

Hereford Youth Foundation of America Awards \$147,500 in Scholarships

More than \$147,500 in scholarships were awarded by the Hereford Youth Foundation of America (HYFA) Friday, Oct. 26, at the American Hereford Association (AHA) Hereford Honorees Reception during the AHA Annual Meeting and Conference in Kansas City, Mo. Hereford youth from across the country were the recipients of these 23 scholarships.

“These scholarships will make a huge difference in the education of each of our recipients,” says Amy Cowan, director of youth activities and foundation at the AHA and HYFA. “Each scholarship donor has a deep commitment to supporting young people in agriculture who have a strong desire to better themselves by obtaining a college degree.”

Many generous donations throughout the years from multiple supporters of Hereford youth make these scholarships possible.

Ten outstanding National Junior Hereford Association (NJHA) members received a \$10,000 Jack and Donna Vanier Family Scholarship. Since its inception in 2008, the Vanier Family Scholarship has graciously awarded \$100,000 to 10 deserving Hereford youth each year. The endowment is courtesy of Jack Vanier and his wife, Donna, both of whom shared a passion for supporting youth in agriculture.

This year’s scholarship recipients are:

Ball Foundation/Cottonwood Springs Farm Scholarship: Austin Folkman, Ixonia, Wis.

Bar One Ranch Scholarship: Mason Blinson, Buies Creek, N.C.

Bill & Jo Ellard Scholarships: Del Adcock, Assumption, Ill., and Hannah Williams, Kearney, Neb.

Blin Family Scholarship: Abigail Spindle, Moriarty, N.M.

Bob & Dolores Call Scholarship: Brooke Hinojosa-Sidwell, Carr, Colo.

Bob & Lucy Kube Scholarship: Keayla Harr, Jeromesville, Ohio

Gary Bishop Memorial Scholarship: Bailey Morrell, Willows, Calif.

HYFA Scholarship: Sydney Downey, Turner, Ore.

Ken & Carolyn Larson Scholarship: Brianne Nelsen, Fredonia, Kan.

Owen Family/Tennessee River Music Scholarship: Rachael Drumm, Winchester, Ky.

Perks Ranch Scholarship: Katie Nolles, Bassett, Neb.

Whitehead/Rocking Chair Ranches Scholarship: Rachel Buzanowski, Pompeys Pillar, Mont.

Jack & Donna Vanier Family Scholarships: Rylee Barber, Channing, Texas; Taylor Belle Matheny, Mays Lick, Ky.; Sydney Dvorak, Lake Andes, S.D.;

Tyler Eldred, Bellingham, Wash.; Mallory Carlson, Murdock, Minn.; Peyton Schmitt, Birmingham, Iowa; Dixie Miller, Hutchinson, Kan.; Blakelee Hayes, Ada, Okla.; Emilee Holt, Caldwell, Idaho; and Parker Cantrell, Collinsville, Okla.

Scholarship recipient bios

Del Adcock is currently a senior studying agriculture economics at Kansas State University (K-State.) The 22-year-old son of Jim and Jan Adcock grew up raising and showing Hereford cattle competitively across the country with his family. Additionally, Del has played an integral role as an intern with several agricultural companies throughout his college career.

Rylee Barber is a junior at Texas A&M University majoring in agricultural communications and journalism. The 20-year-old daughter of Brett and Nicole Barber has been in the cattle business her entire life. She has used that experience as fuel to serve on the NJHA board of directors, where she aids in planning and executing junior shows, the Faces of Leadership Conference, and other youth activities. Her various internships with stock shows, agricultural marketing agencies, and her college have prepared her for a successful future in agricultural communications.



Del Adcock, Assumption, Ill., and **Hannah Williams**, Kearney, Neb., were awarded \$5,000 Bill & Jo Ellard Scholarships. Pictured (l to r) are: Jill Bielema, HYFA board member; Hannah Williams; Del Adcock; Katie Colyer, HYFA board member; and George Sprague, HYFA vice president.



Rylee Barber, Channing, Texas, received a \$10,000 Jack and Donna Vanier Family Scholarship. Pictured (l to r) are: Rylee Barber and George Sprague, HYFA vice president.

Mason Blinson is the 20-year-old daughter of Bryan and Beth Blinson. She is pursuing a double major in plant and soil sciences and animal sciences from Oklahoma State University. She grew up raising and showing Hereford cattle, and her passion lead her to leadership roles within the National Junior Hereford Association (NJHA). As an NJHA board director, Mason aids in facilitation and execution of junior shows across the country, the Faces of Leadership Conference and other youth activities.

Rachel Buzanowski is currently beginning her journey of law school at the University of Wyoming. The 22-year-old daughter of Bernie and Stacie Buzanowski first graduated from K-State with a bachelor's degree in animal sciences and industry. During her time there, she worked at the K-State Purebred Teaching Unit. Additionally, Rachel spent her junior college career as a volleyball and track and field competitor at Butler Community College. Beyond athletics, she was also a founding member of their Collegiate Farm Bureau in 2015.

Parker Cantrell is the 20-year-old son of Steve and Michelle Cantrell. He is currently studying animal sciences at Oklahoma State University, where he also works at the Oklahoma State University Purebred Center. His goal is to continue his education and eventually earn a Ph.D. He finds great value in animal science, so he even works as a teaching assistant in the introductory level animal science course. Parker's recent experiences, as well as lifelong passion for the cattle industry, will serve him well in his endeavors.

Mallory Carlson is currently a junior at South Dakota State University studying animal science. The 21-year-old daughter of Ross and Beth Carlson, has a lifelong passion for the agricultural industry. This passion showed when she entered the NJHA Fed Steer Shootout in the charter group. Additionally, she has always been highly active in FFA, her state association and other NJHA events. These experiences, with her



Mallory Carlson, Murdock, Minn., received a \$10,000 Jack and Donna Vanier Family Scholarship. Pictured (l to r) are: Mallory Carlson and George Sprague, HYFA vice president.

desire for agriculture, have prepared her for success in her field.

Sydney Downey is currently attending Oklahoma State University studying agricultural communications and animal science. The 20-year-old daughter of Kerry Bangert grew up playing an integral role in operating their horse and stock trailer manufacturing company and trailer sales office. During her college experience, she has worked as a statistics tutor for students across the university.

Rachael Drumm is currently attending Eastern Kentucky University with aspirations to serve others in the healthcare field by becoming a nurse. The 20-year-old daughter of Joe and Jennifer Drumm served as the 2017-2018 Collegiate Farm Bureau President for Hutchinson Community College and was named an All-American Livestock Evaluator in the 4-H Contest at the North American International Livestock Exposition.

Sydney Dvorak is currently a sophomore at South Dakota State University studying English education with minors in history and Spanish. The 20-year-old daughter of Boyd and Jenni Dvorak has goals of growing her own Hereford operation while pursuing her education. Sydney has been an active member of the South Dakota Junior Hereford Association, receiving the Jordan Mack Memorial award for her dedication and excitement for the Hereford breed and bettering those around her.



Rachael Drumm, Winchester, Ky., received the \$2,500 Owen Family/Tennessee River Music Inc. Pictured (l to r) are Rachael Drumm, and Katie Colyer, HYFA board director.



Sydney Dvorak, Lake Andes, S.D., received a \$10,000 Jack and Donna Vanier Family Scholarship. Pictured (l to r) are: Sydney Dvorak and Bruce Everhart, HYFA board director.



Tyler Eldred, Bellingham, Wash., received a \$10,000 Jack and Donna Vanier Family Scholarship.

Tyler Eldred is the 21-year-old son of Amy and Weylin Eldred. He is currently studying agricultural business at Montana State University. Growing up, he had the opportunity to take part in his family's retail farm and western store.

That work ethic transferred to not only his educational endeavors, but also his college jobs at various banks in the area. Tyler has a rich background with the Hereford breed as he was a leader in his state association and attended several leadership activities, such as the Faces of Leadership Conference, through NJHA.

Austin Folkman is the 19-year-old son of Jill and Steven Folkman. He grew up working on his family's farm in Ixonia, Wis., C&L Hereford Ranch. Austin was very active in FFA and service activities in his community before graduating

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Austin Folkman, Ixonia, Wis., was awarded the \$5,000 Ball Foundation/Cottonwood Springs Farm Scholarship. Pictured (l to r) are Austin Folkman, and Nancy Keilty, Cottonwood Springs Farm and HYFA board member

high school. He also received the Presidential Award for Academic Achievement and is currently attending Waukesha County Technical College. He hopes to use the skills he learns to aid local agricultural entities in repair and maintenance of their machinery and facilities.

Keayla Harr is the 22-year-old daughter of Jeff and Lou Ellen Harr. Keayla currently attends K-State as an animal science student with an industry-business option. Upon college graduation, she has hopes of pursuing a master's degree in her field. In addition to her studies, Keayla has held several internships and been a member of the K-State meat judging team.

Blakelee Hayes is the 18-year-old daughter of Jeff and Jennifer Hayes. She is currently a freshman at Oklahoma State University starting my degree in animal science. Blakelee has a true passion for the Hereford breed and its members, attending her first JNHE when she was only 8 years



Blakelee Hayes, Ada, Okla., received a \$10,000 Jack and Donna Vanier Family Scholarship. Pictured (l to r) are: Blakelee Hayes and Bruce Everhart, HYFA board director.

old. She is excited about following this passion during her journey at Oklahoma State.

Brooke Hinojosa-Sidwell is the 21-year-old daughter of Linda and Bryan Sidwell. Brooke is a junior at Oklahoma State University majoring in agribusiness and accounting. She has a rich history in the Hereford breed with her family founding Sidwell Herefords in 1908. Her passion for Hereford cattle lead her to a position on the NJHA board of directors. Through that position she has had the opportunity to aid in strategizing and executing not only junior shows, but also the Faces of Leadership Conference held annually.

Emilee Holt is currently a senior at K-State studying animal science with a business option. The 21-year-old daughter of Scott and Kim Holt has a deep passion for the Hereford breed and is currently growing her own cow herd. She was a member of the 2018 National Champion Meat Animal Evaluation team and a top 10 individual at the Houston Livestock

Show and Rodeo Collegiate Livestock Judging Contest. Emilee's internship experiences have set her up well to achieve success in her field.

Taylor Belle Matheny is the 20-year-old daughter of Andrew and Suzanne Matheny. She is a senior double majoring in agricultural communications and animal science at K-State. Her lifelong passion for Hereford cattle lead her to a position on the NJHA board of directors, where she has the opportunity to help strategize and execute junior shows, the Faces of Leadership Conference, and other youth activities. Taylor Belle has an arsenal of relevant and valuable internship experience that will aid her in achieving her goals in the agricultural communications and animal science fields

Dixie Miller is currently studying agricultural communications and technology at Hutchinson Community College. She is the 21-year-old daughter of Christy Westlin. Dixie hopes to attend the University of Arkansas upon completion of her associate degree. She has been highly successful during her livestock judging career and served as a Junior National Hereford Expo (JNHE) ambassador in 2016. The culmination of these experiences and passion for the cattle industry will lead her into a successful career in her field.

Bailey Morrell is the 18-year-old daughter of Barry and Carrie Morrell, and she is a freshman attending Colorado State University studying agricultural education. She grew up on her family's diversified cattle, walnut



Brooke Hinojosa-Sidwell, Carr, Colo., was awarded the \$5,000 Bob & Dolores Call Scholarship. Pictured (l to r) are: Jill Bielema, HYFA board member; Brooke Hinojosa-Sidwell; and Ray Ramsey, HYFA chairman.



Emilee Holt, Caldwell, Idaho, received a \$10,000 Jack and Donna Vanier Family Scholarship. Pictured (l to r) are: Marcia Mickelson, HYFA board director; Emilee Holt; and George Sprague, HYFA vice president.



Taylor Belle Matheny, Mays Lick, Ky., received a \$10,000 Jack and Donna Vanier Family Scholarship. Pictured (l to r) are: Taylor Belle Matheny and Katie Colyer, HYFA board member.

and almond operation. Additionally, she was highly active in FFA and growing her own show cattle operation, BSM Show Cattle. Bailey's long-term goal is to attend law school and pursue a career advocating for the rights of agriculturists as an agricultural lawyer.

Brianne Nelsen is the 20-year-old daughter of Paul and Cheri Nelsen. Brianne is a junior at Oklahoma State University majoring in agricultural education. Prior to her start at Oklahoma State, she completed an associate's degree in agricultural business from Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College. She plans to complete her degree and invest in the youth as an agricultural science teacher.

Katie Nolles is the 22-year-old daughter of Mike and Trudy Nolles, and is currently attending the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. This agricultural education major is the past National Hereford Queen and Nebraska State FFA Vice President. Katie has been a valuable team member in various internships throughout college, where



Dixie Miller, Hutchinson, Kan., received a \$10,000 Jack and Donna Vanier Family Scholarship. Pictured (l to r) are: Amy Cowan Cowan, director of youth activities and foundation; and Dixie Miller.

she assists in curriculum development and creation of media content.

Peyton Schmitt is the 20-year-old daughter of Ron and Karin Schmitt. She is currently a sophomore at Iowa State University majoring in agriculture and life sciences education with a communications option. Her excitement to effectively share the story of agriculture has led her to experiences with Iowa Farm Bureau Federation and the Iowa FFA state officer team. Peyton hopes to carry this passion into her master's degree and later advocate for agriculture through an agricultural communications career.

Abigail Spindle is currently studying animal science at Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College. The 19-year-old daughter of Tom and Becky Spindle grew up in the cattle industry, working summers at the Bill King Ranch in New Mexico. After this year, she plans to transfer to Oklahoma State University, Kansas State University or Texas Tech University to complete her bachelor's



Brianne Nelsen, Fredonia, Kan., received a \$2,500 scholarship awarded by Ken & Carolyn Larson and Hereford Youth Foundation of America. Pictured (l to r) are Brianne Nelsen, and Ray Ramsey, HYFA board chairman.



Katie Nolles, Bassett, Neb., was awarded the \$5,000 Perks Ranch Scholarship. Pictured (l to r) are Tammy Boatman, representing Perks Ranch, and Katie Nolles.

degree. Additionally, Abigail serves on the NJHA board of directors, where she aids in facilitation and execution of junior shows, The Faces of Leadership Conference and other youth activities.

Hannah Williams is currently at K-State studying animal science. The 10-year member of the NJHA serves on the board of directors, where she aids in planning and executing junior shows, the Faces of Leadership Conference, and other youth activities. She exhibited the champion horned heifer at the 2017 Nebraska Junior Hereford State Show, was named champion elite showman, and the premier beef exhibitor. **HW**



Bailey Morrell, Willows, Calif., was awarded the \$2,500 Gary Bishop Memorial Scholarship. Pictured (l to r) are: Ryan Sproul; Kristi Sproul; Vickie Bishop Kerns; Bailey Morrell; Tami Bishop Weaver; Wyatt Weaver; and Maddie Weaver.



Peyton Schmitt, Birmingham, Iowa, received a \$10,000 Jack and Donna Vanier Family Scholarship. Pictured (l to r) are: Peyton Schmitt and Jill Bielema, HYFA board member.