

National Junior Angus Show Warm Up

More than 1,900 head entered to compete in 2017 NJAS in Des Moines, Iowa.

by **Morgan Marley**, communications intern

The sound of laughter and cattle mooing will soon fill the air, signaling the 2017 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS). The nation's largest youth beef cattle competition will bring the Angus team together to share in the experience as future leaders of the Angus breed showcase their cattle and leadership skills.

Angus juniors from across the country will gather at the Iowa State Fairgrounds in Des Moines, Iowa, July 9-15. More than 900 Angus juniors will be "Winning with the Angus Team" as they represent 34 states across the United States. An impressive 1,900 head of Angus cattle have been entered to compete at this year's most awaited Angus event.

Caitlyn Brandt, events coordinator with



the American Angus Association, and the rest of the team with the Association's Events and Education Department have been busy finalizing the details to ensure Angus members in attendance enjoy their time at the NJAS.

"For many families, junior nationals tends to be a family vacation," Brandt said. "The junior national rotates around the country every year. That way it gives families the opportunity to travel the country and see sites they wouldn't normally see before."

For the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) members in attendance, the week's events serve to provide success beyond the showing.

The Association has put forth countless hours of planning and preparation to ensure



PHOTO BY JENA MCRELL



participants, families and attendees learn leadership and life skills along with livestock knowledge by participating in various contests and activities. Junior members can participate in both individual and team competitions, including photography, graphic design, public speaking, quiz bowl, livestock judging, team sales and the Auxiliary-sponsored All-American *Certified Angus Beef*® (CAB®) Cook-Off. There are also educational clinics to attend throughout the week.

“The National Junior Angus Show is the largest single-breed junior show in the country, but it’s not just a cattle show,” Brandt said. “There’s so much more that goes on and so much more we hope the kids gain, whether that be friendships that they started to build at their first junior nationals, or if this is their first, they will continue to build and make new ones. Then there’s also the sportsmanship concept, where you may not win in the showing, but you have the

friends and character building that goes along with it.”

This year will have new events for both the juniors and their families. Iowa has organized a 5k run/walk around the fairgrounds and a 1k for the younger attendees. There will also be a new auctioneering clinic, where participants will learn different techniques from an auctioneer professional.

Attendees are guaranteed a good time at this year’s NJAS. Don’t miss a minute of it. Walton Webcasting will

be providing a live stream of the showing throughout the week, and you can access the feed online at www.njas.info.

Angus Media’s communications team will also be on hand to provide comprehensive coverage of the event, including photos, videos and *Angus Journal* features. Make plans to tune in for a special, NJAS episode of *The Angus Report* at 7:30 a.m. Central Monday, July 24, on RFD-TV.

**Access the full
National Junior
Angus Show
event program
online at
www.njas.info.**

