

# YCC Representative Selected

*Connealy selected to represent the Angus breed at NCBA's Young Cattlemen's Conference.*

*by Karen Hiltbrand, American Angus Association*

The Angus Foundation selected Gabriel Connealy of Whitman, Neb., to represent the Angus breed at the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) Young Cattlemen's Conference (YCC).

Each year, the Angus Foundation sponsors an individual to attend and represent the Angus breed at YCC. This year, the conference is to be hosted May 27-June 4, 2020, in Denver, Chicago and Washington, D.C.

Connealy is not only well-versed in experience, but also history within the Angus breed. Growing up working on his family's Angus seedstock operation, Connealy Angus, in Nebraska, he developed a passion for the industry and desire to assist in his family business, whose sustenance was built on the breed. This led him to attain his bachelor's degree in finance, and later his master's degree with an emphasis in animal breeding and genetics from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL).

His hunger for learning and passion for the industry led him to

consistently look for new sources of knowledge through all media, specifically podcasts, which happens to be where he learned about YCC.

"At the end of each day, I hope to understand the world better

than I did when I woke up," Connealy says. "In particular, I want to understand every aspect of the beef industry more thoroughly: from night-calving to policy-making in Washington, D.C."

In addition to managing the family herd of 3,000 registered Angus cows, he has been a 23-year member of NCBA

and served as a voting delegate at the 2019 National Angus Convention. He has played an important role in the startup of his local Nebraska Farm Bureau chapter in Grant County.

"While at UNL, he demonstrated to me that he was not only intelligent, but more importantly, that he was committed," says Matt Spangler, UNL professor of animal science. "If I were to make an investment in a young person whom I thought had the potential to one day serve in key leadership roles within the beef industry, I would invest in Gabriel."

His experience is backed with an innate desire to learn, which inspires him to put new information to use for the betterment of the breed. Connealy has had an array of experiences, from interning in Argentina with an Angus breeding consultant to regularly hosting both domestic and international tour groups at his ranch.

"We are excited to have Gabriel Connealy representing Angus at the 2020 NCBA Young Cattlemen's Conference," says Thomas Marten, executive director of the Angus Foundation. "He couples experience, a desire to learn and enthusiasm for the industry, and that will allow him to expand on opportunities presented to him to further his ranch and the industry." **AJ**



Gabriel Connealy