

# Plans Announced for 2009 LEAD

Register by June 15 for early registration discount.

by *Shelia Stannard*

**T**he 2009 Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) Conference, “The Golden Gate to Opportunity,” is set for Aug. 6-9 in San Francisco, Calif. This year’s event will showcase the diversity of California agriculture while building leadership and interpersonal skills.

The LEAD program is developed by the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) Board of Directors for NJAA members ages 14-21 to build future leaders. This year’s LEAD Conference includes workshops to enhance awareness of selection tools, such as expected progeny differences (EPDs) and dollar value (\$Value) indexes, and industry issues, such as how to be an advocate for animal agriculture. In addition, the popular game-show format will test the group’s industry knowledge, and life skills will be taught through a dance workshop.

Tours featuring California agriculture’s diversity — including stops at Angus ranches, a dairy and an almond-processing plant —

are also on the schedule. LEAD participants will visit three Angus herds —Vintage Angus, Silveira Bros. and Schnoor Sisters. In addition, tours of the San Francisco Bay area, including stops at the Golden Gate Bridge, Pier 39 and Fisherman’s Wharf, are slated.

Motivational speakers Justin Lookadoo and Scott Vernon will kick off and conclude LEAD. Making his LEAD debut, Lookadoo, a Texas native, will challenge participants to find their purpose. Vernon, San Luis Obispo, Calif., has been a popular speaker in the past, challenging groups to think outside the box.

LEAD participation is limited, and early registration is encouraged. The early registration fee for NJAA members is \$200 if received by June 15 and includes lodging (four per room), meals and bus transportation. After June 15, registration is \$225, based on space availability. Registration for adults — advisors and chaperones — is \$250 and includes double-occupancy lodging. Registration forms are in the green junior entry packet that

was mailed in January. Registration is also available online at [www.njaa.info](http://www.njaa.info). For more information, contact the Junior Activities Department at 816-383-5100.

LEAD is funded in part through the Angus Foundation.



## Photo contest entries due June

The deadline for the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA)/*Angus Journal* photo contest is just a few weeks away. Junior members between the ages of 9 and 21 as of Jan. 1, 2009, have until June 1 to mail their contest entries to the Junior Activities Department of the American Angus Association.

Winners will be selected in three age divisions and four photo categories as described in previous issues. The rules for the contest were published in the February 2009 issue beginning on page 49. They can also be found online at [www.njaa.info/njaa\\_contests.html](http://www.njaa.info/njaa_contests.html).