

Meet Brian Bendele

MANAGER OF YOUTH AND OUTREACH PROGRAMS BRIAN BENDELE



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FIRST, LET ME SAY HOW EXCITED I AM TO SERVE AS THE MANAGER OF YOUTH AND outreach programs as well as being a part of such a wonderful organization as the National Reining Horse Association.

Like many of you, for as far back as I can remember, I've been involved with horses. Growing up in central Oklahoma, I was surrounded by horses. My mother, Sandy Bendele, came from an English jumping discipline and my father, Mike Bendele, roped calves.

Both of my parents set an example for me at an early age as they were active leaders of our local 4-H horse club. With their support, I showed Quarter Horses from the novice level all the way to open level and in every class from reining to tie-down roping.

My passion for horses and roping stayed with me as I attended Oklahoma State University where I majored in agricultural communications and animal science. There I competed on the college rodeo and horse judging teams.

My involvement in youth organizations helped me develop many skills in areas such as community service, public speaking, and leadership.

My wife Andrea and I are very active with our horses and spend many afternoons in the roping pen. She helps ride horses while I train my next up-and-coming project horse.

I see a tremendous potential with the NRHyA to develop a program that directly relates back to our mission of providing character and leadership opportunities that will enable youth to become the future leaders of the reining horse industry.

My plan is to develop programs that will help youth leaders better organize their local affiliates and create clubs to grow our youth membership.

With the ability to communicate with members from all across the globe through NRHyA.com and sites like Myspace and Facebook, the NRHyA is poised to take off.

The Varsity Reining Club allows us to connect with members who ride as well as those who don't. This program encourages volunteerism and community service, while keeping track of records on our Web site.

I'm especially excited as the NRHA Futurity is upon us. I look forward to partaking in the youth officer elections, promoting the raffle horse, and meeting each and every one of you who help make this program so successful.

I look forward to my new position as youth and outreach manager and see nothing but good things to come for both the NRHA and NRHyA.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brian Bendele". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Brian Bendele