



Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to inform you of the many happenings and news from the AKC. In this November edition of “To The Core,” I am sharing information about our AKC® National Championship entries, AKC® Meet the Breeds® as it returns to New York City and we crowned a new AKC® Trick Dog winner.



## [AKC® National Championship Draws Over 5,700 Dogs!](#)

It is our favorite time of the year here at AKC! We are on the cusp of our 23rd Annual AKC® National Championship presented by Royal Canin, a weekend that crowns America’s National Champion and highlights the beauty of the human canine bond.

This year, we are incredibly proud of our record-breaking entry totals. We have a grand total of 5,762 dogs competing for the title of America’s National Champion on December 16 and 17, 2023 at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, Florida. Combined with the other weekend events, including the AKC®/Royal Canin National All-Breed Puppy and Junior Stakes, the AKC® Agility Invitational presented by YuMOVE, the AKC® Obedience Classic, the AKC® National Owner-Handled Series Finals, the AKC® Fast CAT® Invitational and the Junior events, the overall show entry totals top a staggering 9,807 entries, cementing our place as the largest dog show in North America.

If you cannot make it to Orlando, you do not have to miss a moment. There will be extensive live coverage on AKC.tv throughout the Championship week starting on Tuesday, December 12th with the first of three All-Breed dog shows

hosted by the Space Coast Kennel Club of Palm Bay, Brevard Kennel Club and Central Florida Kennel Club, respectively. AKC.tv® will also stream the AKC® Obedience Classic, the AKC® Agility Invitational presented by YuMOVE, the AKC® National Owner-Handled Series finals, the AKC®/Royal Canin National All-Breed Puppy and Junior Stakes, the Best Bred-by-Exhibitor groups, Best in Miscellaneous, Junior Showmanship, and the evening group competitions. The events will be available on-demand for later viewing. AKC.tv is available online, on the AKC.tv app which is on the Apple Store and Google Play, plus Roku, Apple TV, and Amazon Fire TV.

Whether in person or watching from home or joining us in Orlando, we are certain that this year's AKC National Championship will be one to remember.



## [AKC® Meet the Breeds® Returns to New York City in 2024](#)

We are thrilled to bring AKC® Meet the Breeds® back to New York City! Our flagship event will be held January 27-28th at the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center. This family-friendly, canine spectacle gives dog lovers the unique opportunity to meet and play with hundreds of adorable dogs and puppies while learning about responsible pet ownership and what breed may fit their lifestyle. Last year we had over 25,000 dog lovers attend.

From Affenpinschers to Yorkshire Terriers and every breed in between, the showcase gives dog lovers the unique opportunity to:

- Meet and play with more than 100 different dog breeds
- Discover new breeds and talk to experts to learn the breeds work for your lifestyle
- Be educated about responsible pet ownership
- See many fun and entertaining demonstrations of dog sports and working dogs exhibiting their skills

- Participate in games and photo opportunities with the whole family, including a Kid's Zone with crafts, fun, and games

Your breed/club deserves to be represented. Email [meetthebreeds@akc.org](mailto:meetthebreeds@akc.org) for more information and to sign up. We'll see you in New York.



## [Congratulations to our 2023 AKC® Trick Dog Winners](#)

Congratulations are in order for the 2023 winners of the 5th annual AKC® Trick Dog competition. The overall winners were Paula Jarabin and her All-American dog, "Rosie," from Santa Barbara, CA. In their routine, "The Honky Tonk Café Talent Show," Rosie demonstrated the tricks needed to win a talent show. You can watch their award winning video [here](#).

The competition was open to Elite Performers, AKC's highest level of trick dogs. Juniors were also permitted to enter at any level as long as their dogs had a Trick Dog title. The AKC Trick Dog competition has continued to grow steadily, with this year having more than 200 competitors and 68 breeds from 40 states and Canada that were judged by three judges. To learn more about the other winners and watch their winning videos, visit [www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org).

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Lastly, in this season of gratitude we wish you and your families a happy and peaceful holiday season.

I enjoy sharing these news and updates about the happenings at AKC with you.

Until next time,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dennis B. Sprung".

Dennis Sprung

President and CEO

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