



THE 148TH ANNUAL
WESTMINSTER
KENNEL CLUB DOG SHOW

PRESENTED BY



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Interviews Available

**BETHESDA, MD GERMAN SHEPHERD WINS HERDING GROUP AT
THE 148TH ANNUAL WESTMINSTER KENNEL CLUB DOG SHOW**

New York, NY (Tuesday, May 14, 2024) — The German Shepherd of Bethesda, MD, handled by Kent Boyles and co-owned by Cynthian Wilhelmy and Sheree Moses, won the Herding Group under judge Michael Faulkner of Center Cross, VA at the 148th Annual Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show presented by Purina Pro Plan held at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center.

Mercedes, a 4-year-old female officially known as GCHG CH Kaleef's Mercedes, took top honors among the 33 dogs entered within the Herding Group. Westminster will see over 2,500 entries in conformation, with two days of Best of Breed judging from Monday, May 13 – Tuesday, May 14, culminating with the Group and Best in Show competitions.

LINK TO IMAGES: [HERE](#)

Courtesy of Mike Stobe | Getty Images for The Westminster Kennel Club

LINK TO VIDEO: [HERE](#)

Courtesy of Fox Sports

The Herding Group was televised live on FS1. Tune in for the crowning of Best in Show live on FS1 Tuesday, May 14 from 7:00–11:00 p.m. EDT. The Empire State Building will illuminate the New York City skyline in Westminster's iconic purple and gold to celebrate the 148th annual event.

For full results and video, visit westminsterkennelclub.org.

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About The Westminster Kennel Club

The Westminster Kennel Club, established in 1877, is America's oldest organization dedicated to the sport of showing dogs. It hosts the iconic, all-breed Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show, the second-longest, continuously held sporting event in the U.S. after the Kentucky Derby and, since 1948, the longest nationally televised live dog show. The Club's mission is to enhance the lives of all dogs by celebrating the companionship of dogs and promoting responsible dog ownership and breed preservation. The Club

advocates for purpose-bred dogs, with an understanding that each breed has a legacy and history that deserves to be taught, honored, and preserved. The Club uses education to raise awareness and encourage owners to conscientiously select dogs that are the right match for their families. The annual dog show—a conformation competition for purpose-bred dogs—and the Masters Agility Championship and Masters Obedience Championship—where dogs from all backgrounds are eligible to compete—make Westminster Week, with thousands of dogs from the U.S. and around the world, a pinnacle experience for any dog lover. The Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show has captivated canine enthusiasts for more than a century. Learn more at westminsterkennelclub.org.

About Nestlé Purina PetCare

Nestlé Purina PetCare creates richer lives for pets and the people who love them. Founded in 1894, Purina has helped dogs and cats live longer, healthier lives by offering scientifically based nutritional innovations. Purina manufactures some of the world's most trusted and popular pet care products, including Purina ONE, Pro Plan, Fancy Feast and Tidy Cats. Our more than 11,000 U.S. associates take pride in our trusted pet food, treat and litter brands that feed 46 million dogs and 68 million cats every year. More than 500 Purina scientists, veterinarians, and pet care experts ensure our commitment to unsurpassed quality and nutrition.

Purina Pro Plan is a leader in the advanced nutrition category, with more than 140 targeted formulas to help your pet thrive throughout every stage of life. It is also the food of choice for 16 of the past 17 Westminster Best in Show winners*. For more information, visit www.proplan.com or follow @ProPlan on Twitter, Instagram, or Facebook.

Purina promotes responsible pet care through our scientific research, our products and our support for pet-related organizations. Over the past five years, Purina has contributed more than \$150 million towards organizations that bring, and keep, people and pets together, as well as those that help our communities and environment thrive.

Purina is part of Nestlé, a global leader in Nutrition, Health and Wellness. For more information, visit purina.com or [subscribe here](#) to get the latest Purina news.

**The handler or owners of these champions may have received Purina Pro Plan dog food as Purina ambassadors.*