

# NJAS IT'S ALL OK

The title 'NJAS IT'S ALL OK' is rendered in large, 3D-style letters. 'NJAS' is in a light blue color, while 'IT'S ALL OK' is in a darker blue. The letter 'O' in 'OK' is replaced by a silhouette of an Angus cow. Above the 'O' are three small blue circles containing the letters 'A', 'L', and 'L'. To the right of the 'O' is a colorful, multi-pointed starburst graphic. The background is a warm orange gradient with a faint city skyline silhouette at the bottom.

A bright spot in an otherwise bleak stretch of months plagued with change and uncertainty, Angus breeders from across the United States gathered together July 19-24 in Tulsa, Okla.

The shavings were not green. The smiles of juniors were often hidden behind masks. A portion of events were hosted virtually.

Yet there was still a National Junior Angus Show (NJAS). And that's what made "it all OK."

This year's show certainly looked different than prior years due to the COVID-19 pandemic. But with the dedication of the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) and American Angus

Association staff, many victories were still had: The first Phenotype and Genotype Show (PGS) during the NJAS was hosted. Angus juniors competed in 17 contests. \$230,000 were awarded to youth of the Business Breed in the form of scholarships, and more than 800 head of Angus cattle made their lap around the show ring.

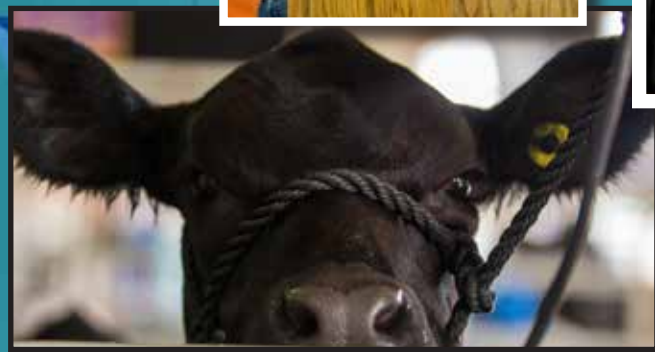
Things were more than OK at this year's NJAS as champ slaps were still awarded, juniors still showcased their talent, and Angus producers came together to compete. The pages that follow showcase highlights from this year's NJAS.

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# NATIONAL JUNIOR ANGUS SHOW 2020 TULSA, OK

## MONDAY



Top left: Once again, the auctioneering contest drew a crowd of both audience members and talented budding auctioneers. Top right: Members of the National Junior Angus Board (NJAB) hosted a virtual opening ceremony. Bottom left: Cattle stayed cool under the fans in the barns. Bottom middle: Will Harsh and fellow regional managers helped check in cattle. Bottom right: NJAA members kicked off the AMP program with outdoor activities.

## TUESDAY



Top left: The poster contest gave juniors a chance to share their knowledge. Top middle: Association staff focused on safety and had their temperatures checked each morning. Top right: At the annual NJAA meeting, NJAB voting delegates were taught how online elections would take place. Bottom right: State associations competed in the scrapbook contest.

# MORE TUESDAY



Far left: Junior members became salesmen in the Team Marketing contest. Middle: Competitors in the National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest competed for a spot among the top 15. Above: Before announcing the top 15, one of the showmanship judges gave NJAA members a lesson in what's truly important in the Business Breed.

## Angus juniors donate to Tulsa food bank

by Peyton Schmitt, communications intern

The National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) strives to create opportunities for its members to grow, even outside of the show ring. The NJAA has always emphasized community service, and this year a program was created specifically for this cause. The Angus Impact program aims to encourage and facilitate community service initiatives for Angus youth. Keegan Cassidy, 2019-2020 membership chair for the National Junior Angus Board (NJAB), was the driving force behind bringing this program to existence.

"We wanted to create a program that involved juniors all year long and got them involved in their communities," Cassidy says. "This year our cause is food insecurity, which hits very close to home for our juniors as young agriculturalists."

At the 2020 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) in Tulsa, Okla., NJAA members were encouraged to bring nonperishable food items to be donated to the Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma. Together, the juniors collected 175 pounds (lb.) of donations. NJAB members Dylan Denny, Tyler Bush and Keegan Cassidy delivered the donation, visiting with staff and learning more about the important role the food bank plays in providing food for eastern Oklahoma.

"The community really is the backbone of what we do here," says Jenny Berry, media coordinator and graphic designer for the Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma. The food bank serves the 24 eastern counties of Oklahoma through 350 partner agencies, typically providing around 464,000 meals per week. She says that



NJAB members (from left) Dylan Denny, Tyler Bush and Keegan Cassidy delivered donated items to the food bank.

due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this has increased to about 700,000 meals per week since the beginning of April. Continued donations have been crucial to keeping up with these changes in both supply and demand.

"Having these young people wanting to step up and help make a donation is really inspiring to see," Berry says.

The NJAA is passionate about the importance of building strong leaders and citizens, rather than just successful showmen. When spearheading this project, the NJAB didn't want it to be a one-time occurrence. It's their intention that this continues to be a priority for junior associations across the country well into the future. Cassidy says she hopes juniors will continue to participate in the Angus Impact program and appreciate its purpose.

"We hope that throughout the years the Angus Impact program will grow," Cassidy says. "We want to make sure juniors are engaged and excited about helping others."

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# NATIONAL JUNIOR ANGUS SHOW 2020 TULSA, OK

## WEDNESDAY



The show started in full swing as bred-and-owned (B&O) bulls, Phenotype and Genotype Show (PGS) entries, heifers and the top 15 showmanship competitors hit the ring. From the first grand champion of the PGS to the selection of the grand champion owned steer and even the reveal of the winner of the National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest, tears and smiles were in abundance in and around the arena.

# THURSDAY



The show resumed full swing as NJAA exhibitors, judges and the green coats fought to find the best of the Business Breed at this year's NJAS. From mastering the eye of the tiger to receiving champion "fist bumps," the day was full of victories.



# FRIDAY



The NJAS wrapped up with acknowledgment of the Association staff, NJAS members and families, and sponsors who made the event possible prior to the selection of the champion owned females.

