

## SPANISH MUSTANG

# *Spirit of the Black Hills*



### PRESERVATION OF RARE SPANISH MUSTANGS INCLUDING SULPHURS, KIGERS, AND SORRAIAS

Welcome to our exciting ***Spanish Mustang Spirit of the Black Hills*** preservation project, managed by the Institute of Range and the American Mustang (IRAM) at the Black Hills Wild Horse Sanctuary (BHWHS) in Hot Springs, South Dakota. Nearly one hundred of our over five hundred mustangs at the sanctuary, in our special Spanish herds, represent primitive remnants from rare bloodlines of the Golden Age of Spain and the Old World Iberian Peninsula. We are now expanding our wild horse sponsorship program to include our historic Spanish-type horses.

**The purpose of this project is to preserve, promote, and educate the public about rare Spanish and Portuguese equine bloodlines still found in today's American mustangs.** Majestic and iconic Spanish jennets came to the New World with the Spanish explorers and conquistadors in search of new lands and riches. The Iberian horses left behind were in many ways worth more than the gold they had discovered in the New World; safeguarding this shrinking treasure chest of genetic wealth from ancient times is this mission of this project, with significant focus on helping to reclaim the Sorraia mustang.

### THE RARE SORRAIA MUSTANG

Along with various types of Spanish horses brought to the New World, historians believe it was the wild horse of Iberia (the "marismeño" now known as the Sorraia), or its tamed descendants that Christopher Columbus first brought to the Caribbean Islands. Columbus' own writings state that he intended for only the finest Andalusian stock of the time to accompany him on his second voyage; however, just before setting sail, fraudulent dealers pulled a switch and "a lower grade" of horse reached Hispaniola in late November of 1493. But instead of the anticipated drawbacks, the unscrupulous substitution proved most advantageous as these common horses were much more capable of enduring the hardships ahead. The fact that we have any remnants of these bloodlines left is a testament to their hardiness and adaptability.

At the BHWHS, we not only provide sanctuary for America's most unwanted mustangs, but we are taking steps to preserve an original horse created not by Man, but by Mother Nature herself. With less than 200 Sorraia horses left in the world, the BHWHS is one of a few places where research and preservation of the Sorraia mustang will continue, along with a few other private breeders in North America.

### HISTORIC SPANISH MUSTANG LINEAGE

The types of Spanish/Iberian horses we have today in the Americas—reminiscent of the jennet type—include horses from wild strains, Native American strains, Mexican strains, South American strains, and rancher strains. There are Spanish traits that the eye alone can recognize, but we also have the science of mitochondrial DNA now to help prove what was already obvious to many equine hippologists and historians. Mustangs trace their lineage wholly or in part, however diluted, to those early horses brought to the Americas by the conquistadors.

American mustangs with the strongest traits of Spanish ancestry frequently surface in the more remote ranges of public lands which are overseen by the U.S. Department of the Interior's Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The Kiger herds in Oregon, the Book Cliffs herds in Utah/Colorado, the Sulphur Springs herds in Utah, and other Herd Management Areas (HMAs) all have horses which exhibit Iberian characteristics. These "*Spanish Mustang Spirit*" horses forever changed the history of man in the Americas, and with your help, we have a unique opportunity to preserve this equine "DNA gold of the Black Hills." Read more on our Web site at [www.spanishmustangspirit.com](http://www.spanishmustangspirit.com).

# OUR SPANISH MUSTANG SPIRIT HORSES AVAILABLE FOR SPONSORSHIP



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## DON JUAN—COLINAS DE CORAZON

(SIR JOHN—HEART OF THE HILLS — SULPHUR/SORRAIA MUSTANG STALLION)

Don Juan is a spectacular dark zebra dun with primitive markings that include dark ear rims, a wide dorsal stripe, stripes on his withers, and very predominate leg stripping. There are a few white hairs on his forehead. He was born in May of 2000 from wild Sulphur mustang parents from the BLM Sulphur Springs Herd Management Area in Utah. This gorgeous stallion is registered with the Sulphur Horse Registry and because he also possesses many characteristics of the Portuguese Sorraia, he has Foundation Certification in the Sorraia Mustang Studbook. Don Juan and his first band of mares arrived at the Black Hills Wild Horse Sanctuary in 2003.



©Barry Clemmons

## GABRIELA

(WARRIOR OF GOD — SULPHUR MUSTANG MARE)

Gabriela's lovely black-brown color reminds one of dark chocolate melting in the prairie sun. Gabriela and her mother Houlihan, a Sulphur mustang mare from the BLM Sulphur Springs Herd Management Area in Utah, were donated to the Black Hills Wild Horse Sanctuary in 2006. Gabriela was just a weanling when she arrived and always hid behind her mother. Now as an adult, she has her own friends and lives bravely in a band of younger *Spanish Mustang Spirit* horses.



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## MARICRUZ KACHINA

(BELOVED CROSS — SPANISH MUSTANG MARE)

Maricruz came to the Black Hills Wild Horse Sanctuary from a private donor, *Caballos de Destino*, in Hot Springs, SD. She is a lovely grulla Spanish mustang mare born in 2003. The color grulla, in the dun family of colors, is the Spanish name for the blue-gray color of the sandhill crane. Her primitive colors include a dorsal strip, leg barring, and stripes on her withers. The broken stripe on her face has a cross right at the top which gave the inspiration for her name. Reverent and holy, her quiet manner and personality reminds one of the beloved cross.



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## HANNAH DE MONTANA

(HANNAH OF MONTANA — SULPHUR MUSTANG MARE)

Hannah is a zebra dun Sulphur mustang mare from the Blackfeet Indian Reservation in Montana. She has a lovely star adorning her forehead and a stripe down her back with three white socks. Her primitive markings include a bi-colored mane and tail, dark ear rims, a dorsal stripe, wither stripes, and zebra stripes on her legs. The markings on Hannah and her daughter Nina indicate probable Spanish ancestry. They arrived at the Black Hills Wild Horse Sanctuary late in 2009 to join the rest of the *Spanish Mustang Spirit* herd.

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## NINA DE MONTANA

(LITTLE GIRL OF MONTANA — SULPHUR MUSTANG MARE)

Nina is a young zebra dun Sulphur mustang mare from the Blackfeet Indian Reservation, daughter of Hannah de Montana. Born in 2009, she has a crescent moon star on her face with two white socks on her back legs. Her primitive markings include bi-colored mane and tail, dark rimmed ears, a dorsal stripe, and zebra marking on her legs. Her dorsal stripe is unique in that it has a funny zigzag right before her tail. Due to interactions with her environment she has a slight split on the tip of one of her ears.



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## BUCKSHOT

(SORRAIA/SULPHUR MUSTANG GELDING)

Buckshot was sired by Don Juan and is out of Sulphur Rose. This happy-go-lucky gelding acts like the happiest horse in the world, enjoying his freedom even more than most of the horses here. He always seems to make a grand entrance for visitors and loves to strut his stuff for the camera. You can always find Buckshot with Gabriela (another Sulphur mustang sponsorship mare in this flyer) and Honey (a stunning yellow dun with zebra strips even more predominant than Buckshot's). Taller than most of the horses in our *Spanish Mustang Spirit Preservation Program*, he's hard to miss.



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## JOSEFINA

(GOD SHALL HAVE ANOTHER DAUGHTER — KIGER MUSTANG MARE)

Josefina is a lovely dark bay mare with just a few white hairs under her long black forelock. Josefina was a yearling when she came to the sanctuary in 2005 with her mother, Martita, from the BLM Herd Management Area in Oregon. Friendly and outgoing, she is just the opposite of her mother as she has never had to experience the trauma of a wild horse round-up. She is always the first one to greet the tourists as they come to take her photo; she truly is a blessing from God!



# BE THE FIRST TO HELP PRESERVE ONE OF THESE RARE MUSTANGS TODAY!

We invite you to join the **Spanish Mustang Spirit of the Black Hills** preservation project to support these historic and iconic bloodlines. The genetics these horses possess make them as rare a treasure to us as the gold was to the Spaniards. Support our efforts as we preserve these "treasures of the prairie" in the "heart of the hills."

An annual promesa (pledge) helps to provide care and maintenance for these rare Spanish mustangs. The benefits to you include a Spanish Mustang Spirit certificate with a photo of your sponsored horse, a Spanish mustang calendar, educational materials, and the satisfaction of knowing that you are making a difference to help preserve rare genetics. See our promesa (pledge) form for complete details and renewal information. Be sure to include your email address on the form so you can also receive our electronic newsletters.

## PROMESA (PLEDGE) LEVELS

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**Bronce (Bronze) Patron: \$100.00**

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**Plata (Silver) Patron - Winter Friend: \$200.00**

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**Oro (Gold) Patron - Four Seasons Friend: \$400.00**

(includes a free two-hour tour and naming rights for one wild mesteño)

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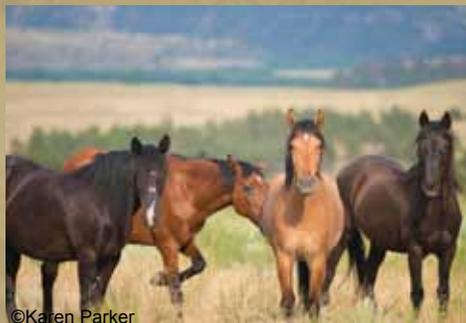
**Platino (Platinum) Patron - Forever Friend: \$3,000.00**

(includes a free three-hour tour and naming rights for one wild mesteño for life)

*(or several ounces of Gold Bullion can also support an entire band)*



**CALL US FOR MORE DETAILS AT 605.745.5955  
OR EMAIL US AT [INFO@SPANISHMUSTANGSPIRIT.COM](mailto:INFO@SPANISHMUSTANGSPIRIT.COM)**



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Please realize that this program works with living creatures in their natural habitat and we cannot be responsible for the forces of nature. If your chosen horse becomes ill, injured, or for any reason is no longer part of the program, all monies for the sponsorship of this horse will be used for the care and maintenance of all other horses within the program. Any such incident will be addressed in our newsletters.

The Institute of Range and the American Mustang (IRAM) thanks you for helping sponsor our rare Spanish mustangs. Your sponsorship contributes to the management of our land base of eleven thousand plus acres so that more and more of the nation's wild horses can live out their lives in freedom. This is a place where you can actually come to visit the Spanish mustang you sponsor. This extraordinary range is home to ancient petroglyphs, historic sites, wildlife, geology, and an in-depth study of short grass prairies. IRAM was founded by Dayton O. Hyde in 1988 as a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation registered in the state of South Dakota. IRAM's federal tax number is 46-0401462. Contact us at 605.745.5955.