



JNHE Judges

Meet your judges for the 2025 VitaFerm® Junior National Hereford Expo (JNHE).

Cody Sankey

Owned Females



Cody Sankey owns and operates Sankey Angus alongside his wife, Lindsay, and children, Caroline and

Cyrus, in Economy, Ind. He holds a bachelor's degree in animal science and a master's degree in ruminant nutrition from Oklahoma State University (OSU), where he was also a member of their 2001 national champion livestock judging team.

Cody serves as the senior director of beef programs at GENEX Beef and formerly managed the Michigan State University (MSU) Beef Cattle Center for eight years. He also spent two years coaching the MSU livestock judging team.

A fifth-generation cattleman, he grew up on Sankey's 6N Ranch in Council Grove, Kan., home to the second oldest Angus herd in the U.S., representing more than 125 years in the Angus breed.

Off the farm, Cody has held leadership positions with the Indiana Beef Cattle Association and Indiana Angus Association. He enjoys spending time with his wife and children, attending livestock shows and coaching their children's baseball and softball teams.

Cody has sorted stock at the Cattlemen's Congress, National Western Stock Show (NWSS), North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE), American Royal, Dixie National Stock Show, San Antonio Stock Show, Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo and various national

junior shows and state fairs. He's judged in more than 27 states and Mexico and Canada.

John McCurry

Owned Females Associate



Born and raised near Hutchinson, Kan., John McCurry is a fifth generation Angus breeder and lifetime member of the American Angus Association. He grew up competing at Angus shows on all levels and was on the National Junior Angus Association board.

John attended Butler Community College and was a member of the livestock judging team. He completed his education at Kansas State University, where he was a member of the national reserve champion livestock judging team.

He returned home to McCurry Angus Ranch and has since expanded the operation. Early on, McCurry Angus Ranch utilized junior and open shows from coast to coast to market and promote their herd. Now, John and his wife, Melody, and children, Aubree, Molly and Drew, own and operate McCurry Angus Ranch and have hosted 12 annual bull sales, marketing 200 bulls each year.

McCurry is passionate about evaluating and sorting cattle along with encouraging the next generation of agricultural enthusiasts to find their home within the livestock industry. He has judged multiple national junior shows as well as the American Royal, NAILE, NWSS, Fort Worth

Stock Show and San Antonio Stock Show. He is thankful to the junior board, the American Hereford Association Board and Hereford enthusiasts for the opportunity to help evaluate the owned females during JNHE.

Charlie Boyd Jr.

Bred-and-Owned Females and Cow-Calf Pairs



Charlie Boyd Jr. owns and operates Boyd Beef Cattle, Mays Lick, Ky., with his wife, Paula, and their two sons, Blake

and Logan. The Boyd family has raised Hereford cattle for more than 120 years; Blake and Logan represent the fifth generation on their Kentucky ranch. Charlie attended the University of Kentucky and received his degree in agricultural economics.

He has held leadership roles in many organizations. Charlie has judged almost every national show and state fair in the country, along with shows in three foreign countries. Charlie has spent a lifetime immersed in the Hereford breed and is a past president of the National Junior Polled Hereford Council.

Blake Boyd

Bred-and-Owned Females and Cow-Calf Pairs



Blake Boyd resides in Mays Lick, Ky., with his wife, Grace. They, along with Blake's family, operate a Hereford and Angus

seedstock operation that has been



in business for more than 120 years. Boyd Beef Cattle annually hosts three production sales, selling more than 200 head of bulls and females to progressive commercial cattlemen and seedstock producers across the country.

Blake attended Butler Community College and OSU, where he was a member of both nationally competitive livestock judging teams. As a fifth-generation Hereford breeder, Blake is excited about the progress the breed has made in recent years and believes the future of the breed is bright. He says the Hereford breed's greatest asset is its outstanding people.

Chan Phillips

Bred-and-Owned Bulls and Steers



Chan Phillips was born and raised in Maysville, Ky., on a commercial cattle operation. Chan and his brother, Keith, currently operate a

Simmental-influenced cow-calf herd where they utilize AI and embryo transfer extensively. Chan got his start in the Simmental breed at the ripe age of 6 years old in 1972, when he bought his first Simmental heifer. Chan previously owned and operated Phillips Cattle Co. for 16 years — their crew exhibited multiple national champions at all major expositions. The Phillips family founded Rocking P Livestock in Kentucky, and Chan remains a partner in Rocking P today. Currently, he works as the manager of Circle M Farms in Rockwall, Texas, and Mt. Vernon, Mo.

Chan has judged numerous national breed shows, national junior shows and showmanship competitions across the U.S. and Canada. Chan and his wife, Tonya, have two children, Morgan (Wallace) and A.K., who both remain actively involved in the Simmental, SimAngus and Angus breeds.

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