

Hernandez, Harry: Born: (21 in May 2018) From: Puerto Rico

Went to jockey school in Puerto Rico: Escuela Vocacional Hipica, graduating in the same class as leading riders Jose Ortiz, Irad Ortiz, Jr. and Eric Cancel.

Rode in Puerto Rico for a bit after graduation because he wanted to ride in his native country. On moving to the United States, Hernandez began riding at Finger Lakes in New York, where he was consistently finishing in the top of the jockey standings.

“When I graduated, I wanted to start riding in Puerto Rico since that’s where I’m from and that’s where my family is from,” Hernandez said. “But I always have wanted to come to the United States. This is where the good money is, it’s where the good owners and trainers are and you’ll learn more riding with good jockeys. This is where you learn more. I always wanted to ride in the United States and make a name for myself here.”

It was good friend and accomplished rider Jose Ortiz, however, that gave him some encouragement to give Arlington a try this summer.

“I want to thank God for giving me these opportunities with the trainers and the owners,” Hernandez said. “My family always have supported me. I want to thank my really good friends, especially Jose Ortiz. He was the one who called me up and said ‘Hey, [Ben Allen] is a good agent’. He told me to go try it out.”

As of May 2018 Hernandez was tied for 4th in the jockey standings at Arlington Park.