

An Indiana native, Carolyn Heaton has been immersed in the horse industry for over twenty years. She began showing equitation on the A circuit as a teenager where she was never out of the ribbons. During college Carolyn rode on her university's equestrian team, competing in hunt seat flat and over fences as well as stock seat equitation. After a two-year horse hiatus in graduate school and a move west, Carolyn bought her first quarter horse and thus began her introduction to the world of reining.

Prior to her 2005 move to Las Vegas, Carolyn and her husband, Terrill, co-managed Terrill Heaton Performance Horses in Cedar City, Utah for seven years. It was during those years Carolyn found her true passions -- dressage and teaching. In 1998, Carolyn earned her American Riding Instructors' certification and has since coached numerous horse and rider teams to success in both reining and dressage.

With her years of experience in the horse industry and a former career in higher education, Carolyn's variety of experiences give her an open-minded approach to training and teaching horsemanship. Her love of teaching and the learning process, and the great value she places on education for both herself and her students, has resulted in a teaching style that is both theory and experience based while practical in application.

Carolyn encourages both the rider and the horse to engage in the learning process, as they are both, at different times, teacher and student. Her training program emphasizes a positive environment where students develop a willing partnership with the horse based on solid equitation, clear communication, and mutual trust and understanding. Regardless of the discipline, Carolyn's goals are to inspire her students to challenge themselves and to better appreciate and enjoy their equestrian endeavors.