



## professional profile

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**MORGAN WHITNEY**, Business Development Manager

**Born:** 1991 in Dallas, Texas

**Education:** I graduated magna cum laude from the University of Kentucky in 2014 with a BS in hospitality management and tourism, a BS in equine management and science, and a minor in business.

**Family:** My family means the world to me and has made me who I am today. I have lived most of my life between Grand Rapids, Michigan, and Naperville, Illinois, but have been blessed to travel the world to learn about other cultures and experience history.

**Years in the Business:** I was fortunate to be offered a full-time position with Keeneland right out of college as a special events coordinator and have never looked back. While in college, I gained experience through completing seven different internships within the industry, including interning with Keeneland Select; at Equestrian Events International, working to put on the Kentucky Three-Day Event; and at Spruce Meadows, a world-famous show-jumping venue in Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

**Career Highlights:** Being at Keeneland throughout the Breeders' Cup planning and execution was a fantastic learning experience. In 2015, I became our business development manager, focusing on helping clients achieve their goals by bringing people together to share experiences through hosting events. I strongly believe in investing in the community where you live and work. I currently sit on the board of the Lexington Forum as well as Meeting Professionals International, and am a part of the 2017-18 class of Leadership Lexington.

**Hobbies:** All who know me are familiar with my horse, Alfayiz, who brings me so much joy. I rescued Alfayiz nine years ago, the best decision I have ever made. I ride just about every day and appreciate the beautiful Bluegrass that is home. Another hobby is traveling. I consider myself a lifelong student and will never turn down an opportunity to learn something new.

**What you enjoy about working at Keeneland:** From a young age, I knew I wanted to pursue a career in event planning within the equine industry and was incredibly fortunate to find my dream job at Keeneland. Never have I seen a company that more aligns with my beliefs and principles. Every day I am thankful for our amazing team who is really most like a family. They comprise experts in every field, and I know that together we can conquer any task.

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