

by *Betsy Pitstick*

The National Hereford Queen program supports the breed and the young women who represent it.

We may want to forget this past year or put it behind us quickly, but we proved its industry can overcome obstacles put in its path. The Junior National Hereford Expo (JNHE) and several of our national shows looked different, and events we anticipated were cancelled. Although disappointed, we rallied and made the best of the situation. I am so proud of our organization, the National Hereford Queen program and all the exhibitors for being flexible and understanding during this past year and in the foreseeable future.

The 2020 National Hereford Queen Melanie Fishel finished her reign and did an outstanding job



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representing the breed. She attended many sales, shows and events during her reign. Kaylee McInvale of Lockney, Texas, was crowned the 2021 National Hereford Queen at the American Royal. An amazing group of young ladies ran for the National Hereford Queen title. We are thankful for so many attending, even during an unusual year.

Kaylee attended several shows and added a few new events these past few months. We appreciate her time and dedication to the Hereford industry, and we are extremely proud of her efforts. Kaylee is currently busy planning her trip to Kansas City, Mo., for the JNHE in July. We are hoping to have our queen's tea this year as well as get back to our normal activities.

Crowning contributions

Abbygail Pitstick, our 2018 National Hereford Queen, donated one of her past National Hereford Queen outfits during the National Hereford Women (NHW) annual meeting. The ensemble is currently displayed in the American Hereford Association (AHA) office. This white outfit symbolizes the tradition of the National Hereford Queen, who represents Hereford breeders and cattle. We are thankful the AHA allowed us to display this important piece of our heritage in their headquarters.



The 2021 National Hereford Queen Kaylee McInvale already attended several Hereford shows and events as part of her reign and is planning her trip to JNHE.

Thank you to all donors and supporters of our National Hereford Queen program. Without the ongoing support, we would not have such an outstanding program. With continued growth, we have been able to team up with Hereford Youth Foundation of America (HYFA) and award the National Hereford Queen a \$10,000 scholarship at the end of her reign. We are so grateful to have the support of HYFA and donors to help award the queen for all of her time during her reign. **HW**

To join and to learn more about the NHW, visit HerefordWomen.com or email nationalherefordwomen@gmail.com.