

Hereford Juniors Awarded Scholarships and Achievements Awards

Outstanding Hereford youth were awarded numerous scholarships during the 2020 VitaFerm® Junior National Hereford Expo (JNHE) in Kansas City, Mo. The Hereford Youth Foundation of America (HYFA) and the National Hereford Women (NHW) awarded \$27,500 alone at this year's JNHE and will award a total of \$200,000 in 2020 to deserving junior members to aid in their academic endeavors.

Prospect, Junior Golden Bull and Golden Bull Achievement Awards

The Prospect and Golden Bull Awards recognize individuals for their involvement in the Hereford industry, agriculture and their communities. The NHW and the National Junior Hereford Association (NJHA) sponsor these awards. Prospect Awards go to

students in fourth through eighth grades and the Junior Golden Bull Awards go to students in ninth through 12th grades.

Prospect winners are given a leather halter with a nameplate, while the Junior Golden Bull winners receive a bronze Hereford bull statue. The Golden Bull Achievement is given to collegiate students. These students receive a bronze Hereford bull statue and a scholarship.

Prospect Award

Third grade

Jarrett Shane Worrell, Mason, Texas

Fourth grade

Faith Benedict, Dewey, Ill.

Fifth grade

Brady Jones, Darlington, Wis.

Sixth grade

Kristin Waters, Norborne, Mo.

Seventh grade

Kendall Boatman, Rockford, Ill.

Eighth grade

Harlee Watson, Flemingsburg, Ky.

Junior Golden Bull Award

Ninth grade

Samuel Birdsall, Torrington, Wyo.

10th grade

Cady Pieper, Zurich, Kan.

11th grade

Lauren Jones, Darlington, Wis.

12th grade

Molly Biggs, Dixon, Ill.



Prospect Award winners (l to r) are: third grade – **Jarrett Shane Worrell**, Mason, Texas; fourth grade – **Faith Benedict**, Dewey, Ill.; fifth grade – **Brady Jones**, Darlington, Wis.; sixth grade – **Kristin Waters**, Norborne, Mo.; and seventh grade – **Kendall Boatman**, Rockford, Ill. Also pictured presenting the awards (l to r) are: NHW ex-officio Erin Lockhart, National Hereford Queen Melanie Fishel and NHW secretary Amy Taylor. Not pictured: eighth grade – **Harlee Watson**, Flemingsburg, Ky.

Junior Golden Bull Award

winners (l to r) are: 12th grade – **Molly Biggs**, Dixon, Ill.; 11th grade – **Lauren Jones**, Darlington, Wis.; and 10th grade – **Cady Pieper**, Zurich, Kan. Presenting the award (l to r) are Erin Lockhart, Melanie Fishel and Amy Taylor.





Golden Bull Achievement Award winners (l to r) are: **Dylan Kottkamp**, Clayton, Ind.; **Chesney Effling**, Highmore, S.D.; **Lauren McMillan**, Tiskilwa, Ill.; and **Hattie Duncan**, Wingate, Ind. Pictured presenting the award (l to r) are: NHW director Bonnie Reed, NHW board member Bridget Beran, NHW treasurer and historian Nikki Rogers and Melanie Fishel.

Golden Bull Achievement Award

Hattie Duncan,
Wingate, Ind., \$1,875

Lauren McMillan,
Tiskilwa, Ill. \$1,875

Chesney Effling,
Highmore, S.D., \$1,875

Dylan Kottkamp,
Clayton, Ind., \$1,875

John Wayne Memorial Scholarship

The John Wayne Memorial Scholarships are awarded to NJHA members who surpass the norm with their contributions to agriculture and the Hereford industry, as well as their moral character. HYFA and the NHW sponsor these annual scholarships.

Montana Lawrence,
Princeton, Minn., \$1,000

Hannah Williams,
Kearney, Neb., \$1,000

National Junior Merit Award

The annual National Junior Merit scholarships recognize exceptional members for their dedication to bettering the Hereford industry. The scholarship program is designed to encourage individual and cooperative effort, enthusiasm, excellence, leadership and achievement amongst youth in order to develop reputable breeders for the good of the Hereford business and the beef industry. The first-place recipient receives a scholarship plus an all-expenses-paid trip to a Hereford operation in

the continental U.S., sponsored by American Livestock Inc.

First place — \$2,000 plus a trip to any U.S. Hereford operation
Wyatt Lawrence, Princeton, Minn.

Second place — \$1,500
Hattie Duncan, Wingate, Ind.

Third place — \$1,000
Noah Benedict, Dewey, Ill.



John Wayne Memorial Scholarship winners (l to r) are: **Montana Lawrence**, Princeton, Minn., and **Hannah Williams**, Kearney, Neb. Also pictured presenting the awards (l to r) are: Melanie Fishel, NHW president-elect Dana Pieper and NHW board member Kathy Bryan.



National Junior Merit Award winners (l to r) are: first place – **Wyatt Lawrence**, Princeton, Minn.; second place – **Hattie Duncan**, Wingate, Ind.; and third place – **Noah Benedict**, Dewey, Ill. Pictured presenting the award (l to r) are HYFA Scholarship Committee member Katie Colyer and Melanie Fishel.



Hereford Herdsman Scholarship winners (l to r) are: **Ben Jensen**, Courtland, Kan., and **Brandt Downing**, Culver, Ore. Presenting the awards (l to r) are: Katie Colyer and Melanie Fishel.



Walter and Joe Lewis High Point Senior Award winner **Bryden Barber**, Channing, Texas, pictured with NJHA Chairman Montana Lawrence and Melanie Fishel.



Poll-ette Founders Scholarship winner **Noah Benedict**, Dewey, Ill., pictured with NHW Vice President Shannon Worrell presenting the award.

Walter and Joe Lewis High Point Senior Award

This scholarship honors an exceptional junior for overall achievement in various facets of the NJHA. Junior members are selected based on a point system for NJHA programs and activities weighted heavily on leadership, teamwork, skills and competition.

Bryden Barber,
Channing, Texas, \$1,000

Poll-ette Founders Scholarship

Funded by HYFA and managed through the NHW, the Poll-ette Founders Scholarship recognizes Hereford juniors who have made significant contributions during their NJHA career. Additionally, the scholarships 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.

Noah Benedict, Dewey, Ill., \$1,000

Montana Lawrence,
Princeton, Minn., \$1,000



Poll-ette Founders Scholarship winner **Montana Lawrence**, Princeton, Minn., with Melanie Fishel presenting the award.

Hereford Herdsman Scholarship

Sponsored by HYFA and Sullivan Supply in cooperation with Hereford herdsman, these scholarships recognize NJHA members who take great pride in exhibiting their Hereford cattle and reward their dedication to the breed through scholarship.

Brandt Downing, Culver, Ore., \$2,500

Ben Jensen, Courtland, Kan., \$2,500

Charles E. Boyd Sr. Memorial Scholarship

Charles E. Boyd Sr. was a third-generation Hereford breeder who mentored youth in the agriculture industry and was recognized on local, state and national levels for his accomplishments throughout his lifetime. He was a prominent beef cattle judge at all major livestock shows and exhibited several international and national champion Hereford cattle. He lived his life selflessly, giving to others without recognition. The Charles E. Boyd Sr. Memorial Scholarship continues to help Hereford youth who plan to attend college and to pursue a degree in agriculture.

Brandt Downing, \$1,500

Bluegrass and Buckeye Scholarship

The Ohio and Kentucky Hereford Associations along with HYFA sponsor the Bluegrass and Buckeye Scholarship through gratuitous funds from the 2006 JNHE in Louisville, Ky. The scholarship's goal is to provide recognition for one outstanding member of the NJHA. In order to receive the honor, applicants must first be nominated by their state junior association advisor.

Rusty Wolf, Alexandria, Ky., \$1,500

Bud Snidow Award

In honor of the late longtime American Hereford Association employee and Hereford historian, the B.C. "Bud" Snidow Award is awarded to a commendable NJHA member who demonstrates the characteristics Snidow admired most — honesty, fairness, hard work, enthusiasm and dedication to the Hereford breed and its members. This annual award is presented by the NHW, and the recipient receives a custom hand-crafted belt buckle.

Regan Mitchem, Vale, N.C.

Biographies for this year's scholarship and award winners:

Bryden Barber, 18, is the son of Brett and Nicole Barber. Growing up, Bryden has been very active in the NJHA, Texas Junior Hereford Association and 4-H. He has also dedicated over 200 hours in community service activities that have involved programs such as Adopt-A-Highway, Ronald McDonald



Bud Snidow Award
winner **Regan Mitchem**, Vale, N.C., pictured with Betsy Pitstick, NHW board member, presenting the award.



Bluegrass and Buckeye Scholarship winner **Rusty Wolf**, Alexandria, Ky., pictured with Katie Colyer (l) and Melanie Fishel presenting the award.



Charles E. Boyd Sr. Memorial Scholarship winner **Brandt Downing**, Culver, Ore. Pictured presenting the award are members of the Boyd family (l to r): Taylor Belle Matheny, Suzanne and Andrew Matheny, Austin Matheny, Paula and Charlie Boyd II and Melanie Fishel.

House and a local retirement home. Bryden was selected as the champion intermediate showman at the 2019 NJHA. Bryden won the Walter and Joe Lewis High Point Senior Award.

Faith Benedict, 10, is the daughter of Chad and Becky Benedict. Faith has been a member of the Illinois Junior Hereford Association (IJHA) and the NJHA for four years. During the 2019 JNHE, she served as the Illinois state table coordinator and a campaign assistant for a junior board applicant and participated in the judging contest. Faith won the fourth grade Prospect Award.

Noah Benedict, 20, is the son of Chad and Becky Benedict. Noah was elected to the NJHA board of directors in 2019, while also serving as the Illinois Junior Hereford Association (IJHA) president. In that same year, he was recognized as the IJHA outstanding junior member and exhibited the champion bred-and-owned heifer at the IJHA Preview Show. Noah received the third-place National Junior Merit Award and the second-place Poll-ette Founders Scholarship.

Molly Biggs, 18, is the daughter of David and Marianne Biggs. She is an 11-year member of the NJHA and currently serves on the Illinois Junior Hereford Association board of directors. Molly has competed in the showmanship, judging and quiz

bowl competitions at JNHE. She won the 2018 NJHA Fed Steer Shootout champion pen-of-three purebred Hereford steers. Molly won the 12th grade Junior Golden Bull Award.

Sam Birdsall, 15, is the son of Dennis and Heather Birdsall. He has been a member of the NJHA for 13 years and spent nine years with the New York Junior Hereford Association, where he served as the president. Sam and his family recently moved to Wyoming, where he is now a member of the state's junior association. He has competed at nine JNHEs and represented the Wyoming Junior Hereford Association in the intermediate division of the public speaking contests at the 2020 JNHE. Sam won the ninth-grade Junior Golden Bull Achievement Award.

Kendall Boatman, 13, is the daughter of Tom and Tammy Boatman. The seven-year member of the NJHA also is a member of the Illinois Junior Hereford Association and the Wisconsin Junior Hereford Association. In 2019, she was the premier herdsman at the Illinois State Fair and served on the Illinois Hereford Preview Show planning committee. Kendall received the seventh-grade Prospect Award.

Hattie Duncan, 19, is the daughter of David and Jill Duncan. During her 13-year stint as an NJHA member,

Hattie served as a voting delegate at the 2018 and 2019 JNHE. For seven years, she has participated in the judging contest during the JNHE, while also competing in sales presentation and extemporaneous speech. Hattie is also very active with the Indiana Junior Hereford Association. She won the second-place National Junior Merit Award and a Golden Bull Achievement Award.

Brandt Downing, 21, is the son of Scott and Tracy Downing. Brandt has been actively involved in both the NJHA and the Oregon Junior Hereford Association (OJHA). The 14-year NJHA member served on the 2017-2020 NJHA board of directors and has been the treasurer, vice president and president for the OJHA. He won the Charles E. Boyd Scholarship and the Hereford Herdsman Scholarship.

Chesney Effling, 18, is the daughter of Chris and Kristi Effling. She currently attends Kansas State University and studies animal science. She is a 12-year member of the NJHA. In 2019 Chesney exhibited the reserve grand champion cow-calf pair and the grand champion bred-and-owned bull at the JNHE in Denver. She won a Golden Bull Achievement Award.

Ben Jensen, 20, is the son of Kevin and Sheila Jensen. He has been an NJHA member for 13 years and has bred and raised Hereford cattle for 15 years. Ben served as an Agriculture Ambassador and the president of the Young Farmers & Ranchers Club while at Butler Community College. He has served as a director for the Kansas Junior Hereford Association and has been treasurer for three years. Ben won the Hereford Herdsman Scholarship.

Brady Jones, 11, is the son of B.J. and Kim Jones. Brady has been an NJHA member since 2015. He has served in several leadership roles through the Wisconsin Junior Hereford Association and has competed in the speech, showmanship and judging contests at the JNHE and was part of the champion fitting team at the 2017 JNHE. He won the fifth-grade Prospect Award.

Lauren Jones, 16, is the daughter of B.J. and Kim Jones. Lauren has been a member of the NJHA and the Wisconsin Junior Hereford Association (WJHA) for nine years. She has served as the WJHA treasurer and secretary and was a WJHA princess. Lauren was a member of the 2016 junior national planning committee and the 2017 JNHE champion fitting team. She won the 11th-grade Junior Golden Bull Award.

Dylan Kottkamp, 18, is the son of Dale and Lesli Kottkamp. He is an 11-year member of the NJHA and is the vice president for the Indiana Junior Hereford Association. In addition to showing cattle, he exhibits swine, sheep and goats. At the JNHE he has competed in showmanship, Hereford Bowl and the Certified Hereford Beef® Cook-Off. Dylan won a Golden Bull Achievement Award.

Montana Lawrence, 21, is the daughter of Bryan and Marytina Lawrence. The eight-year NJHA member was elected as chairman for the junior board at the 2020 JNHE, after previously serving as the NJHA membership chairman. She was also president for the Minnesota Junior Hereford Breeders Association. Montana received a John Wayne Memorial Scholarship and a Poll-ette Founders Scholarship.

Wyatt Lawrence, 20, is the son of Bryan and Marytina Lawrence. Wyatt is a fourth-generation Hereford breeder and started his own herd at 10 years old. He serves as president for the Minnesota Junior Hereford Breeders and is a junior director for the NJHA. Wyatt won the first-place National Junior Merit Award.

Lauren McMillan, 18, is the daughter of Kyle and Jodi McMillan. Lauren is actively involved in both the NJHA and the Illinois Junior Hereford Association (IJHA). At the Illinois Preview show in 2019, she exhibited the reserve grand champion owned polled Hereford heifer and reserve grand champion bred-and-owned Hereford heifer. Lauren has attended the NJHA Faces of Leadership for the past five years. She is the vice president and awards chairman of the IJHA and was elected to the NJHA junior board of directors this year. She won a Golden Bull Achievement Award.

Regan Mitchem, 18, is the daughter of Wayne and Crystal Mitchem. Regan is a 7-year member of the NJHA and serves as the North Carolina Junior Hereford Association president. She won the 2018 Intermediate Illustrated Speech Contest and has taken part in several NJHA activities, including the Faces of Leadership conference. Regan's champion Hereford heifer was named the supreme overall female at the 2018 North Carolina State Fair. Regan won the Bud Snidow Award.

Cady Pieper, 15, is the daughter of David and Dana Pieper. She has been an NJHA member for 8 years. In 2019, Cady participated in the individual sales contest at the JNHE in Denver. That year she was also a member of the second-place overall junior division livestock judging team. Cady exhibited the champion Hereford heifer at the 2019 Kansas Junior Livestock Show. She won the 10th-grade Junior Golden Bull Award.

Kristin Waters, 11, is the daughter of Glen and Kyla Waters. She has been a member of NJHA since 2013. She has been involved in several leadership activities on the state and national levels. At the JNHE, Kristin

has participated in the judging, team sales and prepared public speaking contests. She won the sixth-grade Prospect Award.

Harlee Watson, 13, is the daughter of Matt and Melinda Watson. She is a member of the Kentucky Junior Hereford Association, where she serves as secretary. Harlee has shown at the JNHE for six years and exhibited the champion cow-calf pair at the 2018 Kentucky State Fair. She won the eighth-grade Prospect Award.

Rusty Wolf, 18, is the son of Tim and Peggy Wolf. Rusty has been active in 4-H and FFA. In his FFA career, Rusty served as his chapter's alumni relations chair, sentinel and secretary, while also serving as a regional sentinel. He has attended numerous leadership conferences and various other agricultural education events. Rusty won the Bluegrass and Buckeye Scholarship.

Hannah Williams, 20, is a 12-year member of the NJHA and studies at Kansas State University. Hannah was elected to the NJHA board of directors in 2017 and finished her term at the 2020 JNHE, where she served as the communications chair her final year. At the 2016 Nebraska State Fair, Hannah was named champion elite showman and the premier beef exhibitor and won champion heifer. Hannah was awarded the John Wayne Memorial Scholarship.

Jarrett Shane Worrell, 9, is the son of James and Shannon Worrell. Jarrett became a member of the Texas Junior Polled Hereford Association, the Texas Junior Hereford Association and the NJHA. He has participated in the showmanship, judging, illustrated speech and sales contests on the state and national levels. Jarrett has also competed in the NJHA Fed Steer Shootout program for two years. He won the third-grade Prospect Award. **HW**