

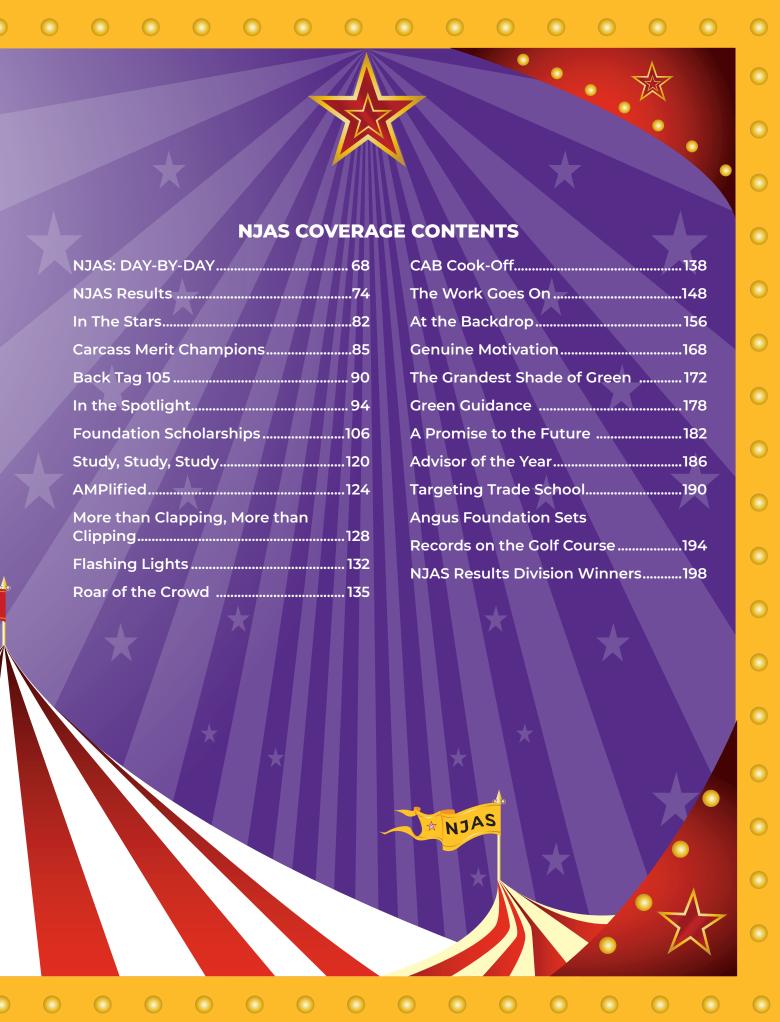
Blowing in the slight breeze created by fans meant to keep the black-hided cattle cool, a banner, deep purple in color, moves in a soft dance from its perch on the fence post. Its tassels gleam golden in the barn aisle, and the print across its surface boldly proclaims its owner the newest holder of the title "grand champion."

Despite its grandeur, the banner hangs idly off to the side, no longer a concern of the crowd standing around it. The main attraction is the calf being held in the center of the barn aisle. The Angus female blinks slowly, watching as the junior on the other end of the show halter hugs friends and family.

It was this sense of comradery and this passion for the Angus breed that was the forefront of the 2021 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) hosted July 10-17 in Grand Island, Neb. The people and the quality stock made the show grand, rather than buckles, banners and titles.

This summer, the NJAS was where everyone wanted to be. It was a week of forged friendships, healthy competition and personal victories. As more than 800 National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) members traveled to exhibit 1,150 head of Angus cattle and compete in numerous contests, there exists no question that this was The Grandest Show on Earth.







National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) members arrived in Grand Island to check in their animals. The week kicked off with the start of the prepared public speaking contest, the first session of the Angus Mentoring Program (AMP), an education clinic led by Angus Genetic Inc's Esther McCabe and the weighing of carcass steers.











From the early morning wake-up call for the 5K Run and Angus Foundation Golf Tournament to the tasty treats from both an ice cream bar and the Auxiliary-sponsored All-American *Certified Angus Beef* \* Cook-Off, NJAA members kept busy on the third day of the NJAS. Other events of the day included the career development contest, Queen's Luncheon, skill-a-thon contest and an education clinic centered around reproductive technology. The evening also witnessed the Annual Meeting of the NJAA.





NJAS champions were named for the first time Wednesday with the bred-and-owned (B&O) heifer show. NJAA members competed in several contests, including the skill-athon, extemporaneous speaking, team sales, quiz bowl and team fitting. Scholarship winners were recognized by the Angus Foundation. The American Angus Auxiliary Mid-Year Meeting, junior social and adult social were other highlights of the day.





## NATIONAL JUNIOR ANGUS SHOW The Grandest Show













More animals were paraded in the show ring Thursday, as champions were selected for the Phenotype and Genotype Show, B&O cow-calf pairs, owned cow-calf pairs and B&O bulls. Final rounds were held for the quiz bowl competition, the skill-a-thon contest continued, and juniors competed in the beef science poster contest. The National Junior Angus Showmanship contest began, with the top 15 juniors being named.

## 2021





Friday boasted the start of the owned heifer show. Outstanding individuals were recognized with honors such as the Advisor of the Year and Honorary Angus Foundation Awards. State delegates voted for the newest members of the National Junior Angus Board (NJAB). Following a dinner sponsored by the American Angus Association, juniors and their families attended the NJAA Awards Premier, where honors were announced for all NJAA contests, Gold Award recipients, Crystal Award recipients, all scholarship recipients and the newest six members of the NJAB.



On the final day of the NJAS, the trade show and silent auction concluded, and champions were named in the showmanship contest and the owned heifer show.

