

Outstanding Hereford Juniors Earn Awards and Scholarships

Outstanding National Junior Hereford Association (NJHA) members were awarded numerous scholarships during the 2021 VitaFerm® Junior National Hereford Expo (JNHE) Hereford Spectacular awards night in Kansas City, Mo., on July 8. This summer, \$28,000 was awarded to aid deserving junior members with their academic endeavors.

Prospect, Junior Golden Bull and Golden Bull Achievement Awards

The Prospect and Golden Bull Award Programs recognize junior members for their involvement in the Hereford and agriculture industry, as well as their communities. Prospect Awards are given to the top students in third through eighth grades, and the Junior Golden Bull Awards recognize the highest achieving students in ninth through 12th grades.

Prospect Award winners are given a leather halter with a nameplate, while the Junior Golden Bull winners are gifted a bronze Hereford bull statue. The Golden Bull Achievement Scholarship and Award is given to four collegiate students. As one of the most coveted honors at the JNHE, these youth receive a bronze Hereford bull statue and a \$2,000 scholarship.

Prospect Award

Third grade
Claire Collins, Chattanooga, Okla.

Fourth grade
Jarrett Worrell, Mason, Texas

Fifth grade
Faith Benedict, Dewey, Ill.

Sixth grade
Cierra Collins, Chattanooga, Okla.

Seventh grade
Kristin Waters, Norborne, Mo.

Eighth grade
Sarah Birdsall, Torrington, Wyo.

Junior Golden Bull Award

9th grade
Harlee Watson, Flemingsburg, Ky.

10th grade
Sam Birdsall, Torrington, Wyo.

11th grade
Cady Pieper, Zurich, Kan.

12th grade
Lauren Jones, Darlington, Wis.

Golden Bull Achievement Award

Karstyn Cantrell, Collinsville, Okla., \$2,000

Megan Underwood, Campbellsville, Ky., \$2,000

Trevor Johnson, Centerville, S.D., \$2,000

Audrey Nolan, Gilmer, Texas, \$2,000

John Wayne Memorial Scholarship

The John Wayne Memorial Scholarships are awarded to two college students who excel in their contributions to the agriculture industry, the Hereford breed and their moral character. The Hereford Youth Foundation of America (HYFA) and the National Hereford Women (NHW) sponsor these annual scholarships.

Malina Lindstrom, Elm Creek, Neb., \$1,000

Bailey Morrell, Willows, Calif., \$1,000

National Junior Merit Scholarship

The National Junior Merit Scholarship is one of the most prestigious awards given at the JNHE. It was developed to encourage individual and cooperative effort, enthusiasm, leadership and achievement among youth and foster reputable breeders for the Hereford



Golden Bull Achievement Award winners (l to r): **Megan Underwood**, Campbellsville, Ky.; **Audrey Nolan**, Gilmer, Texas; **Karstyn Cantrell**, Collinsville, Okla.; and **Trevor Johnson**, Centerville, S.D.; pictured with HYFA board members Katie Colyer and George Sprague.



Bluegrass and Buckeye Scholarship winner **Megan Underwood**, Campbellsville, Ky., pictured with HYFA board members Katie Colyer and George Sprague.



Bud Snidow Award winner **Malina Lindstrom**, Elm Creek, Neb., pictured with National Hereford Women vice president Betsy Pitstick.

breed and the beef industry. Each year, three scholarships are awarded totaling \$4,500 with the first-place award winner receiving a subsidized trip to a Hereford operation in the continental U.S. in addition to a \$2,000 scholarship.

1st place - \$2,000 plus trip
Molly Biggs, Dixon, Ill.

2nd place - \$1,500
Kolbi Franklin, Meeker, Colo.

3rd place - \$1,000
Noah Benedict, Dewey, Ill.

Hereford Herdsman Scholarship

Sullivan Supply, Hereford herdsman from around the country and HYFA work together to support two \$2,500 Herdsman Scholarships. These scholarships are given to college students who exhibit outstanding performance in the classroom and showing coupled with a dedication to raising and showing Hereford cattle.

Noah Benedict, Dewey, Ill., \$2,500

Dylan Kottkamp, Clayton, Ind., \$2,500

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.

Ben Jensen, Courtland, Kan., \$1,000

Poll-ette Founders Scholarship

The Poll-ette Founders Scholarship is special in that it honors the women who laid the foundation for the National Organization of Poll-ette's, which was organized in 1965. The Poll-ette Founders Scholarship recognizes Hereford juniors who have made significant contributions during their NJHA career.

Lauren McMillan, Tiskilwa, Ill., \$1,000

Libby Rushton, Waverly, Tenn., \$1,000

Bud Snidow Award

Each year the NHW honors B.C. "Bud" Snidow, the late American Hereford Association (AHA) employee and Hereford historian, with a custom hand-crafted buckle being 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.

Malina Lindstrom, Elm Creek, Neb.

Charles E. Boyd Memorial Scholarship

The Charles E. Boyd Memorial Scholarship honors the legacy of a third-generation Hereford breeder from May's Lick, Ky., who mentored youth in the agriculture industry. Throughout his lifetime, he was recognized on local, state and national levels for his

accomplishments. He was a prominent beef cattle judge at all major livestock shows and exhibited several international and national champion Hereford cattle. The Charles E. Boyd, Sr., Scholarship will continue to help young people in the Hereford breed who plan to go to college and pursue a degree in agriculture. Boyd's service to the agriculture industry has influenced young people and their families for many years.

Noah Benedict, Dewey, Ill., \$1,500

Bluegrass and Buckeye Scholarship

The 2021 Bluegrass and Buckeye Scholarship is sponsored by the Ohio and Kentucky Hereford Associations and HYFA through gratuitous funds from the 2006 JNHE in Louisville, Ky. The scholarship recognizes one outstanding NJHA member nominated by their state junior association advisor.

Megan Underwood, Campbellsville, Ky., \$1,500

Learn more about the 2021 scholarship and award winners.

Faith Benedict is 11 years old from Dewey, Ill., and has been a member of the state and national Hereford associations for five years. She joined the NJHA because it is a family tradition, and she enjoys meeting new people and learning what hard work means because of the association. She has a goal of winning an owned class at the JNHE.



Charles E. Boyd Memorial Scholarship winner **Noah Benedict**, Dewey, Ill., pictured with Andrew and Suzanne Matheny.



Poll-ette Founders Scholarship winners (l to r): **Libby Rushton**, Waverly, Tenn., and **Lauren McMillan**, Tiskilwa, Ill.

Noah Benedict is a junior at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign, majoring in agribusiness markets and management with a minor in leadership studies. He interned with Earlybird Feeds, Homestead Capitol Incorporated and has a future internship planned with State Farm. He plans to develop his family operation and grow to provide youth with heifers that will not only compete in the showring but also stand out in the pasture. He says that because of the NJHA he knew he wanted to work in agriculture and with cattle for the rest of his life, and he cannot wait to take advantage of those passions in the future.

Molly Biggs is a freshman at Kansas State University, pursuing a degree in agricultural communications and animal science with the goal of a career in agriculture communications to be an advocate for the agriculture industry by increasing transparency between

producers and consumers. She is looking forward to the opportunity to see an operation outside of the Midwest and learn how livestock are raised around the country. She looks at this trip as an opportunity to work alongside, shadow and question breeders to learn about their lives and how she can implement those traits in her own life.

Sam Birdsall is a 16-year-old from Torrington, Wyo. He was a member of the New York Junior Hereford Association for nine years and the Wyoming Junior Hereford Association for two years. Sam has also been a member of the national association for 14 years. He joined the NJHA to have the same experience his parents did as junior members.

Sarah Birdsall is a 13-year-old from Torrington, Wyo., and has been a member of the NJHA for 10 years. She would like to become the president of

Wyoming Junior Hereford Association and to continue holding elected positions that teach her leadership skills for her future in the beef industry. She would also like to compete in the different JNHE speaking contests to hone her speaking skills to better market and sell her cattle.

Karstyn Cantrell is a freshman at Oklahoma State University, double majoring in agricultural communications and agricultural education. She has a passion for livestock photography and ag journalism, and she wants to combine those two focuses into the role of an agricultural education instructor. The path of continuing in agricultural education at OSU will give her the opportunity to share her love and experience in the Hereford breed with students for generations to come.

Cierra Collins is a 12-year-old from Chattanooga, Okla., who has been a member of the state and national Hereford associations for six years. She joined the NJHA because her mom grew up showing Herefords and was a National Hereford Queen, and she wants to do the same thing. She has participated in the NJHA Fed Steer Shootout as well as competed at national and state Hereford shows. She wants to keep raising and selling Herefords in the future while staying involved in the state and national Hereford associations and growing in leadership and development.

Claire Collins is a 9-year-old from Chattanooga, Okla. and has been a member of the state and national Hereford associations for three years.



Hereford Herdsman Scholarship winners (l to r): **Dylan Kottkamp**, Clayton, Ind., and **Noah Benedict**, Dewey, Ill., pictured with HYFA board members Katie Colyer and George Sprague.

She would like to become a National Hereford Queen one day and has a goal of winning showmanship at the JNHE or winning a national show.

Kolbi Franklin is a freshman at Oklahoma State University, majoring in agribusiness and considering adding a double major in agricultural communications. Coming from Colorado, she hopes to serve as an advocate for the beef industry where she can use her marketing skills to inform others on the importance of meat.

Ben Jensen, Courtland, Kan., is a senior at Kansas State University. Ben attended Butler Community College where he was a member of the livestock judging team, graduated with Order of the Purple and was on the president's honor roll. Ben has been competing at the JNHE since he was 7 years old. In addition to winning the Walter and Joe Lewis High Point Senior Award, Jensen was also awarded with the junior premier breeder title.

Trevor Johnson is a freshman at Butler Community College, working to attain an associate's degree in agribusiness with the intent of pursuing a bachelor's degree in agribusiness with a minor in animal science. After college, he would like to gain industry experience at commercial feedyards. Then, he hopes to return home to his family's diversified seedstock and row crop operation, and eventually, operate a feedyard of his own. He owes the Hereford breed credit for shaping him as a person, agriculturalist and next-generation beef producer and plans to give back to the organization and industry throughout life.

Lauren Jones is a 17-year-old from Darlington, Wis., and has been a member of the state and national Hereford associations for 10 years. The NJHA provides her opportunities to meet new people and gain leadership experiences. Lauren plans to continue her involvement with the agriculture industry as she begins college this fall at Oklahoma State University.



Junior Golden Bull Award winners (l to r): **Harlee Watson**, Flemingsburg, Ky.; **Sam Birdsall**, Torrington, Wyo.; **Cady Pieper**, Zurich, Kan.; and **Lauren Jones**, Darlington, Wis.



National Junior Merit Award winners (l to r): third place – **Noah Benedict**, Dewey, Ill.; second place – **Kolbi Franklin**, Meeker, Colo.; and first place – **Molly Biggs**, Dixon, Ill., pictured with George Sprague.

Dylan Kottkamp is a freshman at Oklahoma State University with the intention of going to law school post-graduation and becoming an agricultural lawyer. He wants to represent farmers, ranchers and both big and small agriculture corporations to give them a voice, striving to be an industry advocate. Dylan says he is lucky to have grown up in this industry, which has taught him so many life lessons. He wants to give back by lobbying for more youth to have the opportunity for the agriculture industry and Hereford breed to have an impact on their lives.

Malina Lindstrom is a junior at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln, pursuing a degree in animal science and agricultural communication with a minor in Nebraska Beef Industry

Scholars. She wants to attend artificial insemination school and complete additional courses in graphic design and marketing to begin her own livestock marketing endeavor. She thanks the Hereford breed and industry for helping shape her into the person she is today.

Lauren McMillan is a sophomore at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, majoring in agricultural organization and community leadership with a concentration in organizational and community leadership. She has many interests post-graduation including event planning, advertising/marketing, recruitment and sales. She is focused on seeking a professional career in agriculture while continuing to be an energetic advocate for the beef industry.



John Wayne Memorial Scholarship winners (l to r): **Bailey Morrell**, Willows, Calif., and **Malina Lindstrom**, Elm Creek, Neb.

Bailey Morrell is a third-year student at Colorado State University, earning her bachelor's degree in agricultural education, with a concentration in agricultural literacy, and political science, with a concentration in environmental politics and policy. She plans to return to the family ranch to raise the fourth generation and continue to improve their reproductive technologies and selection, while also pursuing a law degree. Bailey is thankful for the unique opportunities provided by the NJHA and knows these memories will stay with her forever.

Audrey Nolan is a freshman at Texas A&M University, pursuing a degree in architecture and construction science with the goal of growing and learning how to build her own construction firm that specializes in hospital construction

or green space areas. She looks forward to continuing to raise her own family in the Hereford breed and in the Association, making time for the beef industry in her daily life.

Cady Pieper is a 16-year-old from Zurich, Kan., and has been a member of the state and national Hereford associations for nine years. She is the sixth generation of her family to be involved with the Hereford breed and credits her family history for sparking her interest to get

involved with the NJHA.

Libby Rushton is a sophomore at the University of Tennessee at Martin, majoring in agricultural science, while exploring the option of political science and public relations, with the ultimate goal of representing an agriculture-based company or organization in public relations. She plans to always be a cattle producer as well as a strong supporter and spokesperson for the efficient Hereford breed.

Megan Underwood is a graduate student at Kansas State University with a bachelor's degree in animal sciences and industry, pursuing a Master's of Science in agricultural education and communication, with the goal of becoming the communications and

marketing director for a livestock company. Her involvement in the Hereford breed and the NJHA has led to establishing a career interest in the beef industry and continued passion for raising cattle throughout adult life.

Kristin Waters is a 12-year-old from Norborne, Mo., and has been a member of the state and national Hereford associations since 2013. She joined the NJHA to show Hereford cattle with juniors from other states with similar interests. She enjoys the opportunities to participate in leadership, speaking and skill-building activities. In the future, Kristin would like to serve on the Missouri Junior Hereford Association's board of directors and represent her state as queen.

Harlee Watson is a 14-year-old from Flemingsburg, Ky., and has been a member of the state and national Hereford association for eight years. She plans to run for the NJHA board in the future and to pursue livestock judging at the collegiate level.

Jarrett Worrell is a 10-year-old from Mason, Texas, and has been a member of the state and national associations since he was eligible to join. He joined the NJHA because he wants to make friends and build relationships with people involved in this way of life. He has the goal of running for the NJHA board of directors and looks forward to the possible opportunity. **HW**



Prospect Award winners (l to r) seventh grade – **Kristin Waters**, Norborne, Mo., and eighth grade – **Sarah Birdsall**, Torrington, Wyo.



Prospect Award winners (l to r) fourth grade – **Jarrett Worrell**, Mason, Texas, and fifth grade – **Faith Benedict**, Dewey, Ill.