

Hereford Youth Awarded Scholarships

At the 2011 Vita Ferm® Junior National Hereford Expo (JNHE) in Kansas City, Mo., nearly \$24,000 was awarded to National Junior Hereford Association (NJHA) members in scholarship monies. Congratulations to all the winners.

National Junior Merit Award

The junior merit scholarship recognizes outstanding members of the National Junior Hereford Association (NJHA). The scholarship program is designed to encourage individual and cooperative effort, enthusiasm, excellence, leadership, and achievement among youth in order to develop reputable breeders for the good of the Hereford business and beef industry.

The winner receives an expense-paid trip sponsored by American Livestock Insurance to a Hereford operation in the continental U.S., as well as a scholarship.

- First place – Heather Bradford,** St. Marys, Ohio, \$2,000 plus trip
- Second place – Justin Bacon,** Prairie Grove, Ark., \$1,500

Joe and Walter Lewis Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship, given in honor of Walter and Joe Lewis, annually recognize junior members for overall achievement in leadership, teamwork, skills and competition. The selection of winners

is based on a point system for NJHA programs and activities and takes into account the junior's involvement in and out of the showing during the JNHE as well as in the individual state associations.

- First place – Cody Beck,** Bainbridge, Ind., \$1,000
- Second place – Brady Jensen,** Courtland, Kan., \$750
- Third place – Shelly Patton,** Ila, Ga., \$500

John Wayne Memorial Scholarship

John Wayne Memorial Scholarships are awarded to juniors who have made outstanding contributions to agriculture and the Hereford industry. Winners must be interested in a field directly related to the Hereford breed. The scholarships are sponsored annually by the Hereford Youth Foundation of America (HYFA) and the National Hereford Women (NHW).

- Cameron Curry,** McAlester, Okla., \$1,000
- Matt Woolfolk,** Columbia, Tenn., \$1,000

Ed Bible Memorial Scholarship

The Ed Bible Memorial Scholarships are presented by NHW and HYFA. The scholarship is designed to help finance higher education for NJHA members

who excel in communication, leadership, and Hereford and agriculture-related activities. Bible joined the American Polled Hereford Association staff in 1973 and for 25 years supported the senior, junior and Poll-ette associations. He positively influenced the Hereford breed and industry. Therefore, NHW and HYFA offer four annual scholarships in his honor.

- First place – Krissi McCurdy,** Chatsworth, Ga., \$1,000
- Second place – Keysto Stotz,** Skiatook, Okla., \$750
- Third place – Brady Jensen,** Courtland, Kan., \$500
- Fourth place – Cameron Curry,** McAlester, Okla., \$250

Future Cattleman Scholarship

The American Hereford Association and NJHA sponsor two \$500 scholarships awarded to junior members who have made outstanding contributions to the Hereford industry.

- Keysto Stotz,** Skiatook, Okla., \$500
- Rossie Blinson,** Buies Creek, N.C., \$500

Hereford Herdsman Scholarship

Administered by HYFA in cooperation with Hereford herdsman, the scholarships honor NJHA members



Pictured accepting the **Junior Merit Award** is **Heather Bradford**, St. Marys, Ohio. Presenting the award is Stuart Wilson of American Livestock Insurance.



Walter and Joe Lewis Memorial Scholarship winners (pictured, l to r) are: **Shelly Patton**, Ila, Ga., third place; **Brady Jensen**, Courtland, Kan., second place; and **Cody Beck**, Bainbridge, Ind., first place.



John Wayne Memorial Scholarship recipients (pictured, l to r) are: **Matt Woolfolk**, Columbia, Tenn., and **Cameron Curry**, McAlester, Okla.



Ed Bible Memorial Scholarship winners (pictured, l to r) are: **Krissi McCurdy**, Chatsworth, Ga.; **Keysto Stotz**, Skiatook, Okla.; **Brady Jensen** and **Cameron Curry**.



Future Cattleman Scholarship winners (pictured, l to r) are: **Keysto Stotz** and **Rossie Blinson**, Buies Creek, N.C.



Hereford Herdsman Scholarship winner **Hayley Miller**, Thorntown, Ind. Not pictured is Daniel Calderwood, Ignacio, Colo.



Poll-ette Founders Scholarship winners (pictured, l to r) are: **Keysto Stotz** and **Krissi McCurdy**. Also pictured is Lori Hambright, NHW board member.



Prospect Award winners pictured (front row, l to r) are: **Wesley Denton**, Blue Rapids, Kan., third-grade; **Bennett Holt**, Caldwell, Idaho, fourth-grade; and **Brett Jones**, Darlington, Wis., eighth-grade. Also pictured are NHW board members Barbara Ernst and Paula Acheson.



Brody Rogers, Hamilton, Texas, was awarded the fifth-grade prospect award.



Mark Sims (center) of Elgin, Okla., was selected the 2011 **Wesley Rakestraw Hereford Enthusiast Award** winner. Pictured presenting the award are Tammy and Tom Boatman, former managers of JWR Land & Cattle Co.



Junior Golden Bull Award winners (pictured, l to r) are: **Harrison Smith**, Gatesville, Texas; **Karly Biddle**, Walcott, Iowa; **Taryn Adcock**, Assumption, Ill.; and **Cheyenne Moyer**, Lincoln, Ark. Also pictured is NHW board member Paula Acheson.

who take great pride in exhibiting and presenting their Hereford cattle.

Hayley Miller, Thorntown, Ind., \$1,000
Daniel Calderwood, Ignacio, Colo., \$1,000

Poll-ette Founders Scholarship

The Poll-ette Founders Scholarships are funded through HYFA and managed by NHW. They recognize two juniors who have made great contributions to the NJHA. The scholarships also honor the women who laid the foundation for the National Organization of Poll-ettes, which combined with the American Hereford Women in 2009 to form the NHW.

Krissi McCurdy, Chatsworth, Ga., \$1,000
Keysto Stotz, Skiatook, Okla., \$1,000

Wesley Rakestraw Hereford Enthusiast Award

The Wesley Rakestraw Hereford Enthusiast Award was started at the 2008 JNHE to honor the memory of late Hereford breeder Wesley Rakestraw. The Rakestraw family and Tom and Tammy Boatman, managers of Wesley's cattle operation JWR Land and Cattle Co., wanted to honor Wesley by choosing a junior member with a similar fun-loving personality.

Mark Sims, Elgin, Okla., \$500

Prospect, Junior Golden Bull and Golden Bull Achievement Awards

Hereford youth are recognized each year for their involvement in the



Golden Bull Achievement Award winners (pictured, l to r) are: **Kirbie Day**, Waxahachie, Texas; **Cody Beck**, Laken Lierle, Ft. Cobb, Okla.; and **Krissi McCurdy**.

Hereford industry, agriculture and their communities with the Prospect and Golden Bull Awards, which are sponsored by the NHW and NJHA. Prospect Awards go to students third through eighth grades and Junior Golden Bull Awards to students in ninth through 12th grades. Prospect Award winners are given a leather halter and Junior Golden Bull Award winners receive a bronze Hereford bull statue. The Golden Bull Achievement Award is given to college-age students, who receive a statue as well as a scholarship.

Prospect Award:

- Third grade** – Wesley Denton, Blue Rapids, Kan.
- Fourth grade** – Bennett Holt, Caldwell, Idaho
- Fifth grade** – Brody Rogers, Hamilton, Texas
- Sixth grade** – Paige Longstreth, Rennselaer, Ind.
- Seventh grade** – J.D. Schnitker, Turkey, Texas

Eighth grade – Brett Jones, Darlington, Wis.

Junior Golden Bull Award:

- Ninth grade** – Harrison Smith, Gatesville, Texas
- 10th grade** – Karly Biddle, Walcott, Iowa
- 11th grade** – Taryn Adcock, Assumption, Ill.
- 12th grade** – Cheyenne Moyer, Lincoln, Ark.

Golden Bull Achievement Award:

- First place** — Kirbie Day, Waxahachie, Texas, \$1,875
- Second place** — Cody Beck, Bainbridge, Ind., \$1,875
- Third place** — Laken Lierle, Ft. Cobb, Okla., \$1,875
- Fourth place** — Krissi McCurdy, Chatsworth, Ga., \$1,875

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Taryn Adcock, 16, was awarded a Junior Golden Bull Award. She has been an NJHA and Illinois Junior Hereford Association member since 2002. At the 2009 JNHE, Taryn was reserve champion intermediate showman; she was also the reserve champion junior showman at the 2007 JNHE. In addition, she is active in church activities, 4-H, Spanish club, Students Against Drunk Driving, Operation Teen Safe Driving and volleyball. She is considering careers in either pediatric nursing or elementary education.

Justin Bacon, 20, received a National Junior Merit Scholarship. He is attending Oklahoma State University, majoring in food science. Justin served on the NJHA board of directors from 2008-2011. He has been an NJHA and Arkansas Junior Hereford Association member for 12 years.

Cody Beck, 18, was awarded a Walter and Joe Lewis Memorial Award and Golden Bull Achievement Award. Cody graduated from high school this spring and will be attending Butler County Community College, El Dorado, Kan., this fall, majoring in agriculture economics, and will compete on the livestock judging team. He has been a member of the NJHA and the Indiana Junior Hereford Association for 11 years. At this year's JNHE, Cody was a top 10 senior showmanship finalist and Indiana's outstanding state member. After graduation from Butler, he plans to continue his education in ag economics at a four-year university.

Karly Biddle, 16, was presented a Junior Golden Bull Award. She is an eight-year member of the NJHA and the Iowa Junior Hereford Association (IJHA). She has served the IJHA as director and junior secretary and is currently the treasurer and princess. Karly hopes to become a large animal veterinarian specializing in ultrasound and embryo work.

Heather Bradford, 21, received the National Junior Merit Award. Heather has been an NJHA and Ohio Buckeye Junior Hereford Association member for 14 years. At Purdue University, Heather was a dean's scholar, trustee's scholar, Block & Bridle member, collegiate 4-H member, tutor and researcher. In

May she graduated with honors from Purdue and plans to continue her education with a master's degree in genetics at Kansas State University. She would like a career working directly with producers and researchers in the quantitative genetics field.

Rossie Blinson, 20, received a Future Cattleman Scholarship. She is studying agriculture business management with a minor in animal science at North Carolina State University. She was elected to the NJHA board of directors in 2008 and served the 2010-11 term as chairman. Rossie is also the North Carolina Beef Ambassador. Rossie plans to pursue a master's degree in agriculture business management and then find a career involving communication in the animal agriculture field.

Daniel Calderwood, 18, received a Hereford Herdsman Scholarship. He graduated from high school in May and plans to attend college this fall. He wants to study beef reproduction and beef nutrition and hopes to pursue a career in those fields. Daniel was active in 4-H, student council, leadership and peer mentor programs as well as football and track throughout high school.

Cameron Curry, 19, received a John Wayne Memorial Scholarship and Ed Bible Memorial Scholarship. He plans to graduate in May 2012 from Connors State College with an associate's degree in animal science. Cameron has been a member of the NJHA and the Junior Hereford Association of Oklahoma (JHAO) for 12 years. He has exhibited cattle at the National Western Stock Show, the American Royal and the JNHE every year for the past nine years. At Connors State College, Cameron is on the livestock judging team and works at the college's beef center. After graduation, Cameron plans to pursue a bachelor's degree in agriculture at Oklahoma State University.

Kirbie Day, 20, was presented a Golden Bull Achievement Award. She will be a senior at Texas A&M University this fall, majoring in animal science. She is a 10-year member of the NJHA and the Texas Junior Polled Hereford Association (TJPHA). Kirbie is a decorated showman, having won champion owned horned female at the 2011 JNHE and champion

bred-and-owned female at the 2010 JNHE. She also served as the National Polled Hereford Queen. At Texas A&M, she was named sophomore animal science student of the year, is a member of the academic honor society and is active in the saddle and sirloin club. She plans to pursue a master's degree in animal science after graduation.

Wesley Denton, 9, was awarded a Prospect Award. He has been a member of the NJHA since he was born, but has been an active member of NJHA and the Kansas Junior Polled Hereford Association since 2009. He attended his first JNHE in 2009 and this year was named reserve champion peewee showman and was a member of the second-place junior team marketing team. He says he joined the NJHA because he wanted to continue the family tradition of showing Herefords and making friends across the U.S.

Bennett Holt, 11, was awarded a Prospect Award. He has been an NJHA member for four years and Idaho Junior Hereford Association (IJHA) member for five years. He says his top accomplishment showing Hereford cattle was winning the IJHA's high point bred-and-owned heifer title in 2010. Bennett also enjoys 4-H, soccer and church activities. Bennett and his sister have their own Hereford herd of 10 head.

Brady Jensen, 18, was awarded a Walter and Joe Lewis Memorial Scholarship and the Ed Bible Memorial Scholarship. He graduated from high school in May and is planning to attend Butler County Community College this fall. Brady has been an NJHA member all his life and is a 12-year member of the Kansas Junior Polled Hereford Association. At this year's JNHE, Brady placed third in senior showmanship, was on the first-place team fitting team and participated in the Hereford Bowl. Brady will be on the livestock judging team at Butler and plans to continue his education at a university studying animal science and then will seek a master's degree in animal genetics.

Brett Jones, 14, was presented a Prospect Award. He has been a member of the NJHA and the Wisconsin Junior Hereford Association for eight years. Brett has attended every JNHE since

2005. At the JNHE he has represented Wisconsin in basketball, photography, poster, quiz bowl, team fitting, team marketing, speech, showmanship and judging contests. He also enjoys hockey, football and track.

Laken Lierle, 18, was awarded a Golden Bull Achievement Award. She just graduated from high school and plans to attend Oklahoma State University and Redlands Community College this fall, majoring in political science. Laken has been a member of the NJHA and JHAO for five years. She was very involved in high school, church and community activities and says her greatest accomplishment in the showing was winning champion Hereford heifer and reserve supreme champion at the 2008 Tulsa State Fair. Laken would eventually like to become a lobbyist for the ag and beef industries.

Paige Longstreth, 12, was awarded a Prospect Award. She has been an NJHA and Indiana Junior Hereford Association member for four years. Paige says one of the highlights of her showing career was winning champion Hereford steer at the 2008 Hoosier Beef Congress. Paige is also a member of the National Junior Swine Association, the Junior Boer Goat Association, church youth group and girl scouts.

Krissi McCurdy, 18, received an Ed Bible Memorial Scholarship, Pollette Founders Scholarship and Golden Bull Achievement Award. She recently graduated from high school and will be attending Butler County Community College this fall. She has been a member of NJHA and the Georgia Junior Hereford Association for 15 years. She has been showing cattle for 11 years and is also an accomplished livestock judge. She is attending Butler on a livestock judging scholarship, but in the long-term, she plans to attend a four-year university in Georgia to study elementary education. Krissi was also elected to the NJHA board of directors during the 2011 JNHE.

Hayley Miller, 18, received a Hereford Herdsman Scholarship. She graduated from high school and is planning to attend Illinois Central College, East Peoria, in the fall, majoring in agriculture education and animal

science. In high school Hayley was active in school, church and community activities like FFA and National Honor Society, among others. She has also helped plan Indiana's state preview show every June for the past four years. Hayley plans to continue raising Hereford cattle.

Cheyenne Moyer, 18, was presented a Junior Golden Bull Award. She has been a member of the NJHA and the Arkansas Junior Hereford Association (AJHA) for 12 years. Cheyenne is currently the AJHA vice president and has also served as secretary/treasurer. She hopes to complete her education and start and embryo transfer and artificial insemination clinic for cattle, in addition to continuing to raise Hereford cattle.

Shelly Patton, 21, was awarded a Walter and Joe Lewis Memorial Scholarship. She graduated in May with her associate's degree from Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, Tifton, Ga. She will be attending the University of Georgia in the fall, pursuing a bachelor's degree in animal science/pre-vet. She has been a member of the NJHA for eight years and the Georgia Junior Hereford Association for 11 years. She plans to become a large animal veterinarian. Shelly participated in team marketing and was honored by Georgia as the outstanding state member.

Brody Rogers, 11, was awarded a Prospect Award. He has been a member of the NJHA and the TJPHA for 11 years and the Texas Junior Hereford Association (TJHA) for eight years. Brody has participated in the showmanship competition at JNHE every year since 2007. He is also involved in 4-H, basketball, football and baseball. Brody says he wants to promote Herefords and get every rancher to buy Hereford bulls.

J.D. Schnitker, 13, received a Prospect Award. He has been a member of the NJHA for eight years and the TJHA for 10 years. J.D. is an accomplished livestock judge. His team won first place at the 2009 JNHE. He is also active in 4-H, where he is currently vice president of his club, FFA, church, football and basketball.

Mark Sims, 20, was awarded the Wesley Rakestraw Hereford Enthusiast Award. A member of the NJHA and

JHAO for 13 years, Mark has shown at every junior national since 1998. He was named Herdsman of the Year at this year's JNHE and won champion senior showmanship honors at the 2009 JNHE.

Harrison Smith, 15, received a Junior Golden Bull Award. He has been a member of the NJHA and TJHA since 2004. He has been a director of the TJHA for four years. At the JNHE Harrison has competed in team fitting, team marketing and quiz bowl in addition to showing cattle. He is considering becoming a large animal veterinarian or an ag banker.

Keysto Stotz, 18, was awarded an Ed Bible Memorial Scholarship, a Pollette Founders Scholarship and a Future Cattleman Scholarship. In May he graduated from Skiatook High School and plans to attend the University of Tulsa to study music and law. He has been a member of NJHA and the JHAO for 12 years. Keysto has served the JHAO in many leadership roles, including president, and he is also active in many community and church activities and the Tulsa Youth Symphony. Keysto was also elected to the NJHA board of directors during the 2011 JNHE.

Matt Woolfolk, 21, was presented a John Wayne Memorial Scholarship. He will be a senior at Mississippi State University and plans to earn a bachelor's degree in animal science in May 2012. He has been an NJHA and Tennessee Junior Polled Hereford Association member for 14 years. At the 2010 JNHE, he was elected to the NJHA board of directors and at the 2011 JNHE was elected as chairman of the NJHA board. At Mississippi State, he is a member of Gamma Sigma Delta ag honor society, Block & Bridle, collegiate cattlemen's club, academic quadrathlon team and the meat science quiz bowl team. After graduation, he plans to pursue a master's degree in animal breeding and genetics. **HW**