits and drawbacks from a 2-year program versus a 4-year institution. Which will provide greater options should one’s plans change? Which has more flexibility? What are the transfer opportunities? Furthermore, and related to the type of institution is what type of degree is the person interested in pursuing? There are numerous options available now from both 2 and 4 year degrees in Equine Sciences, Animal Science with Equine Options, and Associates degrees. Which degrees provide the greatest flexibility? Which type of degree matches up with a person’s long term goals the best? Another factor is the type of co-curricular activities does the institution offer? Activities can include Equestrian Teams, Horse Judging Teams, Rodeo Teams, Horsemen’s Associations, Polo, and more. How important are these to a person’s school selection? How do the teams select their members? Will there be an opportunity to take one’s own horse and are there boarding facilities on campus? Finally, the location of the school should also factor in. Some schools may be very attractive, however the distance from home can become challenging, if it is substantial. Furthermore, economics and affordability must also be taken to account. Will tuition be in-state tuition or will it be out-of-state? What types of scholarships may be available? Do the equine courses have large laboratory fees? What type of employment opportunities are there?

Youth today have many more opportunities to pursue a college degree and stay involved with the horse industry. With all the options available, it is important to take the time to research what the best fit for one’s future will be. Determining one’s true needs and future objectives can help to make the best choice and get the maximum benefit from the collegiate experience.
Companion Animal and Equine Open House

September 24th
6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
UNL’s East Campus
Animal Science Commons
Parking will be available in the C lot south of the Animal Science building.

Open House Events Include:
- Demonstrations & hands-on education
- Information on Careers
- Door Prizes
- Meet with student organizations
  - SEECA, Equestrian Team, Horse Judging Team, Vet Students, Pre-Vet Club

Nebraska State 4-H Exposition Results

The 2012 Fonner Park Nebraska State 4-H Horse Exposition was held July 15th-19th, 2012 at Fonner Park in Grand Island, NE. 329 exhibitors represented 63 counties for a combined 1045 judged entries. Youth and their families endured the heat and dirt until the final Champion was crowned Thursday morning. In all 40 State Champions would triumph from a field of 426 purple-ribbon, superior performances.

Congratulations to:

YEARLING FILLIES (LUNGING HALTER)
Brandon Burruss from Merrick County

2 YEAR OLD MARES (LUNGING HALTER)
Lucy Geweke from Valley County

3 YEAR OLD MARES
Josh King Burt County

4 & 5 YEAR OLD MARES
Sierra Nelson from Lancaster County

YEARLING GELDINGS (LUNGING HALTER)
Holly Doyle from Red Willow County

2 YEAR OLD GELDINGS (LUNGING HALTER)
Kaitlyn Thesenvitz from Hall County

3 YEAR OLD GELDINGS
Calli Pleskac from Washington County

4 & 5 YEAR OLD GELDINGS
Jenna Brown from Madison County

Jr. SHOWMANSHIP 12-14
Sydney Gemar from Clay County

Sr. SHOWMANSHIP 15 & UP
Jasey Christensen from Platte County

TRAIL HORSE
Lauren Woodward from Hall County

Jr. ENGLISH PLEASURE 12-14
Lucy Geweke from Valley County

Sr. ENGLISH PLEASURE 15 & UP
Selena Finn from Wayne County

Jr. ENGLISH EQUITATION 12-14
Bailee Sobotka from Lancaster County

Sr. ENGLISH EQUITATION 15 & UP
Lillian Nagengast from Knox County

HUNTER HACK
Jordan Lauby from Dawson County

2 YEAR-OLD SNAFFLE BIT WESTERN PLEASURE
Luke Lundahl from Wayne County

3 YEAR-OLD WESTERN PLEASURE
Jenna Trumble from Hall County

WESTERN PLEASURE PONIES
Lindsey Padgett from Hall County

Jr. WESTERN PLEASURE 12-14
Alyssa Waits from Lincoln County

Results continued on page 4.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sr. WESTERN PLEASURE 15 &amp; UP</strong></td>
<td>Shelby Engles</td>
<td>Buffalo County</td>
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<td><strong>Jr. WESTERN HORSEMANSHIP 12-14</strong></td>
<td>Sydnee Gemar</td>
<td>Clay County</td>
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<td><strong>Sr. WESTERN HORSEMANSHIP 15 &amp; UP</strong></td>
<td>Alivia Braniff</td>
<td>Washington County</td>
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<td>Miranda Lauby</td>
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<td><strong>ELEMENTARY DRESSAGE</strong></td>
<td>Bailee Sobotka</td>
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<td>Jamie Thomas</td>
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<td>Jamie Thomas</td>
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<td>Amanda Shields</td>
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<td>Colton Vossler</td>
<td>Saunders County</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>DALLY TEAM ROPING-HEELER</strong></td>
<td>Tom Littell</td>
<td>Buffalo County</td>
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Congratulations to all of our 2012 Fonner Park Nebraska State 4-H Horse Expo champions and participants! Complete show results can be found at: [http://4h.unl.edu/4hhorseresults](http://4h.unl.edu/4hhorseresults).

2013 Fonner Park Nebraska State 4-H Horse Exposition
July 15-18, 2013

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**To all 4-H Dog Participants!!**

University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension is pleased to announce the Fourth Annual Canine Companions for Life – Nebraska 4-H Dog Expo, will be held October 13-14, 2012 at the Adams County Fairgrounds in Hastings, Nebraska. This two day event will start at 9:00 am on both days. Hands on clinics will teach you skills you can test out in the show ring with dog handling competitions. There will be educational workshops, hands-on clinics, and multiple show rings operating on both days, all provided in a comfortable indoor venue.

Early Bird Registrations must be post marked by September 28, 2012 for the $40 both day fee or $25 for one day.

Canine Companions for Life - Nebraska 4-H Dog Expo is designed to provide youth from all across the state several opportunities to meet other youth, to exchange ideas in a fun environment, to learn more about their dog(s) as well as provide an opportunity to work with their dog(s). Educational sessions are also planned for adult volunteers and parents assisting with 4-H Dog programs. Youth can participate in one day or two days.

The following are features of the Nebraska 4-H dog Expo:
- Educational Sessions
- Careers, Demonstrations, Hands-on opportunities to learn proper training techniques
- Show Classes, Fun Classes, and much more!!!

For more information and additional registration forms visit: companionanimal.unl.edu.
Department of Animal Science

Fall 2012 Events
- **August 2-4**: Ultimate Husker Weekend
- **October 3**: Companion Animal Science & Wildlife Career Day
- **November 3**: Experience the Power of Red Open House
- **TBD**: Animal Science Overnight
- **December 5**: Companion Animal Science & Wildlife Career Day

**Important Deadlines: (Senior Applicants)**
- **January 15**: UNL Scholarship Deadline
- **February 15**: Animal Science Scholarship Deadline
- **May 1**: Fall 2013 Admission Deadline

**Animal Science Degree Options**

**Equine Science Option:**
- Course work in nutrition, reproduction, physiology, genetics, behavior, and management
- Pursue a variety of careers including horse farm management, equine sales & marketing, pharmaceuticals, training, & breeding
- Facilities include an indoor, heated arena (80’ x 125’), 14 box stalls, wash rack, tack & feed room, dry lots, and 55’ round pen

**Companion Animal Option:**
- Designed to provide students the information and knowledge needed to have a job in the ever expanding companion animal industry.
- Careers in the areas of product development, small animal handling, & exotic animal handling, & much more!

**Veterinary Animal Science Option:**
- Coursework in anatomy & physiology, biology, management of companion animals, reproductive physiology
- Students taking this option will meet the requirements needed for acceptance into veterinary school.

For more information or to schedule a visit contact:
Alli Raymond
Animal Science Admissions Coordinator
araymond2@unl.edu or 402.472.0204

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln does not discriminate based on gender, age, disability, race, color, marital status, national or ethnic origin, or sexual orientation.
Companion Animal and Equine

Dr. Lisa Karr-Lilienthal, assistant professor in Companion Animal Science. Lisa received a bachelor’s degree in Agriculture from Illinois State University and then received her master’s and doctorate degrees from the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign in Companion Animal Nutrition. Her research has focused on nutrition of dogs, cats, and other nonruminant animals.

She advises undergraduate students and teaches courses, in Companion Animals. She also serves as the adviser to Students for Education of Companion and Exotic Animals. She oversees and develops youth extension and outreach programming related to companion animal care and management.

Dr. Lena Cottle, Equine Extension Specialist. Lena received her bachelor’s degree in Equine Business and Industry, a master’s degree in Animal Science and a doctorate degree in Systems Agriculture from West Texas A&M University.

She oversees and develops youth extension and outreach programming related to the horse. She is taking over the 4-H Horse Youth activities including but not limited to the Stampede, District and State 4-H Horse Shows, 4-H Horse Show Judges clinics, and other youth related activities.

Dr. Kathy Anderson, Extension Horse Specialist. Kathy received her bachelor’s degree in Animal Science/Agriculture Education at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln, a master’s degree in Physiology of Reproduction from Texas A&M University, and doctorate degree in Animal Science Kansas State University.

She advises undergraduate students and teaches courses, on Horses. She oversees and develops extension and outreach programming related to horse care and management; such as eXtension (Horse Quest) and Equine Science work group and producer education.

Kathy Potthoff, UNL 4-H Youth Development Extension Educator – has been with the UNL with experience working in the Southwest Four Extension Program Unit and the Nebraska State 4-H Office. Kathy is working with 4-H programming in animal science areas of horse and companion animals, youth development and volunteer training, and cultural competence.

She has presented 4-H educational programs on the national, regional, state, and local levels in Positive Youth Development, Volunteer Development, Cultural Education, Outdoors, Companion Animals, Horse, and other Animal Science areas.

Extension is a Division of the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln cooperating with the Counties and the United States Department of Agriculture.

The 4-H Youth Development program abides with the nondiscrimination policies of the University of NebraskaLincoln and the United States Department of Agriculture.