



The Highest Honor

Twenty-five NJAA members receive their Gold Award for their impact on the organization.

by Kaci Foraker, editorial intern

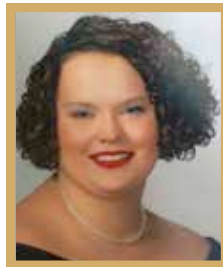
Gold is one of the most precious metals that is also tremendously malleable and unwavering in corrosive environments. It signifies the success of an achievement, commemorates the dedication of individuals or serves as a material connection.

The Gold Award, given by the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA), signifies all that and much more to its recipients. This year, 25 Gold Award winners depicted high achievement in their years as part of the organization.

NJAA members found triumph in competitive contests and stepping outside their comfort zones at leadership events. More than 300 years of membership spans between the award winners. Time spent working in the barn, learning at development conferences and mentoring others helped them reach this status. A gold-casted pin was awarded to recipients at the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) in Louisville, Ky., as a reminder of their experiences, memories and commitment to the NJAA that will continue to serve them in their future endeavors.

Applicants of the Gold Award have previously received Bronze and Silver Awards. Upon their last year of junior membership, they are

eligible to apply if they accumulated 3,000 points during their junior career. Participants achieve points by being involved in NJAA activities, holding leadership roles, recording performance tests on their cattle with the American Angus Association and merchandising their cattle.



Kylea Arnold

From Weston, W.Va., Kylea Arnold has been a dedicated member of the West Virginia Junior Angus Association (WVJAA) and NJAA.

“I have enjoyed not only showing my cattle but working hard and spending countless hours in the barn to get them prepared,” Arnold says. “I have made many friendships over the years and learned different skills and lessons in the beef industry.”

From evaluating phenotypes at judging contests to analyzing ultrasound records and sire performance information, Arnold has strived to be knowledgeable about the Angus industry and her individual cattle. Furthermore, she

has consigned cattle to multiple sales and completed the Masters of Beef Advocacy training program.

Arnold served as the WVJAA princess and was crowned queen for the organization in 2019. At the 2008 Eastern Regional Junior Angus Show, she sang the national anthem. The daughter of Ernest and Lisa Arnold has exhibited for many years at the West Virginia Junior State Breeders Show and Eastern Regional.

Scholarships Arnold received from the WVJAA and Angus Foundation helped her study education at West Virginia Wesleyan College (WVWC), where she plans to graduate in December 2019. After graduation, she will complete a graduate degree in school counseling while helping her grandparents on their registered Angus farm.



Tyler Bush

Tyler Bush, son of Scott and Jo Bush, is passionately invested in the Angus business. Working with



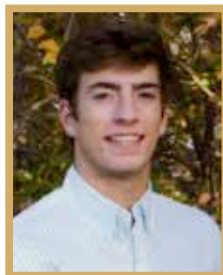
his family's farm, Bush Angus, near Britton, S.D., he has consigned cattle to sales and recorded genomic profiles on his stock.

Bush credits his first Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) Conference held in Fort Collins, Colo., for introducing him to the possibilities of being an NJAA member. The older junior members served as a role model for him and gave him the desire to join the National Junior Angus Board (NJAB).

"I can honestly say I wouldn't be where I am today without the significant and rewarding opportunities that the NJAA has presented to me in my time as a junior member," Bush reflects.

NJAB member, South Dakota Junior Angus (SDJAA) treasurer, Raising the Bar delegate and SDJAA voting delegate are all leadership positions Bush has held. He won the Auxiliary-sponsored All-American *Certified Angus Beef*® Cook-Off, exhibited a division champion at the NJAS and won senior showmanship at the South Dakota Junior Angus Show.

This past year Bush graduated from Hutchinson Community College and is continuing his education in agricultural business and animal science at South Dakota State University (SDSU). After graduation, he hopes to fill the shoes of generations before him by returning to his family's operation.



Ryan Callahan

Edmond, Okla., native Ryan Callahan has exhibited top-notch cattle at junior Angus shows for many years. Since joining the NJAA in 2000, Callahan has found favorable outcomes in his pursuits inside the show ring and outside it.

For the past seven years, the son of Jarold and Jennifer Callahan exhibited cattle that received division honors at the NJAS, even winning champion overall multiple times. When he was not on the end of a show stick at the NJAS, Callahan participated in the Cook-Off, livestock judging contest and served as an annual meeting delegate. He has attended LEAD Conference and served the Oklahoma Junior Angus Association as president as well as vice president.

But more important than Callahan's honors, he understands the logistics of raising quality cattle and how to continually improve his herd as part of the NJAA bred-and-owned (B&O) heifer program. He hopes to remain involved as an Angus breeder and complete his animal science degree at Oklahoma State University (OSU).

"The Angus junior program requires work ethic, teaches responsibility and develops self discipline, all of which are important life skills," Callahan says. "It doesn't matter how tired you are or how bad

the weather is outside, the cattle still need fed and cared for. A concept so simple carries so much benefit to youth in their development."



Dawson Dal Porto

Being an NJAA member for the past 12 years has allowed Dawson Dal Porto's passion for Angus cattle to truly flourish.

The Iowa State University (ISU) student grew up helping his family on their operation located near Oakley, Calif. Dal Porto found success competing at the NJAS and serving in leadership roles for the California Junior Angus Association and NJAA. He attended Angus Convention and LEAD Conference to learn all he could about raising cattle.

The son of David and Jeanene Dal Porto discovered a new view of the NJAA when he was selected to wear the green coat as part of the NJAB. However, juggling time for school, judging livestock at a collegiate level and managing his own cattle herd has been a task for Dal Porto.

"With a busy schedule I have not forgotten about my passion for my own cattle," Dal Porto says. "That is why the cattle industry isn't just a job; it's a way of life that I have grown up around, gone to school for and plan to keep a part of my life for as long as possible. They say if you are doing what you love, you'll never

Continued on page 130



NATIONAL JUNIOR ANGUS SHOW 2019

work a day in your life. I believe this to be true and look forward to doing what I love — raising cattle.”



Hayley DeHaan

Beginning her own operation with two heifers, Hayley DeHaan and her family built an avenue to sell Angus beef in McMinnville, Ore. A member of the NJAA for the past nine years, DeHaan is the daughter of Pete and Jennifer DeHann.

As she concludes her junior show career, DeHaan looks back favorably on the time she spent working cattle or traveling to events and the many lessons she learned from each of those experiences.

“Being a part of the NJAA helped me not only gain confidence in myself, it also taught me how to work toward any goal I set my mind to,” DeHaan says. “In the beginning, I started from square one. Being a part of the NJAA gave me the tools and the confidence to overcome my obstacles to be where I am today.”

She has served on the NJAB, as chairman and queen of the Oregon Junior Angus Association, communications director for NJAA and queen for the Western States Angus Association. Among her leadership roles, DeHaan exhibited Angus cattle at the Eastern Oregon Stock Show, Western National Angus Futurity, NJAS, National Western

Stock Show (NWSS) and American Royal Livestock Show.

DeHaan hopes to continue developing her self-created brand, Eola Crest Cattle, while majoring in agricultural sales and agricultural communications at Purdue University (Purdue).



Grady Dickerson

The list of accomplishments for Grady Dickerson, David and Stephanie Dickersons’ son, is a long one. The Paradise, Kan., native has been an active member of the NJAA and Kansas Junior Angus Association (KJAA) since 2004.

In the Cook-Off, livestock judging, team sales, team marketing and quiz bowl competitions at NJAS, Dickerson has achieved first or second place for consecutive years.

For the past eight years, he served as a director, vice president, treasurer or voting delegate for the KJAA. With the NJAA, Dickerson was a director and participant in LEAD Conference, Raising the Bar and the NJAS Mentoring Program.

He will continue his education at Fort Hays State University (FHSU) with majors in chemistry and secondary education. As a teacher, he would like to “pass down the values” he has learned as an NJAA member.

“Showing cattle, competing in contests and building networks at

junior nationals and countless other shows will help me succeed in my future career, but the friends I’ve made through the years will help me succeed in life,” Dickerson says.



Bryce Fitzgerald

For NJAA member Bryce Fitzgerald from West Grove, Pa., showing Angus is more than winning a banner in the show ring.

“Achieving your own goals is important, but to help someone else accomplish theirs is incredibly rewarding,” Fitzgerald says. “I have helped juniors improve their fitting and showmanship skills by assisting them personally with their animals at shows and it feels good to help them.”

He credits youth events, such as LEAD Conference, Raising the Bar, the NJAS Mentoring Program and livestock judging contests for shaping him into the person he is today. Fitzgerald has served in leadership roles for the NJAS and Eastern Regional Junior Angus Show.

The son of Tim Fitzgerald has also found success in the show ring as he has had multiple grand honors and division winners at competitive junior shows.

Currently, Fitzgerald plans to graduate from OSU in 2021 with a degree in agricultural business. He hopes to follow in his father’s and grandfather’s footsteps by raising



quality Angus cattle with a goal of creating his own online sale for Fitzgerald Angus Cattle.



Caleb Flory

“At the time, I never noticed how much I was benefiting from being part of these associations, but I think part of it stems from being passionate about cattle and the agricultural industry,” says Caleb Flory from Baldwin City, Kan. “I was doing something I loved with people who loved it also, when really it was a constant growing experience for everyone involved.”

Being a sixth-generation cattle and row crop producer, agriculture has always been a passion for Flory. He has made irreplaceable friendships and connections as a junior member in the Angus industry.

At the Kansas Junior Angus Futurity, he showed division winners and twice his cattle received grand champion recognition. From holding offices for his state junior Angus association to participating in Raising the Bar, Flory has had a multitude of experiences as an NJAA member.

The son of Jason and Wendy Flory credits his involvement with the NJAA for giving him the realization of the value in helping others. Flory says that reflection pushed him to

serve as a volunteer firefighter for his local community. He plans to complete training to become a full-time firefighter, while continuing his dream of operating the family farm.



Morgan Fruge

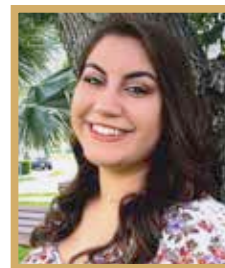
It all started with a calf named Cash that was handpicked from the field by Morgan Fruge of Jennings, La. That little twin calf taught Fruge all about animal care, how to show cattle and the work required to achieve success in the show ring.

Fruge reflects on the different aspects of showing as an NJAA member saying, “Friends were easy to come by in a group with values similar to yours. We all knew the value of hard work and family. Winning was a bonus, but the goal was to enjoy ourselves to the fullest.”

For the past nine years, the daughter of Lawrence and Trina Fruge has been a member of the NJAA. She has served as a director of the Louisiana Junior Angus Association and a voting delegate for the NJAA.

At the NJAS, Fruge competed in Cook-Off, Chef’s challenge, livestock judging, team fitting and the photography contest. Recently, she was part of the Angus/Talon Youth Education Learning Program Internship, which placed her with Henning Farms in Wisconsin.

She plans to graduate from McNeese State University in the fall of 2019 with a major in agricultural sciences and a focus in animal science. In the next five years, Fruge will begin her own registered cow-calf operation and hopes to introduce her younger family to the show industry.



Alexa Grau

“Six years ago I would have never predicted myself here, someone with the courage to speak in front of an audience about the beef industry,” says Alexa Grau from High Springs, Fla. “The NJAA has challenged me but also shaped me and my future.”

Though the daughter of Adiala and Jose Ramon Grau may not have had a lengthy career with Angus cattle, she regards her time spent as an NJAA member as her “starting point.” Without a background in agriculture, she learned about cattle production and even developed life skills while at junior Angus events.

At the NJAS, she participated in Cook-Off, public speaking, photography contest and quiz bowl. Grau developed her leadership skills at the LEAD Conference, Raising the Bar and Angus Convention, which helped her find success as the Florida Junior Angus Association (FJAA) Queen. She received awards for her work with FFA in beef proficiency

Continued on page 132



NATIONAL JUNIOR ANGUS SHOW 2019

and beef entrepreneurship.

Grau has started her own Angus herd and learned to improve her herd's reproduction efficiency by using artificial insemination (AI). In the future, she will continue to develop her herd and find a career as a beef cattle embryologist.



Haley Greiman

The daughter of Kurt and Tina Greiman, Haley Greiman, has been an NJAA member for the past decade. Showmanship contests and leadership played a large role in the Iowa native's membership.

One of the most important parts of showing cattle for Greiman was the showmanship contest, where competition was solely based on her skills. She used to watch the senior showmanship and then ask for tips from the winners.

"They taught me the little things they did to stay composed in the show ring and how they reacted to unfamiliar situations such as switching calves," Greiman says. "I am very thankful for all the advice those members provided, and I hope to be able to help younger members achieve their own goals in showmanship in the future."

NJAA leadership events were another vital experience for Greiman to learn about different sectors of agriculture and create lasting

friendships with those that had similar interests.

Greiman participated in the fitting contest and skill-a-thon at the NJAS. She represented Iowa in the National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest and was a voting delegate for the NJAB election process.

Currently, Greiman is attending ISU with plans to pursue a career in animal health research.



Noah Grounds

Hailing from Barry, Texas, Noah Grounds found his "Angus family" by being an NJAA member for the past 11 years. His parents and those he met in the show barn gave him the opportunities to understand respect and integrity through his hard work.

However, Grounds' development continued into the show ring as he achieved a multitude of awards. He has won division champion at the Texas State Fair and Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. In showmanship, he claimed first place in the senior category at both the West Texas State Fair and Texas Junior Angus State Show.

Currently Grounds hopes to pass on his knowledge of the show industry by mentoring youth and breeding Angus cattle fit for the show ring. In addition to helping Angus juniors, he plans to serve the

public by becoming a firefighter or emergency medical technician.

"We shared in many hard working days and nights," Grounds says as he looks back on his show career. "The sleepless nights in a parking lot were full of great conversations. The days of caring for cattle in the barn were long, but we made sure we had enough time for practical jokes and big laughs. The Angus family is woven together with people who will jump in to help where it's needed and work together to make the Angus industry great."



Sarah Harris

Name a junior Angus event and Sarah Harris has likely participated in it or helped lead it during her 12 years of membership in the NJAA.

The Gold Award winner from Buchanan, Va., credits her county's livestock judging contest for introducing her to the vast livestock industry. After that contest, Harris went on to find success at the National 4-H Skill-a-thon Contest and as a member of the Virginia State 4-H Livestock Team.

In addition, the daughter of Mary Harris has served the Virginia Junior Angus Association (VJAA) as a reporter, director and queen. At the NJAS, Harris participated in Cook-Off, extemporaneous speaking, showmanship, quiz bowl, team sales



and the mentoring program.

Harris earned NJAA scholarships and used them to graduate from Northeastern Oklahoma A&M in May 2019. She is continuing her education at OSU.

“As I bring a close to my junior career with the American Angus Association, I am humbled and appreciative,” Harris says. “Though I will no longer be able to compete as an NJAA member, I fully intend on remaining involved with the Association. It is my goal to give back to the industry and organization that so dearly shaped my life.”



Claire Hawthorne

The daughter of Jim and Kim Hawthorne, Claire Hawthorne, has been involved with Angus cattle since she was 4 years old. At just 9 years old, she joined the Wisconsin Junior Angus Association (WJAA) and started to take on leadership roles on committees. For the past five years, she served on the board of directors.

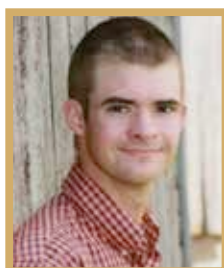
In 2017, Hawthorne was selected as Miss Wisconsin Angus, which led to a year of service to Angus breeders in Wisconsin as well as youth in the industry. She was a committee chair for the 2018 NJAS and exhibited at various shows throughout the nation.

“I appreciate the opportunities provided to me outside the show ring

as well as the opportunities to succeed within it,” Hawthorne says. “In my opinion, one of the best aspects of the NJAA is the chance to learn from members and teach new members who share a passion for agriculture.”

Hawthorne has been a quiz bowl participant and Wisconsin showmanship representative at the NJAS. Through her involvement in junior Angus organizations, she received scholarships from the Wisconsin Angus Auxiliary and National Angus Foundation, which have helped her pursue a degree in agricultural business at ISU.

“My passion for the agricultural industry started at a very young age with the Angus breed, and I wish to carry it through my education, career and life,” Hawthorne says.



Evan Henning

With a dream to work on his family farm in Janesville, Wis., Evan Henning joined the NJAA to grow as a person while learning more about the industry.

Henning has shown cattle at a number of shows including the NWSS, NJAS, North American Livestock Exposition (NAILE), Eastern Regional Junior Angus Show and Wisconsin State Fair. At most shows, he found success winning classes or claiming division titles.

The son of Mike and Lora Henning

was a delegate at the 2015 LEAD Conference and a WJAA member. He says his membership in junior cattle organizations helped shape him into the person he is today.

“I am going to miss showing at junior shows after this year, but everything I have done and learned will stay with me forever,” Henning says. “Everyone who has helped me work and fit my show cattle have been huge role models and will continue to be a large part of my life.”

As he looks to what the future holds, Henning hopes to add to his Angus herd and continue his parents’ legacy by taking over the farm.



Bryanna Hite

From Valley Center, Kan., Bryanna Hite has been a longtime member of the NJAA and KJAA. Her involvement earned her multiple scholarships from both associations, which she put towards achieving her agribusiness degree from Kansas State University (K-State).

The daughter of Joe Hite and Shelly DuBois-Hite had an extensive junior show career, showing on a county, state and national level. Hite was awarded division honors at the NJAS and won the owned division and senior showmanship at the Kansas Angus Futurity Junior Show. She has been an advocate for her state’s junior Angus organization by

Continued on page 134



NATIONAL JUNIOR ANGUS SHOW 2019

...serving as a director, princess as well as queen.

“I have had an amazing time being an NJAA member,” Hite says. “It has taught me important lessons in life and given me opportunities I thought I would never have. I have grown from being this shy little girl that would never speak to anyone, to having the confidence to be outspoken and chasing my life goals.”

Hite prides herself on keeping records of her cattle to analyze accurate expected progeny differences (EPDs) when it comes to breeding season. For years, Hite consigned to the Oklahoma and Texas Angus Sale.



Baxter Knapp

Son of Brian and Karla Knapp, Baxter Knapp, credits his past nine years as an NJAA member as the “greatest of his life.”

“The NJAA has allowed me to make connections all over the United States and build friendships that will last a lifetime,” Knapp says. “Along with such friendships, I have gained great leadership and career skills that will help me succeed in life after my junior membership.”

Knapp served as vice president for the Iowa Junior Angus Association and voting delegate for the NJAA. He improved his leadership skills at the LEAD Conference and Raising the Bar held in 2016, as well as

maintaining his certification for Beef Quality Assurance (BQA).

At NJAS, he participated in the career development contest and exhibited cattle. Knapp was also a recipient of a scholarship through the NJAA.

In his future goals, Knapp outlines his continued involvement with Angus cattle by returning to his family’s Angus operation and encouraging youth to join the NJAA to learn more about the industry.



Benjamin Marsh

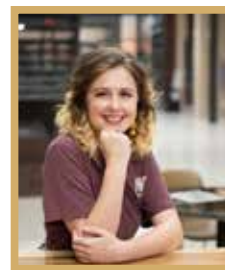
Showing Angus cattle has been the main focus for longtime NJAA member Benjamin Marsh. The moments he won a division at his state’s preview show or a class at the NJAS will remain etched in his mind forever. The son of Jim and Julie Marsh has led many quality cattle at the Illinois Junior Angus Show, Illinois State Fair and NJAS.

When Marsh was elected to the Illinois Junior Angus Association board, he discovered the numerous benefits of being an NJAA member that occur outside the show ring.

“From then on, Angus shows were more than just showing cattle to me,” Marsh says. “It was about bettering myself and making those lifelong connections. Now going into my last year as a junior, I have made those lifelong friends that span from coast to coast.”

He has served as president and director for the Illinois Junior Angus Association and Northern Illinois Junior Angus Association. In 2018, he was a top five contestant in the scholarship contest hosted by the National Angus Auxiliary. Marsh attended LEAD Conferences that were held nationally and regionally.

Marsh is attending Ohio State University (Ohio State) majoring in sports management. Though he won’t be pursuing a career in Angus cattle, he acknowledges NJAA opportunities prepared him to find success in all aspects of his life.



Faith Massingill

Recent West Texas A&M University (WTAM) graduate Faith Massingill has been an active member of the Texas Junior Angus Association (TJAA) as well as the NJAA. Through her local FFA chapter and 4-H program, she found an interest in the TJAA and the Business Breed.

She is the daughter of Scott and Faith Massingill and was crowned Miss Texas Angus her junior year of high school, which sparked her fascination as an advocate for the industry. She also served on the TJAA Board as a vice president, secretary and director.

In the show ring, she represented her state in the NJAS showmanship contest and showed competitively at junior shows in Texas. Massingill



has been successful in the NJAS photography contest, often winning multiple divisions.

Massingill has found her passion for agricultural communications through her interactions with other breeders while being an NJAA member. She plans to continue telling the story behind Angus cattle and the industry as a whole at a full-time communications job. Even though Massingill is aging out of being a junior member, she will continue supporting junior members by assisting with the newly formed TJAA media team.



Jacob McCall

K-State student Jacob McCall believes the NJAA has been one of the most influential experiences in his life, whether he was serving in a leadership role or even participating in what he dubs those “dreaded ice-breakers” of most events.

In the past two years, McCall was involved with the Chef’s Challenge, livestock judging, team sales, skill-a-thon and quiz bowl at the NJAS. He has been a director for the VJAA, participated in LEAD Conference, and held various leadership roles in 4-H and FFA programs.

Involvement with the cattle industry led him to pursue an animal science degree at K-State and join the meat judging team, Collegiate Cattlemen’s Club, and Block and

Bridle Club. Upon graduation, he hopes to seek a career in commodity futures trading.

“Our association, just like any other, it’s made up of people coming together with common interests; and it’s these amazing people that have formed a huge part of who I am today,” says the Gold Award winner from Greenville, Va. “It was advisors who pushed me to sail my boundaries, older members who showed me the way through those uncharted waters, and a multitude of friends and connections along the way. We learned more about our cattle together, of course, as that is the whole point of the organization; but I don’t for a second believe that is the sole extent of its purpose.”



Chase Mogck

Chase Mogck is the son of Charles and LeAndra Mogck and has been a member of the NJAA since 2007. He has served as the vice president for the SDJAA and a voting delegate for his home state, South Dakota.

At the NJAS, Mogck participated in cattle judging and carcass contests. He has also received a scholarship from the Angus Foundation. In 2018, he was part of a South Dakota group that won second in the state group carcass division.

Currently, Mogck is pursuing a degree in agricultural science at SDSU with a graduation date in the

spring of 2021. Upon graduation, he plans on improving his own Angus herd and one day taking over his family’s farm near Olivet.

“The Angus breed has brought some of the most intelligent and hardest working people into my life,” Mogck says. “Apart from the people, I have learned more life lessons that come from working with others, talking about cattle or working on my cattle to get them to look the best that I can make them. The memories that I have made while being involved with the Angus breed are second to none.”



Miles Stagemeyer

Miles Stagemeyer from Page, Neb., didn’t understand the impact his lifetime NJAA membership would have on him when he received the membership as a toddler.

“Like so many others, Angus blood flows through my veins and has been an integral part in shaping me and directing my future,” he says. “As I look back on my junior career, the memories of buckles and banners are already starting to fade. However, the friendships and memories made at Angus events are as vivid as ever. More importantly, opportunities to serve, lead and give back have allowed me to grow as an individual. Looking back, I can truly say my time in the NJAA was well spent.”

Continued on page 136



NATIONAL JUNIOR ANGUS SHOW 2019



Stagemeyer took full advantage of his time as an NJAA member by competing in educational contests, showing his cattle, attending development conferences and serving in leadership roles.

The son of Brent and Carla Stagemeyer earned multiple scholarships for his dedication to Angus junior organizations, which helped him financially as he studied animal science at SDSU. He wishes to obtain a job as a cattle buyer with a goal of returning home to his family's diversified operation.



Madison Styles

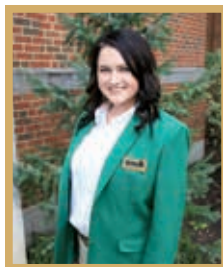
Family time for Madison Styles has always circled around Angus cattle. She says any conversation always reverts back to memories created in the barn, pasture, show ring or in the truck driving to the next show.

The daughter of Chris and Erica Styles has built up a quite a collection of experiences from the NJAA and SDJAA. President of the SDJAA, a NJAS showmanship representative, NJAA voting delegate and Cook-Off participant are just some of her activities. Styles won her respected division at the 2017 and 2018 Cook-Off. She also exhibited grand champion bulls and females at the South Dakota Junior State Show.

"Arriving at my first NJAS in Des Moines, Iowa, I had no clue that it was the beginning of such

an incredible journey," says the Brookings, S.D. native. "The show ring has blessed me with success and humility, which has helped me grow tremendously as an individual. I have learned responsibility, hard work and dedication through the years I have lived out my passion as an Angus junior member."

She will use the lessons NJAA has taught her as she completes her Doctor of Pharmacy degree at SDSU and for the rest of her career.



Madison Sundsbak

Exhibiting her first heifer at age 4, Madison Sundsbak has been part of the Angus industry for many years. That first experience in the show ring started her passion and love for cattle.

Hailing from Des Lacs, N.D., Sundsbak has served as president for the North Dakota Junior Angus Association (NDJAA) and NJAA vice chairman and voting delegate. The daughter of Josh and Josie Sundsbak is "forever thankful" for the opportunities she had, from attending LEAD Conference to serving on the NJAB and every event in between.

Upon graduation from SDSU in May 2020, Sundsbak intends to continue making a difference in the lives of youth involved with the Angus industry. She hopes to remain an active Association member and continue to grow her own herd.

"If there is one thing I know my

future looks like, it is to remain a part of the Angus family," Sundsbak says.



Austin Vieselmeyer

Fifth-generation Angus breeder Austin Vieselmeyer has Angus cattle firmly sown in his background. It seems only fitting he also holds a longtime membership to the NJAA.

The son of Brent and Tina Vieselmeyer served the Colorado Junior Angus Association as vice president and participated in the LEAD Conference. He exhibited his cattle at shows all across the country, but truly developed himself as a knowledgeable cattleman by participating in livestock judging and public speaking contests at the NJAS.

Earlier this year, Vieselmeyer completed his associate's degree at Butler Community College and plans to pursue a bachelor's degree in animal science. He hopes to obtain an agricultural teaching position and ultimately return to his family's farm near Amherst, Colo.

"My involvement in the NJAA has helped shape me into the person I am today, given me the connections and friendships that will last a lifetime, and taught me a love for the industry like no other," Vieselmeyer says. "I am incredibly thankful to both my state Angus association as well as the NJAA and I truly don't know where I would be without either of them." 