Foundation's Focus

Focus | Generations of Support

by **Haley Mouser**

The Hereford Youth Foundation of America (HYFA) began 35 years ago with the vision of supporting educational opportunities for Hereford juniors. HYFA has grown since then to become a living testament to the power of paying opportunities forward across generations.

Lot 1 in the National Hereford Sale serves as an example of steadfast supporter commitment. Starting 16 years ago with Star Lake Cattle Ranch, Skiatook, Okla., consignors of this lot began donating its proceeds to HYFA.

This year's offering — pick of four flush sisters — came from long-time HYFA supporters Steve and Jill Folkman of C&L Hereford Ranch, Ixonia, Wis., and Oleson Family Farm, Arkdale, Wis. These



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HYFA lots were a hit on sale night. Trent Ray, owner T/R Cattle Co., Glencoe, Okla., speaks with sale attendees at the 2024 Hereford Night in OKC National Hereford Sale

heifers showcased the quality synonymous with the National Hereford Sale. However, they also reflect both generational generosity and genetic excellence.

The group of heifers are daughters of the Lot 1 Foundation Female at the 2016 National Hereford Sale — KJ BJ DWE 686Z Salsa 364C ET. Chapman Land and Cattle, Nunnelly, Tenn., and Dry Creek Farms, Pell City, Ala., stopped the gavel at \$50,000 for the first pick, C&L Miss Nixi H49 5L ET. Abby Hill Farms, Richmond, Ontario, paid \$12,000 for the second pick, C&L Miss Mercedes H49 6L ET.

Support for Hereford youth continued at this year's National Hereford Sale with the inaugural Lot 2 donation. T/R Cattle Co., Glencoe, Okla., brought another exceptional female for the third year in a row. This year, T/R 1816 Faye 7L ET topped the sale, selling for \$75,000 to Randy and Jay Peterson, Paris, Ill., (see Page 60 for more details). Trent Ray, owner of T/R Cattle Co.,

is a product of the National Junior Hereford Association. He is grateful for the chance to help provide opportunities and experiences like those afforded to him as a junior member.

HYFA has impacted thousands of juniors and their families, and their testaments and gratitude are reflected in their desire to pay it forward and continue building HYFA's legacy.

The generosity of these supporters and all those who contribute throughout the year, both new and returning donors, make the opportunities within HYFA possible. HYFA's legacy is built upon the opportunities it creates. I have experienced the impact of these opportunities in my own life. I'm thankful for HYFA, for not simply promoting a cause, but truly making a difference. HW

Haley Mouser serves as the fundraising chair on the NJHA board of directors.