

## Foundation Celebrates Monumental Growth

This year HYFA net assets reached \$5.4 million to support the continuation of the Hereford legacy.

Through the years, the Hereford Youth Foundation of America (HYFA) experienced monumental milestones, but none more exciting than net assets surpassing the \$5 million mark in fiscal year 2021. As the Foundation pays it forward to create a legacy for future generations, HYFA's commitment to Hereford youth continues to grow. From classrooms, to feedyards and events both in and out of the showring, HYFA and its benefactors are steadfast supporters of Hereford youth, and they are paving the way for the next \$5 million for the next generation.

Each fall Hereford youth reap the benefits of the Foundation, and this year was no exception as 24 National Junior Hereford Association (NJHA) members were awarded \$160,000 in scholarships on Oct. 22, during the 2021 American Hereford Association (AHA) Annual Membership Meeting and Conference. This means more than \$1.5 million dollars of scholarships have been awarded since HYFA was founded in 2000. The scholarship selection committees continue to be impressed by the high caliber of college-aged students who apply for scholarships.

Through the years, the Foundation expanded to help fund diverse and exciting programs and opportunities for Hereford youth, one being the Junior National Hereford Expo (JNHE). The 2021 event in Kansas City, Mo., drew 1,385 entries from 40 states and Canada. The live competitions were viewed online by 11,000 people from 48 states and five countries. This show has become so successful it requires the largest facilities in

the country to host the weeklong event. To help with these unique challenges and keep the tradition growing, HYFA maintains a legacy fund and a steering committee.

Additionally, many junior members have benefited from the Faces of Leadership Conference HYFA has helped fund the last several years. With the help of Coley-Malir Leadership Endowment, the 2021 Faces of Leadership Conference, in Oklahoma City, hosted 81 junior members from 22 states.

The Fed Steer Shootout is another HYFA-funded junior program. It offers participants a unique opportunity to follow their cattle through the feedlot, showcase their genetics' production at the consumer level and expand their knowledge beyond the showring. This year, 133 Hereford and commercial steers were fed at HRC Feed Yards, Scott City, Kan. There was also a field day held in conjunction with this year's program, hosting 65 NJHA members, their families and industry leaders.

HYFA now houses a research fund component, which the AHA utilizes to fund research benefiting the total breed membership. So, whether you want to support juniors through scholarships and opportunities or want your contributions to be used for research or other purposes, we welcome you to get in touch and identify the best fit. Looking back on where HYFA started compared to where we are now, we feel the sky is the limit for this Foundation with our industry's continuous support and commitment to the Hereford breed.

### Thanks for your support

A huge thank you to all of those who have supported the NJHA and HYFA this fall.

Thank you to Ryan and Betsy Chapman, owners of Chapman Land and Cattle, Nunnely, Tenn., who purchased the "Choice of Champions" Lot 1 package in the Ladies of the Royal Sale for \$22,000. Their sponsorship will tremendously support the planning of the 2022 JNHE, Banners in the Bluegrass, in Louisville, Ky.

Thanks to Springhill Herefords, Blue Rapids, Kan., for their support of the Gemstone flush offered in Jensen Bros. Herefords The Chosen Sale, which raised \$5,000 to support HYFA.

The National Hereford Women (NHW) work throughout the year to support HYFA's scholarship mission. We are excited to announce a new scholarship endowment that will fund the Ostgaard-Breiner Educational Scholarships that will be offered in the spring of 2022 for non-traditional students. Thank you to the NHW for the \$63,000 gift to HYFA.

Thank you to everyone who was involved in the Sale of Champions auction supporting the 2022 JNHE. More than \$20,000 was raised to help make this event truly exceptional. From the buyers to the bidders and donors, thank you. We hope to see you in Louisville, Ky., July 16-22, for Banners in the Bluegrass. **HW**

Ray Ramsey is the Hereford Youth Foundation of America president.