

The Domino Effect of Scholarship Support

Angus Foundation scholarships help Angus youth and their families achieve their goals and dreams.

by *Katie Allen, Angus Foundation*

Financially supporting one child to attend college can be trying enough for families, but imagine taking that support times six. The second child in a family of six children, Brooke Harward knows all too well what this situation is like. Harward and her five sisters are active members of the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA), and they all have

attended or plan to attend college.

"I cannot express just how appreciative my entire family and I am of the Angus Foundation scholarships," Harward says. "They not only provided me with assistance in my education, but also helped my sisters in continuing to pursue their higher education."

Harward is currently a junior at North

Carolina State University (NCSU), where she is majoring in agricultural business management with a minor in accounting. After completing her degree, she plans to return to her family farm in Richfield, N.C., where she will continue to work for her family's livestock video auction, Mid-Atlantic Cattle Sales. She also plans to continue working with her family's registered-Angus and commercial cow herds. Harward is a prime example of someone wanting to become more educated about the industry to help her family's operation become more progressive and profitable.

Multiple scholarships available

While attending NCSU, Harward says she has been fortunate to be awarded two scholarships from the Angus Foundation. These awards include a \$3,000 general scholarship and one of two \$5,000 Richard "Dick" Spader scholarships awarded annually.

Dick Spader was an executive vice president for the American Angus Association and friend of the Angus breed. Harward and Kathryn Coon of Bethel, Mo., received the prestigious Spader scholarships at the 2012 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) in Louisville, Ky.

In all, the Angus Foundation awarded more than \$200,000 to Angus youth at the 2012 NJAS. The scholarship deadline for 2013 Angus Foundation scholarships is May 1, and a majority of the scholarships will be awarded at the 2013 NJAS in Kansas City, Mo. The application is available on the Angus Foundation's website, www.angusfoundation.org.

Harward says she would encourage all eligible Angus youth to apply for Foundation scholarships.

More than monetary support

"I think that the greatest encouragement is to simply hear some of the stories of the many Foundation scholarship recipients," she says. "The greatest thing about receiving Foundation scholarships is not just the monetary support, but knowing that people support you and believe in you and want to help you pursue your goals. I think by showing how the Angus Foundation believes in youth and believes in each student and junior individually is tremendous encouragement to apply for scholarships."

Scholarship support from the Angus Foundation has allowed Harward to focus on her studies and participate in extracurricular activities at NCSU, such as the Agri-Marketing Team and Animal Science Club,



► Kathryn Coon and Brooke Harward (holding certificates) were honored with the Richard "Dick" Spader scholarships at the 2012 NJAS in Louisville, Ky. Presenting the scholarships are Sheri Spader and Milford Jenkins, Angus Foundation president.



► Scholarship support from the Angus Foundation has allowed Harward, one of six children in her family, the opportunity to participate in extracurricular activities at NCSU.



► "The greatest thing about receiving Foundation scholarships is not just the monetary support, but knowing that people support you," says Harward.

rather than worry about how to pay for her education. She says the Angus Foundation scholarships have helped her on her way to graduate early in December 2013.

Another thing the scholarships have allowed Harward to focus more on is her continued involvement in the NJAA. Harward credits the NJAA for a lot of her success in the agricultural industry thus far and for allowing her to compete for

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scholarships. She is also just coming off her year reigning as the 2012 Miss American Angus.

“One great way to get involved with the NJAA is by participating at junior nationals or attending LEAD (Leaders Engaged in Angus Development conference),” Harward says. “The contests at nationals provide juniors of all ages from all parts of the country an opportunity

to actively participate in the NJAA, have

fun and build up their ‘Angus résumé’ all at the same time. I think by letting kids know early on the benefits of participating in these contests and other activities, they will be more likely to continue to build their résumé as they grow up.”



Editor’s Note: *Katie Allen is director of marketing and public relations for the Angus Foundation. The next installment of this series, featuring Kathryn Coon, will be included in the May Angus Journal.*