



**Jose L. Ortiz**

**Born:** Oct. 2, 1993 in Trujillo Alto, Puerto Rico

**Family:** Wife, Taylor Rice; daughter Leilani (born July 2017). Taylor is a former jockey and she is the niece of trainer Linda Rice. Jose is the younger brother of top rider Irad Ortiz, Jr. by one year.

**Racing background:** His grandfather, Irad, and Uncle Ivan were jockeys... Like his older brother, he attended Puerto Rico's noted Escuela Vocacional Hipica jockey school and began riding at Hipodromo Camareto in his native Puerto Rico... He Followed Irad, Jr., from Puerto Rico to NY in 2012 and calls his brother the most influential person in his career... Became one of the country's top apprentices... The brothers were mentored by Hall of Fame rider Angel Cordero, Jr.

**Breeders' Cup Record: 28-2-3-1 | \$3,170,690**

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- Won the Eclipse Award as Outstanding Jockey in 2017. Also won the 2018 ESPY for Best Jockey.
- Outstanding young rider won his first Breeders' Cup race in 2016 when he guided Oscar Performance to victory in the Juvenile Turf and came back last year to win the Juvenile aboard Good Magic, the champion 2-year-old Male of 2017.
- His best finish in his first year at the event was a third in the 2014 Juvenile aboard Upstart and he finished second in the Filly & Mare Sprint aboard La Verdad ... La Verdad, who was trained by Linda Rice, was named champion Female Sprinter of 2015.
- Celebrated his first Triple Crown race victory when he won the Belmont Stakes aboard Tapwrit and followed in the footsteps of Irad again; Irad won in 2016 on Creator.
- First Grade 1 win was in the 2013 Hopeful Stakes on Strong Mandate, and now has 31 Grade 1 wins in total through October 12, 2018.
- Grade 1 wins in 2018 include the Haskell Invitational (on the recently-retired Good Magic), Champagne (Complexity), Joe Hirsch Turf Classic (Channel Maker), Old Forester Classic (Yoshida), Ricoh Woodbine Mile (Oscar Performance), Test (Separationofpowers), Beldame (Wowcat), Humana Distaff (American Gal).
- In 2017, led all North American jockeys in wins and earnings (\$27.3 million). Through October 12, 2018 he was atop the standings again (\$23.5 million) and Irad, Jr. was in second ((\$20.71 million).

- In 2016, won his first NYRA title for most wins at Aqueduct, Belmont and Saratoga (319).
- Earned his second consecutive leading rider title at Saratoga in 2017, topping Irad, Jr. in the win column by five. Finished third in 2018 behind his brother and Javier Castellano.
- In 2016, won his first NYRA title for most wins at Aqueduct, Belmont and Saratoga (319).
- Notched his 1,000-career victory July 28, 2016 in the \$100,000 John Morrissey Stakes aboard Moonlight Song at Saratoga.
- Came to the United States in late 2011 and after several months at Parx Racing, followed his brother to New York and won with his first mount, Corofin, on March 21, 2012.
- Can be followed on Twitter at @jose93\_ortiz.