

# Youth Spotlight

Meet Annabel Steffens, an 11-year-old rider whose passion for horses sparked after watching Spirit Riding Free. Inspired by the show, Annabel asked her parents to help her start riding, and the rest is history. "My mom and dad brought me to Valerie Kearns' barn, and I got attached right away," she says.

Annabel now competes with her beloved horse Stella. Their bond grew strong through time and a few shows, and together they've become quite the team in all-around events, with horsemanship being their absolute favorite class.

One of Annabel's proudest achievements? Winning the Level 2 13 & Under Equitation at Youth World. "That was our first Youth World win, and Stella and I did it together. It was so special."

**Annabel Steffens**  
Director

