



## Press Release

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **SAVE THE DATE! WORLD'S LARGEST GATHERING OF DOGS & CATS COMES EARLY THIS YEAR TO THE JAVITS CENTER SEPTEMBER 28 & 29** **- Don't Miss the Fifth Annual AKC Meet the Breeds Event -**

**New York, NY** – New York City is going to the dogs and cats once again when the American Kennel Club® (AKC®) and The International Cat Association (TICA) join forces to host the fifth annual AKC Meet the Breeds® event on September 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> at the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center.

Sponsored by PetPartners, Inc. a leading pet healthcare provider, AKC Meet the Breeds is the world's largest showcase of dogs and cats and offers pet lovers a unique opportunity to get up close and personal with some of the country's rarest dog and cat breeds. Spectators can talk to responsible breeders and owners about these amazing animals and determine the right breed for their lifestyle.

"AKC Meet the Breeds is the perfect way for the public to learn about the predictability of purebred dogs and figure out what breed is right for them," said AKC Meet the Breeds Spokesperson Gina DiNardo. "Educating yourself about the needs and qualities of each breed is very important, so come and literally 'meet' hundreds of dogs and cats and learn which would make the best addition to your family."

"Nowhere else can New Yorkers step into an ancient Burmese temple and pet a Birman cat and then be transported to the Land of Oz to play with a Cairn Terrier," said TICA President Vickie Fisher. "AKC Meet the Breeds allows people to experience that, and then talk to owners and breeders about what that cat or dog is like as a pet."

In addition to meeting tons of dog and cat breeds in elaborately decorated booths, attendees can expect to see the following:

- **Ongoing demonstrations** allow attendees to watch dogs and cats race against the clock in the fast-paced sport of Agility, see dogs do tricks, show off their Flyball and Frisbee skills, and view law enforcement K9s in action.

- **Top experts in pet-related fields** including breeding, training, grooming, nutrition and first aid. Get to know some of the cat and dog specialists who will be available to answer your questions and help you identify the best breed for you.
- **More than 100 vendors selling unique dog and cat items** so you can spoil your favorite Fido or Fluffy. Every imaginable canine and feline product will be available.
- **Games and giveaways** at vendor booths including free samples and activities for kids.

Get social with the AKC and TICA! Join AKC on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) and TICA on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

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**About AKC Meet the Breeds** – From Afghan Hounds to the Turkish Van, AKC Meet the Breeds® showcases 160 American Kennel Club® (AKC) registered dog breeds and this year will feature 50 cat breeds registered by The International Cat Association (TICA) in booths individually decorated to depict each breed's country of origin, historical purpose/function, and attributes as a family pet. This family-friendly event is an opportunity for potential pet owners to interact with responsible breeders and play with dogs and cats while educating themselves about responsible pet ownership and choosing the right pet for their lifestyle. AKC Meet the Breeds is proudly presented by [PetPartners, Inc.](#), a leading pet healthcare provider, and will feature more than 160,000 square feet of dog and cat festivities including ongoing demonstration rings – featuring law enforcement K-9's, dog agility, grooming– and more than 100 vendor booths that offer every imaginable product for pets and their owners. Event sponsors include The Hartford Financial Services Group, Inc., Pet Brands, Inc., Motel 6, and BH Pet Gear LLC. For more information visit [www.MeetTheBreeds.com](http://www.MeetTheBreeds.com).

**The American Kennel Club**, founded in 1884, is a not-for-profit organization which maintains the largest registry of purebred dogs in the world and oversees the sport of purebred dogs in the United States. The AKC is dedicated to upholding the integrity of its registry, promoting the sport of purebred dogs and breeding for type and function. Along with its nearly 5,000 licensed and member clubs and its affiliated organizations, the AKC advocates for the purebred dog as a family companion, advances canine health and well-being, works to protect the rights of all dog owners and promotes responsible dog ownership. More than 20,000 competitions for AKC-registered purebred dogs are held under AKC rules and regulations each year including conformation, agility, obedience, rally, tracking, herding, lure coursing, coonhound events, hunt tests, field and earthdog tests. Affiliate AKC organizations include the AKC Humane Fund, AKC Canine Health Foundation, AKC Companion Animal Recovery and the AKC Museum of the Dog. For more information, visit [www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org).

**The International Cat Association, Inc. (TICA)** was organized during 1979, is the world's largest genetic registry of pedigreed cats, largest registry of household pet cats and kittens, and one of the world's largest sanctioning bodies for cat shows. TICA currently recognizes more than 54 breeds of cats. Wherever you are, you're in TICA's world. A world of fabulous felines...fun...and friendships. To learn more about TICA visit <http://www.tica.org>.