

Recognizing a Lasting Tradition

The National Hereford Queen serves as a staple of the Hereford breed. Each year, the queen spends her time advocating for the breed by representing Hereford at all the national shows, attending production sales and promoting Certified Hereford Beef®.

Yet, each young lady awarded the esteemed opportunity to serve as the National Hereford Queen can attest to the financial and time commitment the role requires. These ladies are fully aware of this commitment, but it can still be difficult — putting a strain on everyday life and family finances. Even though being the National Hereford Queen may require sacrifice, it is a huge honor.

Over the last several years, the National Hereford Women (NHW) has endowed a \$10,000 scholarship for each National Hereford Queen at the end of her reign, while also reimbursing her for most of her travels. This helps the queen and her family with all the financial sacrifices made during and after her reign. But what about time? Most National Hereford Queens are either finishing high school or continuing their education. While serving as queen, it can be extremely hard to keep up with schoolwork and everyday responsibilities. This year, National Hereford Queen Marie Prodel's college allowed her to count her duties as the National Hereford

Queen as an internship. Marie will continue to fulfill her obligations as the queen and remain on track for her further education and college graduation. The NHW hopes Marie's internship credit will encourage other colleges to follow suit and allow future National Hereford Queens similar opportunities.

The National Hereford Queen position is such a privilege. Even those outside of the cattle industry can recognize what an honor it is to hold this position and want to be a part of the lasting tradition. **HW**

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