



Jordyn Wagner

POSTCARD FROM A JUNIOR

Be a lifelong learner

The objective of education is learning, not teaching.

During the last 16 years, I have been educated on how to be a future educator. As I approach the end of my college career and begin to think about my future as a teacher, there is one lesson that I have learned that never seems to become irrelevant: The objective of education is learning, not teaching. Although I am going to begin teaching students valuable content, my learning should never end.

Now that my membership as a junior has expired and I am a regular member of the American Angus Association, it is vital for me to give back and educate the youth of our program, as well as in my classroom. The traditional idea of education

focuses on teaching, not learning. It assumes incorrectly that for every ounce of teaching there is, or should be, an ounce of learning by those who are taught.

Through observations, student teaching, and creating both curricula and lesson plans, I become enthralled with all of the information I can provide my students, and the methods in which I can provide it. There are so many new resources now to use to make learning a beautiful process. As an elementary teacher, I think about math, writing, science, technology and physical education. However, that is not all.

As a teacher I am responsible for building a student academically,

socially and emotionally. I never want to fail any of my kiddos in any aspect. I think about how to handle conflict between children, how I will handle injuries, how I will teach procedures so they will become routines, or even getting ready for recess.

What I don't think about is what those kids in my classroom are going to teach me. They can teach me to step out of my comfort zone, teach me new methods of learning, teach me about diversity, teach me about their cultures, and so many more lessons that I have never considered valuable until now.

Although I will be up at the front of the room instilling valuable

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Angus juniors 'Kick it with the Cowboys' in Oklahoma

Angus juniors have many opportunities to travel the country with the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) and learn from knowledgeable experts in the beef cattle business throughout the year. Most recently, NJAA members met April 19-21 in Oklahoma City, Okla., to participate in a Raising the Bar conference.

"Oklahoma State University is a very popular location for Angus juniors to continue their education," said Caitlyn Brandt, American Angus Association events and education coordinator. "I have no doubt that OSU will gain a few more because of their experience at Raising the Bar."

The conference hosted 67 Angus junior leaders from 22 state junior Angus associations. Participants toured the Oklahoma State University (OSU) campus, heard from industry experts, took part in leadership training workshops and spent time networking with other participants.

"Oklahoma City was centrally located around three Angus

breeders who generously hosted our group," said Brandt. "Juniors were able to learn more about Angus cattle in Oklahoma and agriculture in general."

The group visited Express Angus Ranches near Yukon, Pollard Farms near Waukomis and Pfeiffer Angus Farm near Mulhall. Raising the Bar participants also toured the Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum, as well as the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum.

"Raising the Bar conferences provide juniors the opportunity to prepare for the future by showcasing a land-grant university, while also networking with juniors from across the country and gaining leadership skills along the way," Brandt said.

A full list of participants can be found at <https://bit.ly/2jDqHL6>.

— by Lea Ann Maudlin, Angus Communications

tools, they will be sitting in the chairs teaching me about patience, kindness, thoughtfulness and creativity. Kids are a blank canvas, and provide a whole new perspective on the world that I never thought

about during my life. My students will help keep me in my “youth.”

Now I challenge you to be a lifelong learner and teach along the way — whatever it may be for your education, to build your Angus herd,

or trying something new. Be the learner while you teach. I am forever thankful for my education and all the teachers I had along the way who taught me to be an avid learner.

— Jordyn Wagner, Montana

Kentucky Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting & Banquet, March 2, Louisville



Reese Johnson accepts Kentucky Jr. Angus Sweepstakes awards for grand champion female. Emily Johnson won reserve grand champion female.



Kalli Flanders, Buffalo, was awarded overall winner in the Kentucky Jr. Angus Ass'n Points Program final standings.



Logan Boyd (right), May's Lick, received the Herdsman of the Year award, presented by Blake Boyd.



Topping final standings in the Kentucky Jr. Angus Ass'n Points Program in the B&O bull division are (from left) Kalli Flanders, Buffalo, first; Taylor Jeffries, Canmer, second; Bryanna Smith, Russell Springs, third; and Leslie Craig, Harrodsburg, fourth.



Owned heifer division winners are (from left) Kalli Flanders, Buffalo, first; Abigail Smoot accepting for Bradshaw Smoot, Campbellsville, second, third and tied for fifth; Taylor Jeffries, Canmer, fourth; and Donald Day III, Nicholasville, tied for fifth.



Lily Jeffries, Canmer, topped final standings in the steer division of the Kentucky Jr. Angus Ass'n Points Program.



Topping final standings in the Kentucky Jr. Angus Ass'n Points Program in the bred-and-owned heifer division are (from left) Kalli Flanders, first; Donald Day III, second; Lily Jeffries, third and tied for fifth; and Jacob Marksbury, Buffalo, fourth.



Topping final standings in the cow-calf division of the Kentucky Jr. Angus Ass'n Points Program are (from left) Taylor Jeffries, first, and Lily Jeffries, second and fifth; Jacob Marksbury, third; and Josh Jasper, Nicholasville, fifth.

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Reese Johnson accepts Kentucky Jr. Angus Sweepstakes awards for grand champion female. Emily Johnson won reserve grand champion female.



Leslie Craig (left), Harrodsburg, and Tyler McGinnis, Shelbyville, receive the retiring junior member award from the Kentucky Jr. Angus Ass'n.



Accepting Kentucky Jr. Angus Sweepstakes awards are (from left) Staton Bowman, Lancaster, reserve grand champion bull; and Reese Johnson, Slaughters, grand champion bull.



Leslie Craig (right) won Outstanding Female Junior. Presenting is Makayla Jeffries.



Tyler McGinnis (right) won Outstanding Male Junior. Presenting is Josh Jasper.



Kalli Flanders (right) received the Kentucky Jr. Angus Ass'n Premier Exhibitor and Premier Breeder awards. Presenting is Taylor Jeffries.



Officers and directors elected to serve the Kentucky Jr. Angus Ass'n are (seated, from left) Catherine Cowles, Rockfield, reporter; Abigail Smoot, secretary; Makayla Jeffries, Horse Cave, president; Caroline Cowles, Rockfield, vice president; (standing, from left) Lily Jeffries; Ethan Blevins, Greenup; Bryanna Smith, Russell Springs; Kalli Flanders; Maria Day, Nicholasville; Bradon Burks, Park City; and Paula Boyd, May's Lick, advisor.



Crowned Kentucky Angus royalty are (from left) Taylor Jeffries, Kentucky Angus princess; and Kalli Flanders, Miss Kentucky Angus.

Editor's Note: Photos by Alex Tolbert, American Angus Association.

