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THE AKC HUMANE FUND AWARDS FOR CANINE EXCELLENCE (ACE)

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2021 AKC Humane Fund Awards for Canine Excellence (ACE) Winners Announced!

The AKC Humane Fund Awards for Canine Excellence (ACE) celebrate the dogs who do extraordinary things in the service of humankind. Each year, the AKC Humane Fund honors five dedicated, hardworking dogs for making significant contributions to an individual or entire community. Since its

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One award is given in each of the following five categories:

Uniformed Service K-9

Eligibility: Full-time working K-9s in the realms of city, county, state, or federal law enforcement; the military; firefighting; customs and border patrol; emergency services.

Exemplary Companion

Eligibility: Dogs without formal training or certification that have nonetheless distinguished themselves in some way and have made a meaningful contribution to their owners or communities.

Search and Rescue

Eligibility: Dogs certified to assist in wilderness and urban tracking, natural disasters, mass casualty events and locating missing people.

Therapy

Eligibility: Certified therapy dogs working in hospitals, schools, disaster sites, war zones, and wherever else the affection of a good dog can provide comfort.

Service

Eligibility: Service dogs who enrich the lives of physically or mentally disabled owners, including, but not limited to, guide dogs for the blind, seizure-alert dogs, hearing dogs, balance dogs.

**** (Note:** Nominees doing therapy work without certification are considered in the Exemplary Companion category.)

Nominations for the 2022 ACE awards will be announced soon!

The AKC Humane Fund Awards for Canine Excellence are proudly sponsored by Eukanuba™



Winners of the 2021 ACE Awards:

Uniformed Service K-9: “K-9 Mattis,” a German Shepherd Dog handled by Sergeant Mark Tappan of Alpharetta, Georgia +

Therapy Dog: “Teddy,” a Bernese Mountain Dog owned by Caleigh Brown & Pamela Brown of Attleboro, Massachusetts +

Service Dog: “SSD Dyson,” a Labrador Retriever owned by Brandon C. Holiday of North Wales, Pennsylvania +

Search and Rescue Dog: “Magnus Ares,” a Belgian Malinois owned and handled by Sinead Imbaro of Miami, Florida +

Exemplary Companion: “Benny,” a Labrador Retriever owned by Cheryl DelSangro of Las Vegas, Nevada +

Honorable Mentions of the 2021 ACE Awards:

Uniformed Service K-9 Honorable Mentions +

Therapy Dog Honorable Mentions +

[Service Dog Honorable Mentions](#)

[+](#)

[Search and Rescue Honorable Mentions](#)

[+](#)

[Exemplary Companion Honorable Mentions](#)

[+](#)

[Past Honorees](#)

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Meet all of the AKC Humane Fund Award for Canine Excellence (ACE) winners and watch their inspiring stories on [AKC.tv's special presentation](#), sponsored by [Eukanuba](#).

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