

# Angus Ambassador Selected

*Cale Hinrichsen of Westmoreland, Kan., was selected as the 2019 Angus Ambassador during the 2018 Angus Convention in Columbus, Ohio.*

*by Rachel Robinson, American Angus Association*

Currently studying agricultural business and marketing at Oklahoma State University (OSU), Hinrichsen will represent the nearly 25,000 Angus breeders as he travels around the country to advocate for the breed in addition to educating producers and consumers.

“Being selected was definitely a wonderful experience,” Hinrichsen says. “It was a shock and humbling. It made me realize how blessed I am to have the people around me who have helped me get to this point.”

Sponsored by the Angus Foundation, the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) Ambassador program was created to provide educational opportunities for juniors who want to become better advocates for, not only the breed, but also for both the livestock and agricultural industries.

It is designed to recognize one



Cale Hinrichsen (left) receives a belt buckle from the 2018 Angus Ambassador, Sydni Lienemann.

outstanding junior Angus member who will support the Angus breed and the consumption of Angus beef on a national and international level.


“The NJAA Angus Ambassador program is very important to encourage juniors to advocate on behalf of the Angus breed and cattle

industry,” says Jaclyn Upperman, Association director of events and education. “The competition was steep again this year, and we continue to have many great applicants who believe in advancing the breed.”

Applicants send in their cover letter and resume as well as answer two industry-based questions in the application process. The top five were then invited to the Angus Convention to compete in the second half of the contest. The contestants went through an interview with the same panel of judges and created a presentation about an Angus-related subject of their choice. Hinrichsen’s topic was beef cattle traceability.

A fourth-generation agriculturalist who attended his first sale at just 2 weeks old and received his Association membership at birth, Hinrichsen has been involved in the industry from the beginning.

He wants to continue learning from others in the industry through this position.

“I’d like to learn from the leaders ahead of me, and with that, I can take it back to my university and home operation,” Hinrichsen says. “It can help me be a leader people will choose to follow. As Ambassador, I’ll be getting an education myself, but I’d also like to educate others, too.” 

## Angus Ambassador Finalists

**Alexa Grau** from High Springs, Fla., is an animal science major at Miami-Dade College. Alexa has been involved with the Angus industry since first being introduced to agriculture and FFA in 2014.

**Gabriela Hernandez** from Wellington, Fla., is currently dual-enrolled in the Santa Fe College and University of Florida as an animal science major in the veterinary program. Her passion for cattle started in 2007 with her first steer project she raised from birth.

**Megan Pelan** from Jefferson, Md., is attending Kansas State University majoring in animal science. Megan’s interest in the Angus breed started when she was just seven years old, after she fell in love with her brother’s two Angus heifers.

**Nolan Poss** is from Scotia, Neb. He is attending the University Nebraska-Lincoln majoring in agriculture economics with minors in animal science, more specifically the Nebraska Beef Industry Scholars program. Nolan received his first Angus cow as a birthday present from his parents and his herd has since grown to nearly 30 head.