

Persian Wins CFA International Cat Show

Atlanta show plays host to more than 700 pedigreed felines.

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Santos, a black male Persian, was top cat at the CFA International Cat Show. Photo courtesy CFA/Richard Katris, Chanan Photography. Santos, a black male Persian, was crowned "Best in Show" at the 2008 CFA International Cat Show, held Nov. 21-23 in Atlanta.

The Cat Fanciers' Association hosted the largest cat show in the Western Hemisphere, featuring 729 pedigreed felines, at the Georgia International Convention Center. Every cat entered in the show was evaluated by a team of six professional judges, and reviewed according to a written standard for its breed.

In the case of Santos, whose full name is Kuorii Santos of Cuzzoe, he was bred in Italy and is owned by Justin Pelletier and Brandon Moore of Raleigh, N.C.; Paolo Carnevaletti of Venice, Italy; and Linda Acomb of Fallbrook, Calif.

"We're extremely thrilled at the tremendous success of this year's international competition," said Allene Tartaglia, CFA executive director. "The Cat Fanciers' Association congratulates all winners, and commends all participants in a truly exceptional competition."

The following winners were also announced at the show: Rickat's Jack Trick or Treat, a black male Bombay owned by Barbara Garneau, won in the Short-Haired Championship class. The Championship class is composed of registered, unaltered adult members of the 40 breeds recognized by the CFA. I-Catchers Cathedral, a Tortoiseshell Persian owned by Jane Lamas, won in the Long-Haired Premiership class (neutered males and spayed females). Deydream High Hopes, a black and white Manx, won in the Short-Haired Premiership class (neutered males and spayed females). Latin Lover D'Carlotta, a brown Tabby Female Exotic owned by Valery Boucher, won in the Long-Haired Kitten class. Loganderry Cooper of Hilltop Park, a brown Mackerel Tabby female Devon Rex owned by Claudia Hasay and Gerri Logan, won in the Short-Haired Kitten class. Feline Agility Competition was won by Torch, an 11-month-old chocolate-spotted male Ocicat, owned by Sonja Moscoffian of Marshville, N.C. Torch completed the course in 11 seconds, beating out 27 other competitors.

Among the breeds found at the show were the popular and easily recognized Persian and Siamese, as well as the Maine Coon, Cornish Rex, Oriental and hairless Sphynx. The show marked its 20th anniversary this year, and made its first appearance in Atlanta since 1997.