

---

# *StudBook to Award* Best Young Horse in 2011

Written by  
StudBook editor

The founders and owners of this magazine, Martina Gates and Thórunn Kristjánsdóttir, have decided to award the best young horse in North America with an award each year – starting in 2011.

In the past few years young horses, ages three weeks through three years old, were judged all throughout the United States and Canada, with results being published in Tölt News, the Quarterly, and elsewhere. International judge, Barbara Frische, has judged these young horses in the last few years, and has returned from her travels excited about many of the young horses she's seen. She says that the best young horses here are comparable to the best in Iceland and Europe.

The StudBook was founded with the purpose of helping to highlight and promote the breeding horses in North America, as well as the Icelandic horse in general. Both Martina and Thórunn feel that the young horses are the future of the Icelandic horse in North

America, and feel it is so important to promote and highlight the best ones, and learn about their bloodlines, because these horses will one day soon represent the United States and Canada. In this spirit and excitement, they have decided that each year The StudBook will award the highest judged young horse in North America with a trophy and certificate.

## Criteria to qualify

The criteria to qualify for this award is that the young horse has to be located and registered in the United States or Canada, and assessed by Barbara or any other judge that is doing official young horse assessments.

At the end of the year, once all of the young horse assessments have commenced, and the scores tallied, the judge(s) will announce the best young horse of that year. The StudBook will award that horse as the best young horse of the year. The owner of the horse will be awarded with a certificate as well as a trophy that was designed and crafted by Bradford McDougal. The award is a beautiful metal sculpture, mounted on a rich piece of wood. It will have the horse's name and the year it was awarded, and it will be presented to the owner in November of 2011.

The breeder of the horse (if different than the owner) will be awarded with a certificate as well. The winner will then be featured in the following year's StudBook.

"The game is on! The trophy is so darn good looking we hate to part with it. We hope many owners will show their young horses this year, because it will be an honor for the horse winning this award. The breeding in North America has turned a corner and many breeders are taking advantage of the very good breeding stock we now have here. Of course the StudBook will be a big help for breeders to make wise breeding choices, and with a combination of well thought-out breeding and luck, there is no doubt that some diamonds will emerge!" beamed Martina Gates. ●

