



THE 142ND ANNUAL
WESTMINSTER
KENNEL CLUB DOG SHOW

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**SHERMAN, CONNECTICUT RESIDENT WINS BEST JUNIOR HANDLER
AT 142ND ANNUAL WESTMINSTER KENNEL CLUB DOG SHOW
IN NEW YORK CITY**

New York, NY - Lily Mancini with her English Springer Spaniel won Best Junior Handler under Judge Clifford W. Steele at the 142nd Annual Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show in New York City on Tuesday, Feb. 13 at Madison Square Garden.

Mancini, handling her 8-year-old English Springer Spaniel, officially known as GCH Cerise Celtic Thunder, took top honors in the Junior Showmanship competition besting a field of 95 entrants, narrowed down to eight finalists. Finalists were selected over two days of preliminary competitions held at Piers 92/94 on Monday, Feb. 12 and Tuesday, Feb. 13.

As the 2018 Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show Best Junior Handler, Mancini will receive a \$10,000 Junior Showmanship Finalists Scholarship Award. Competitors in Junior Showmanship are from 9 to 18 years old and are judged on their handling abilities.

"Winning Best Junior Handler at Westminster is not only an amazing accomplishment, but reflects Mancini's hard work and dedication," said Westminster Kennel Club Director of Communications Gail Miller Bisher.

Selected highlights of the preliminary rounds were featured on the live broadcast on Nat Geo WILD on Feb. 12-13. For full Junior Showmanship results and video visit www.westminsterkennelclub.org. All Westminster Week events are presented by Purina Pro Plan.

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About The Westminster Kennel Club – The Westminster Kennel Club is America's oldest organization dedicated to the sport of purebred dogs. Established in 1877, Westminster's influence has been felt for more than a century through its famous all-breed, bench dog show held every year at New York City's Madison Square Garden. Today, America's dog show has expanded into Westminster Week which includes the Masters Agility Championship at Westminster and the Masters Obedience Championship at Westminster, both held at Piers 92/94. More than 3,000 dogs from the US and abroad makes Westminster Week like no other. *Westminster. There's only one.* Visit us at: www.westminsterkennelclub.org or follow us @WKCDOGS.

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