

Angus Ambassador Named

Nebraska freshman selected to represent the nation's largest beef breed organization.

by Sarah Hill, special projects editor

Sydni Lienemann, Princeton, Neb., was named Nov. 6 to represent more than 25,000 Angus breeders as the 2018 Angus Ambassador.

A freshman majoring in animal science and agricultural economics at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln (UNL), Lienemann competed against four other finalists for the title at the 2017 Angus Convention in Fort Worth, Texas.

“I’m thankful I had the opportunity to judge this group of young people,” said Bruce Button, vice president and general manager, Lee Newspapers Inc. “It was a pleasure to see such well-spoken and driven young people in this industry.”

Other judges for the competition were Jake Troutt, Association regional manager; Mick Varilek, American Angus Association director; Annie Landry Viator, past Angus Auxiliary member and Angus breeder; and Dan Dhuyvetter, director of research and nutrition services for Ridley Block Operations.

Finalists for the 2018 Angus Ambassador were:

- **Sierra Day, Cerro Gordo, Ill.**, is a sophomore at Lake Land College in Mattoon, Ill. She’s planning to transfer to a four-year university to pursue an animal science degree with a communications option.
- **Keegan Cassidy, Normal, Ill.**, is studying animal science with an emphasis in business with a prelaw option at Oklahoma State University.



Sydni Lienemann, Princeton, Neb., will represent more than 25,000 Angus breeders as the 2018 Angus Ambassador. She is a freshman majoring in animal science and agricultural economics at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln.

- **Dean Klahr, Holton, Kan.**, is studying animal science and industry with an option in business and a minor in agricultural economics at Kansas State University (K-State).
- **Morgan Scilacci, Baker City, Ore.**, is attending K-State and majoring in animal science and industry with an option in business.

To be considered for Angus Ambassador, National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) members submitted a cover letter, résumé and responses to two essay questions.



The top candidates were invited to the 2017 Angus Convention for the final round of competition, which included an interview, as well as a five- to eight-minute presentation followed by five minutes of questions.

The finalists presented on a wide variety of topics. Lienemann presented on Angus GS™, Day focused on advocacy, Cassidy spoke about sustainability, Scilacci covered production and profitability, and Klahr presented on Angus dollar value indexes (\$Values).

Funded by the Angus Foundation, the Angus Ambassador will represent the Angus breed at industry events throughout the United States and Canada, including a Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB) Building Blocks seminar in Wooster, Ohio; the annual Cattle Industry Convention in Phoenix, Ariz.; the Beef Improvement Federation (BIF) Annual Research Symposium & Convention; and the Guiding Outstanding Angus Leaders (GOAL) Conference in Canada.

For more information about the NJAA, the Angus Ambassador program, or Angus Foundation, visit www.angus.org.

Competing for the title of 2018 Angus Ambassador were (from left) Morgan Scilacci, Baker City, Ore.; Sierra Day, Cerro Gordo, Ill.; Sydni Lienemann, Princeton, Neb.; Keegan Cassidy, Normal, Ill.; and Dean Klahr, Holton, Kan. The final round of competition included an interview and delivering a presentation at the 2017 Angus Convention in Fort Worth, Texas.

Editor's Note: This article is provided by the American Angus Association.