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POSTCARD FROM A JUNIOR



Nicole Stevenson

The potential to become

A wise man once said, "It's not about what it is, it's about what it can become."

That wise man, Theodor Seuss Geisel, better known as Dr. Seuss, sure knew what he was talking about. Each of us carries great potential for endless opportunities, including both failures and successes. That potential to become is greatly shaped by the opportunities we face, the people we surround ourselves with, as well as the events that shape our lives.

A notable aspect of the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) is the immense range of activities, conferences and contests offered to its membership that aid in the development of fundamental skills. The skills learned through participation in these events have the potential to set NJAA members apart

from their peers long after their time in this association is over.

The resources provided by the NJAA allow each of us the potential to become — to become whatever it is that we desire. Firsthand, I have felt the effect the NJAA has on an individual, as it has played a major role in my personal growth and development.

When I started my journey as an NJAA board member, I quickly discovered the potential to become relies heavily on those surrounding us as we face various challenges. My fellow board members, advisors and family have played a crucial step in the development of many fundamental skills such as patience,

cooperation and communication.

While the potential of what it can become is endless, it is also frightening and overwhelming. Inspirational statesman Winston Churchill once said, "There is no time for ease and comfort. It is time to dare and endure." To unleash the potential to become, we must remember to step out of our comfort zone occasionally. Be daring, yet intentional in your actions. Strive for what we can become rather than settling for what is.

I challenge you, juniors, to dare and endure as you grow into intelligent, passionate, hard-working individuals.

Bronze and Silver Awards

Alyson Friesen, Arnett, Okla., has earned the National Junior Angus Association's (NJAA) Bronze and Silver awards, according to Caitlyn Brandt, events and education director of the American Angus Association in Saint Joseph, Mo. Hallie Mullen, Ulysses, Kan., has earned the NJAA's Silver award.

The Bronze and Silver awards are the first two levels of the NJAA Recognition Program that began in 1972. Junior Angus breeders must apply for the awards, then meet point requirements in many areas of participation before

receiving the honors. Applicants are evaluated in areas of junior Angus association activities and leadership, participation in showmanship, contests and shows, using performance testing to improve their herd, and their progress in producing and merchandising Angus cattle.

Alyson Friesen is the 18-year-old daughter of Lisa Friesen. The Arnett, Okla., local attends Arnett Public School. In addition to being a member of the NJAA, Friesen is serving her state association as a director and has served as royalty.

Her time at the NJAS has included participation in the quiz bowl contest

and the Auxiliary-sponsored All-American *Certified Angus Beef* (CAB) Cook-off. She has also been a part of the mentoring program.

Ulysses, Kan., native, **Hallie Mullen**, is 9 years old. She is the daughter of Tyson and Emily Mullen.

As a member of the NJAA and the Kansas Junior Angus Association, Mullen has shown at the local, state and national level.

At the NJAS, she has participated in the public speaking and extemporaneous speaking contests. Mullen has also submitted weight data to the Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR®).

CAB Colvin Scholarship Fund

With the support of partners across the industry, Certified Angus Beef (CAB) awarded an annual record \$70,000 in scholarships to 20 students pursuing careers at the ranch, in meat science, in a research lab, or supporting agricultural business and marketing.

The Colvin Scholarship Fund recognizes students for the commitment and energy they bring to agriculture, their education and community involvement. Young leaders with bright ideas for making the best beef even better earned five production agriculture, ten undergraduate and five graduate scholarships in 2022.

The students recognized through scholarships are carrying the legacy of the brand's co-founder and executive director for 22 years, Louis "Mick" Colvin.

"With the support of the brand's partners, we were able to add a third category to the Colvin Scholarship Fund in 2022, the Production Agriculture Scholarship, giving a nod to Mick's roots," says Danielle Matter, CAB director of brand experience and education. "All of this year's recipients shine a bright light on the future of the beef business, and we are excited to see how the awards positively influence these students." 

Production Agriculture awards:

- \$7,500 Owen Gustafson, Dickinson State University
- \$3,500 Jace Stagemeyer, Butler Community College
- \$2,500 Teigen Hadrick, South Dakota State University
- \$2,000 Blake Bruns, Northeastern Junior College
- \$1,500 Amber Staab, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Undergraduate awards:

- \$7,500 Cutter Pohlman, Texas Tech University
- \$5,000 Kevin Jess, Cornell University
- \$4,000 Eva Hinrichsen, Oklahoma State University
- \$3,000 Alexandria Cozzitorto, Texas A&M University
- \$2,000 Ellie Kidwell, Kansas State University
- \$2,000 Jake Bagby, Texas Tech University
- \$2,000 Lauren Frink, Colorado State University
- \$2,000 Eric Schafer, Butler Community College
- \$2,000 Claire Stevensen, California Polytechnic State University
- \$2,000 Sheridan Wilson, University of Nebraska

Graduate Awards:

- \$7,500 Forest Francis, South Dakota State University
- \$5,000 Kaylee Greiner, Texas A&M University
- \$4,000 Mesa Kutz, Colorado State University
- \$3,000 Conner McKinzie, Texas Tech University
- \$2,000 Cesar Sepulveda, Texas Tech University

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