

LEAD Conference to Take Place in New Orleans

Early registration for the annual youth leadership conference ends June 15.

by *Carrie Heitman, American Angus Association*

Youth from across the country will travel to New Orleans, La., for the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) annual Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) conference Aug. 1-4. Themed “Cajun Livin’ Angus Leadin’,” the leadership event is designed for members 14-21 years of age.

“The weekend will be full of surprises,” says Robin Ruff, American Angus Association director of junior activities. “The NJAA board of directors is working diligently to make LEAD one of the best events of the summer.”

Angus juniors will attend leadership workshops presented by the NJAA board, as well as listen to professional speakers Eddie

Slowikowski and Amy Gallimore, plus Ag Minute Host Kristen Oaks. Tours during this year’s LEAD conference will give attendees a look into Louisiana culture as they visit the World War II museum, Mardi Gras World, the Jackson Square in the French Quarter, and take a ride down the Mississippi river on the historic Steamboat Natchez.

In addition, junior members will experience a guided swamp tour, learn about Louisiana’s sugar cane history at the Evergreen Plantation, and visit the 7L Farms and Land Co.

Conference space is limited, and early registration is encouraged by the June 15 deadline. The early registration fee for NJAA

members is \$200. After June 15, registration will be \$225 and accepted based on space availability. Registration for adults, state advisors and chaperones is \$250; no early registration deadline applies. Registration is available online at www.angus.org/njaa.

For more information, contact the Junior Activities Department at 816-383-5100. LEAD is funded by the Angus Foundation and is a program of the NJAA, which provides programs for nearly 7,000 members across the nation. A tentative schedule follows.



Editor’s Note: *Carrie Heitman is communications coordinator for the American Angus Association.*



2013 Leaders Engaged in Angus Development Conference

Thursday, Aug. 1

- 2-4 p.m. Registration — Marriott
- 4-5:00 p.m. Icebreakers
- 5:00 p.m. Welcome & introductions — Kelli Retallick
- 5:15 p.m. Where are they now? — Kristen Oaks
- 5:45 p.m. Dinner
- 6:30 p.m. Tackle Boxes “Tackling Childhood Hunger” — Isaac McFarland
- 6:45 p.m. Retiring thoughts — Meghan Blythe
- 7 p.m. Speaker — Eddie Slowikowski
- 8 p.m. Retiring thoughts — Kelli Retallick
- 8:15 p.m. Team Building Activity — new six NJAA officers
- 8:45 p.m. NJAA Board skit
- 11 p.m. In-room curfew

Friday, Aug. 2 (T-shirt Day)

- 7:15-8 a.m. Breakfast — Marriott
- 8 a.m. Retiring thoughts — Jennifer Ewing
- 8:30 a.m. Depart for Mardi Gras World and World War II Museum

Bus 2 and 4 Schedule

- 8:30 a.m. Load bus
- 9 a.m. World War II Museum
- 10:45 a.m. Mardi Gras World
- noon Lunch at Jackson Square

Bus 1 and 3 Schedule

- 9 a.m. Load bus
- 9:15 a.m. Mardi Gras World
- 10:30 a.m. World War II Museum
- noon Lunch at Jackson Square
- 11:30 a.m. French Quarter and Jackson Square — free time
- 3:30 p.m. Meet to travel to 7L
- 5:30 p.m. 7L Angus Farm — dinner and tour
- 7:45 p.m. Retiring thoughts — Megan Ahearn
- 9 p.m. Depart for NOLA

- 11:30 p.m. In-room curfew

Saturday, Aug. 3

- 7-7:45 a.m. Breakfast — Marriott
- 8 a.m. Depart for Evergreen Plantation and Cajun Pride Swamp Tour

Bus 1 and 2 Schedule

- 9 a.m. Cajun Pride Swamp Tour
- 11:30 a.m. Depart for Evergreen Plantation
- noon Lunch — donated and prepared by Louisiana Angus associations
- 1 p.m. Evergreen Plantation — tour
- 3 p.m. Depart for hotel

Bus 3 and 4 Schedule

- 9 a.m. Evergreen Plantation — tour
- 11 a.m. Lunch — donated and prepared by Louisiana Angus associations
- 11:45 a.m. Depart for Cajun Pride
- 12:15 p.m. Cajun Pride Swamp Tour
- 3 p.m. Depart for hotel
- 4 p.m. Shower and refresh for evening activities
- 6 p.m. Grab-and-go snacks (dinner on boat)
- 6:30 p.m. State and group photos
- 7:15 p.m. Team-building workshops
- 9 p.m. Depart for Steamboat Natchez
- 9:30 – midnight Dinner and dance — Steamboat Natchez
- 12:30 a.m. In-room curfew

Sunday, Aug. 4

- 7 a.m. Breakfast — Marriott
- 7:45 a.m. Retiring thoughts — Sally Yon
- 8-10 a.m. Workshops (2 per group, one hour each)
- 10 a.m. Speaker — Amy Gallimore
- 11 a.m. Retiring thoughts — JanLee Rowlett
- 11:15 a.m. Wrap up and depart