

**Lisa Diersen** is an avid equestrian, she has spent her life in the company of horses. She is the Founder and Director of Equus Film Festival, LLC. The Equus Film Festival is the first film festival oriented around equestrian themed content from all over the world. The festival empowers storytellers to show the rich history and diverse tapestry of horses in human culture through equestrian content. Screening feature films, documentaries, shorts, music videos, commercials, training educational materials, art and literary, covering all equestrian disciplines, creating a home for the storytellers of the horse world. Her mission is to show the world how horses can bring everyone together regardless of race, age, gender, abilities or disabilities. Lisa is passionate about the education and enlightenment of others to the wonderful world of horses and everything they can do to enrich our lives.

As a co-founder and principal partner of Equus Concepts, LLC. she works to help develop and produce the Festival Of The Horse & Drum - "The United Nations Of Horses & Humans" bringing the concept of a multicultural equestrian celebration annually to St Charles, Illinois, where children and the general public can be introduced to the magical world of horses, experiencing everything from local to global equestrian culture, history and traditions.

Lisa works with Dr. Sandra Kakacek using horses to help clients in both Equine Assisted Psychotherapy and Equine Assisted Learning. Her training in EAP started with Greg Kersten and EAGALA in 2002.

Lisa is a founding board member of the Chicago Horse Center of America, a non-profit, a not-for-profit organization formed in 2013 to create and maintain a world-class equestrian center in the city of Chicago that will serve a broad demographic of individuals and communities.

She is also a published equine author.

Having a background in engineering and construction management, she has a wide based ability to get projects up and running. Lisa spent the early part of her career with General Motors in engineering, then moving into the subdivision development and home/barn building market with her ex-partner, before returning to her first love.....working with horses! Raising and training Lusitano horses at home in St Charles at The Royal Lusitano Breeding Farm with her faithful Jack Russell Terrier and the herd.