

A Golden League

Twenty-nine NJAA elite qualify for top honor in National Junior Recognition Program.

by Kelli Fulkerson

Twenty-nine members of the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) brought their careers to the highest pinnacle when they were presented with the Gold Award at the 2012 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) in Louisville, Ky.

The Gold Award is the third and highest level of recognition in the National Junior Recognition Program (NJRP). This program was created by the 1980-1981 NJAA Board of Directors and the Junior Activities Department of the American Angus Association.

In order to qualify for the Gold Award, junior members must first be awarded the Bronze and Silver awards, which require an accumulation of 2,000 points or more earned throughout the junior's career. Gold Awards are bestowed in the final year of junior eligibility and require a total of 3,000 points or more.

Points can be awarded through various junior activities. These include Association activities, competitive activities, performance testing, production and merchandising of Angus genetics and other relevant beef industry activities.

Members who meet all qualifications for the award are presented with a specially designed pin cast in gold. This award is made possible through generous donors and the Angus Foundation.

The following juniors were awarded 2012 Gold Award honors.

Ty Bayer

Ty is a recent graduate (May 2012) from Lincoln Land Community College where he studied animal science. He is the son of Scott and Mia Bayer, Ringle, Wis. Ty has been an NJAA member since 2000. He is also a member of the Wisconsin Junior Angus Association (WJAA), for which he has served as director, publicity chairman, vice show



Ty Bayer

chairman, fundraising chairman and historian.

Ty says the NJAS has always been something that he has looked forward to — to show and to compete. He has been very involved with educational contests, including the Auxiliary-sponsored All-American *Certified Angus Beef*® (CAB®) Cook-Off, livestock judging and team fitting.

The year 2010 was great for Ty's NJAA membership, as he was named the Wisconsin Angus Auxiliary Scholarship winner, and he was third-place American Angus Auxiliary boy's scholarship winner. He also was a WJAA showmanship participant and placed second.

Meghan Blythe

"Some people's lives are shaped by events or role models; I was shaped by the Angus



Meghan Blythe

industry. My passion and values come from the organizations I was involved with and the people I met throughout my career as an NJAA member," says Meghan, who has been extremely

involved in the NJAA and the Kansas Junior Angus Association (KJAA) since she joined at birth (1991). Active on every level, Meghan has attended the Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) and Raising the Bar conferences. She has participated in numerous educational activities at the NJAS, including the NJAA/*Angus Journal* Photography Contest, quiz bowl, cook-off and team sales. This year Meghan is serving as the KJAA president, as well as membership director of the NJAA Board of Directors, for which she was elected at the NJAS in Louisville, Ky.

She also received the Woodlawn Farms Angus Scholarship presented through the Angus Foundation.

The daughter of Duane and Debbie Lyons-Blythe, White City, Kan., is currently

enrolled at Kansas State University (K-State) majoring in agricultural economics. Upon completion of her degree, Meghan hopes to provide producers, consumers and government with reliable facts and statistics.

Weston Brandt

Weston, the son of Kirk and Lynn Brandt, Corning, Iowa, has been a member of the



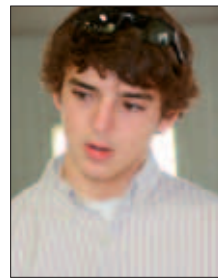
Weston Brandt

NJAA since 1995. He is a member of the Iowa Junior Angus Association (IJAA), where he has served as a director since 2008. Weston was active on the state, regional and national level, fitting and showing cattle. He participated during the NJAS in livestock judging and team fitting. In 2012, Weston was selected to represent the IJAA in the National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest. Weston showed off his talent and was named one of the top 15 showmen in the nation.

Weston is using his experiences in the NJAA to help him with his current job as farm manager of Brandt Farms.

Nathan Butler

Nathan, the son of Greg and Stephanie Butler, Midland, Va., has been a member of



Nathan Butler

the NJAA since 2004. He is also a member of the Virginia Junior Angus Association (VJAA), for which he has served as the president and vice president. Active on every level showing cattle, Nathan has been very successful. In 2011, Nathan was the VJAA showmanship alternate to the National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest conducted in conjunction with the NJAS.

Nathan currently attends Virginia Tech

University, where he is majoring in agricultural economics. He hopes that his current job as a crop scout for Willard Agri-Services will help him achieve his future goals.

Jennifer Ewing

A member of the NJAA since 1997, Jennifer is also a member of the Illinois



Jennifer Ewing

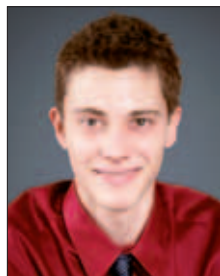
Junior Angus Association (IJAA), where she served as president in 2011. Jennifer is the daughter of Eric and Stephanie Ewing, Rushville, Ill.

In 2010, she was selected as an IJAA representative to participate in the National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest. Jennifer made the most of her time as an NJAA member. She attended the LEAD conference, participated in the cook-off and is currently serving as communications chair on the NJAA Board of Directors.

The University of Illinois is where she attends college, majoring in agriculture and consumer economics.

Kyle Greiman

Kyle has taken his time in the NJAA, making the absolute most of it. He has been



Kyle Greiman

an NJAA member since 1999 and an Iowa Junior Angus Association (IJAA) member. He served as IJAA director in 2011, second vice president in 2010 and treasurer from 2006-2009.

In 2010, Kyle represented the IJAA in the National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest. That wasn't the only thing that Kyle was a part of at the NJAS. He has participated in the photography contest, quiz bowl and team fitting. Kyle also attended the Raising the Bar conference, was an Angus Foundation scholarship winner and served as a voting delegate.

This year he received the Oliver A. Hansen/Laudmere Farm Angus Scholarship.

Mary and Ted Greiman, Garner, Iowa, are Kyle's parents. They have played a large role in Kyle's NJAA career and during his time showing cattle at the state, regional and national levels.

Kyle is currently a senior at Iowa State University (ISU), where he is studying animal science.

Lincoln Deitrick

An NJAA member since 1997, Lincoln Deitrick has been active in many Angus junior programs. The son of Bob and Gail Deitrick, Zanesville, Ohio, served as the Eastern Ohio Junior Angus Association treasurer in 2011. Lincoln has participated in numerous events at the NJAS, including



Lincoln Deitrick

poster, photography, team fitting and herdsmanship.

"Each year my family treats the NJAS as our vacation," Lincoln says. "This year will mark the 10th year I have shown at the NJAS. I enjoy being

able to travel all over the country and meet new people. The friends and family that we are able to visit along the way make these 'vacations' the best that any kid could ask for."

Currently enrolled at the University of Northwestern Ohio, Lima, Lincoln is studying HVAC/R technology. After completion of his degree he hopes to expand his business, Deitrick Heating and Cooling.

"Skills that I gained through the NJAA I will use for the rest of my life and future business career," Lincoln says.

Allison Dubs

Allison, the daughter of Louis and Kathy Dubs, Billings, Mont., has been an active member of the NJAA since 1993. She is a member of the Montana Junior Angus Association (MJAA) and has been extremely active in events on the state, regional and national level.



Allison Dubs

Allison served as the 2010-2011 Montana Angus Queen and 2010-2011 MJAA president. She has received scholarships from the Montana Angus Association and the Angus Foundation. Allison has participated in LEAD and Raising the Bar conferences, as well as contests such as photography, cook-off, extemporaneous speaking, quiz bowl, team fitting and creative writing.

"My experiences through the NJAA have helped me thrive as a person so much," Allison says. "I've learned how to become a successful leader and communicate with peers, as well as adults. I am truly blessed to have received all the recognition and awards throughout the years."

Allison is currently enrolled at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, majoring in biology and pre-law.

Bryanne Duckett

Bryanne currently serves as the Iowa Junior Angus Association (IJAA) president.



Bryanne Duckett

She has been a member of the IJAA and NJAA since 2001. She is the daughter of Todd and Bonnie Duckett, New Liberty, Iowa.

Aside from her leadership roles, Bryanne has shown successfully at the state, regional and national levels. She has also competed in the photography and livestock judging contests at several NJAS. In 2011, Bryanne was selected as one of the IJAA representatives to the National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest.

She currently attends Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville, Mo., and is majoring in animal science.

Lauren Herman

Lauren, the daughter of Don and Janice Herman, Kingman City, Kan., has been a



Lauren Herman

member of the NJAA since 2008. She is also a member of the Kansas Junior Angus Association (KJAA), for which she served as the 2011 historian.

She has been active at the NJAS in the photography, quiz bowl, cook-off and team sales contests.

Currently a student at Allen Community College majoring in animal science, she will be transferring this fall to K-State to complete her bachelor's degree.

"I have enjoyed the cattle shows, contests and friendships that I have been able to be a part of through the NJAA," Lauren says. "The time spent with the NJAA will help

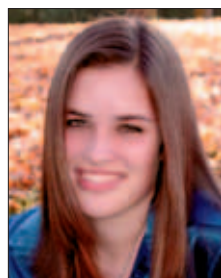
CONTINUED ON PAGE 120

A Golden League CONTINUED FROM PAGE 119

me someday when I build my own Angus herd.”

Andrea Hosto

Andrea, the daughter of Mark and Brenda Hosto, Alhambra, Ill., has been a member of the NJAA since 2004. She is also a member of the Illinois Junior Angus Association (IJAA), which she has served as a director, secretary and scrapbook chair. Illinois will be represented by



Andrea Hosto

Andrea this year at the NJAS as the 2012 Illinois Angus Queen.

Active on the state and national level, Andrea attended the LEAD conference and has participated in the numerous educational contests at the NJAS, including the photography contest, quiz bowl and creative writing.

She is currently attending Southeast Missouri State University at Cape Girardeau, Mo. She is pursuing a dual major in agribusiness and animal science, with a minor in accounting.

Justin Kennedy

Justin has been a notable member of the Michigan Junior Angus Association (MJAA) and the NJAA since he joined in 2005. He served as MJAA president in 2011 and vice president in 2010. He is the son of Jeff and Heather Kennedy, Nashville, Mich.



Justin Kennedy

Justin has successfully shown at the state, regional and national levels. He has also participated in the LEAD Conference and NJAS educational contests, including the cook-off and quiz bowl. In 2010 Justin was awarded an Angus Foundation scholarship. In 2012 Justin was selected to represent the MJAA in the National Junior Angus

Showmanship Contest in which he earned an honorable mention.

He is currently employed at AIS Engine in Grand Rapids, Mich., where he works as a diesel engine technician. He attributes his success to the time he spent as an NJAA member.

Hannah McCabe

“Being so intensely involved in the NJAA impacted my life more intimately than any other organization,” Hannah explains. A member of the organization since 1999 and an active participant in the Kansas Junior Angus Association (KJAA), she has taken advantage of numerous opportunities the Angus industry has offered.



Hannah McCabe

Hannah has exhibited her Angus cattle at the state, regional and national levels. She was the 2009 Kansas Angus Queen, a voting delegate in 2010 and the NJAS public speaking contest winner in 2011 and 2012. She also served the KJAA as first vice president in 2011.

This year Hannah received an Angus/Talon Youth Educational Learning Program Undergraduate Scholarship.

“Equipped with the tools from the NJAA, I know that I am more than prepared to pursue a career as a pharmaceutical representative for the animal health industry.”

The 20-year-old daughter of Randy and Varee McCabe, Elk City, Kan., is currently enrolled at K-State, majoring in animal science.

Kassandra Pfeiffer

Kassandra has been a member of the NJAA since 1991. She is also a member of the Oklahoma Junior Angus Association (OJAA), for which she has served as the president for the past four years.

Kassandra has represented the OJAA at numerous state, regional and national shows. In addition to showing Angus cattle, she has

also participated in the photography contest, cook-off, speech contest, team fitting and



Kassandra Pfeiffer

Kassandra says. “The contacts and acquaintances I have made will last me a lifetime.”

Currently, Kassandra is attending Redlands Community College, El Reno, Okla., where she was part of a national champion livestock judging team. She will be transferring to Oklahoma State University in the fall to continue pursuing her degree in animal science.

Tanner Rayl

Tanner is the son of Dennis and Shirley Rayl, Hutchinson, Kan., and has been a



Tanner Rayl

member of the NJAA since 2002. He is also a member of the Kansas Junior Angus Association (KJAA), for which he has served as a district and membership director.

Active on every level, Tanner attended LEAD and has participated in numerous educational contests at the NJAS, including extemporaneous speaking, public speaking, poster, photography, creative writing, livestock judging, quiz bowl and the cook-off.

Tanner’s career in agriculture has been filled with involvement in numerous youth organizations such as 4-H and FFA. However, the NJAA has played a vital role in his success with each.

“The experiences I have had through both the KJAA and the NJAA have been truly invaluable to my future in the beef industry,” Tanner says. “For years I have aspired to become a large-animal veterinarian. When I was 12, I begged my parents to let me purchase a herd of

LEAD conference.

This year Kassandra received the James E. Horton Junior Angus Scholarship.

“I have enjoyed the experiences and opportunities that have been plentiful through the NJAA,”

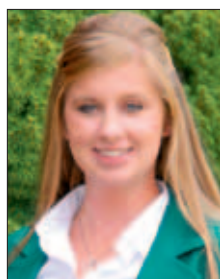
“Some people’s lives are shaped by events or role models; I was shaped by the Angus industry.” — Meghan Blythe

registered black Angus cows. This passion is derived from the care I have had to administer for my Angus herd.”

Tanner has completed two years, majoring in pre-veterinary medicine, at Hutchinson Community College. He will attend K-State to complete his undergraduate degree this fall, and he plans to apply to the veterinary school at K-State.

Kelli Retallick

Kelli, the daughter of Kevin and Keri Retallick, Glen Haven, Wis., has been a



Kelli Retallick

member of the NJAA since 2000. She is also a member of the Wisconsin Junior Angus Association (WJAA), where she has served as president and membership director.

Active on every level, Kelli has attended LEAD and Raising the Bar conferences, as well as numerous other NJAA events and activities. This year Kelli represented the WJAA in the National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest during the NJAS, in which she was named one of the top 15 showmen in the nation.

Kelli is currently enrolled at the University of Wisconsin–Madison where she is majoring in animal science. Kelli is employed with her family’s cattle farm, 2K Cattle Enterprises, where she serves as assistant herdsman.

In 2011, Kelli was elected to the NJAA Board of Directors and in 2012 she was elected leadership director.

This year she received an Angus/Talon Youth Educational Learning Program Undergraduate Scholarship.

Kelli’s main goal while serving the members of the NJAA is to reach out to each individual state and offer each member an opportunity to really become involved with the activities the association has to offer.

Hannah Rowlett

Hannah, the daughter of Kelley and Buddy Rowlett, Hurricane Mills, Tenn., has been an NJAA member since 1994. She is also a member of the Tennessee Junior Angus Association (TJAA), for which she served as historian in 2010.

Aside from her leadership roles with the TJAA and NJAA, she has also been



Hannah Rowlett

competitive at educational contests during the NJAS, including team fitting, livestock judging and quiz bowl. Hannah also was a participant in LEAD. This year, Hannah had the chance to show off her showmanship talents as she represented the TJAA at the National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest in Louisville, Ky., where she placed in the top 15.

Hannah currently attends the University of Tennessee, where she is studying agricultural business.

JanLee Rowlett

JanLee has been a member of the NJAA for 17 years. She is also a member of the



JanLee Rowlett

Tennessee Junior Angus Association (TJAA), for which she has served as a director and treasurer. JanLee represented the TJAA in the 2011 National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest, which she won. She has participated in the quiz bowl contest at the NJAS. JanLee was the 2008 Miss Tennessee Angus and ran for the Miss American Angus title in 2009. She was elected to the NJAA Board of Directors in 2011 and will serve as chairman in 2012-2013.

She also received an Angus/Talon undergraduate scholarship.

“I am so thankful for all of the people who have helped me to get where I am at today,” JanLee says.

The daughter of Kelley and Buddy Rowlett, Hurricane Mills, Tenn., is currently attending Oklahoma State University where she is carrying a dual major in agricultural business and animal science.

Caleb Sadler

Caleb, the son of Jimmy and Lona Sadler, Carlisle, Ky., has been an NJAA member



Caleb Sadler

since 2004. He is also a member of the Kentucky Junior Angus Association (KJAA) and has participated in events at the state, regional and national level. Caleb represented the KJAA in 2011 during the National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest and landed a spot in the top 15 showmen. In addition to showing cattle, Caleb has attended LEAD and Raising the Bar leadership conferences, and he competed in livestock judging and the cook-off during the NJAS.

Sadler attended Bluegrass Community College, majoring in animal science with a minor in agricultural economics. This fall he will transfer to the University of Kentucky to complete his bachelor’s degree.

“My parents, my cattle and my experiences with the KJAA and the NJAA have developed me into the person that I am today. Farm life has taught me the meaning of hard work, perseverance, responsibility, determination and dedication,” Caleb says, adding that those traits can help him achieve all his goals.

Katy Satree

Katy, the daughter of Doug and Jane Satree, Montague, Texas, has been a member



Katy Satree

of the Texas Junior Angus Association (TJAA) and the NJAA since 1998. She has served the TJAA as a director since 2004.

Katy has shown at the state and national levels representing the TJAA. She has competed in several educational contests at the NJAS, including

CONTINUED ON PAGE 122

“Skills that I gained through the NJAA I will use for the rest of my life and future business career.” — Lincoln Deitrick

A Golden League CONTINUED FROM PAGE 121

the cook-off, creative writing, team sales and the Chef's Challenge, winning the junior division of the Chef's Challenge two years. This year Katy was named the NJAA Herdsman of the Year. She also represented the TJAA in the National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest in which she placed second.

An Angus/Talon undergraduate scholarship recipient, she recently graduated from Butler Community College, where she majored in animal science. She is transferring to Texas Tech University to major in animal science.

Samantha Schermer

Samantha, the daughter of Brad and Karene Schermer, Latimer, Iowa, has been



Samantha Schermer

active in the NJAA since 2000. She is also an active member of the Iowa Junior Angus Association (IJAA), for which she served as the historian from 2009-2011.

"I really enjoyed my time as an NJAA member," Samantha says. "When I started I really didn't know anyone other than my cousin. He introduced me to some of his friends, and I began to make my own. Those friendships I will take with me for the rest of my life."

Samantha enjoyed meeting people so much as an NJAA member that she became a mentor in the NJAS mentorship program. She also participated in the photography contest, quiz bowl, cook-off, team fitting and livestock judging contests. She attended LEAD and was a recipient of an Angus Foundation scholarship and the Angus/Talon undergraduate scholarship.

Taylor Short

Taylor, the daughter of Tim and Payree Short, Mansfield, Mo., has been actively involved in the Missouri Junior Angus Association (MJAA) and the NJAA for 10 years. She served as secretary-treasurer of the Heart of the Ozarks Junior Angus

Association in 2005-2006. Taylor received an Angus Foundation scholarship, as well as the Missouri Angus Foundation Scholarship.



Taylor Short

Taylor has shown at the state and national levels. She credits her passion for the NJAA to the NJAA mentorship program, where she met her lifelong

friend and mentor, Rebecca Tokach-Acheson. She has competed in quiz bowl, the photography contest and the cook-off. She also has attended LEAD.

"NJAA has offered me so many experiences to travel to various parts of the United States," Taylor says. "I have fond memories from each of those opportunities. Hospitality is a word that is synonymous with Angus breeders."

Currently enrolled at Missouri State University in Springfield, Mo., Taylor is pursuing a degree in agricultural communications. Upon completion of her degree, Taylor wants to join the Peace Corps in hopes of gaining a better worldview of agricultural practices.

"Who knows, one day if I have my wish, I will be in a leadership position that will be the true voice of the American farmer — the United States Secretary of Agriculture."

Alissa Stai

Alissa, the daughter of Gary and Kathy Stai, New London, Minn., is no stranger to the Angus industry. An active member of the



Alissa Stai

Minnesota Junior Angus Association (MJAA), Alissa reigned as the 2008 Minnesota Angus Queen. She received an American Angus Auxiliary scholarship in 2009.

Showing at many state, regional and national shows, Alissa also found herself partaking in activities at the NJAS, including

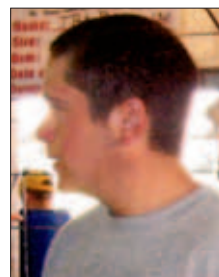
the photography contest, poster contest, quiz bowl and the cook-off. Alissa also served as the MJAA president in 2010. She attributes her leadership skills to the LEAD conference she attended.

Currently enrolled at Ridgewater College majoring in agricultural education, this fall Alissa will transfer to North Dakota State University to complete her degree.

"The time I spent in the NJAA helped me to achieve the vast amount of agricultural recognition throughout my years in agricultural organizations," Alissa says.

Forrest Thompson

Forrest, the son of Greg and Cindy Thompson, Mount Vernon, Mo., has been a



Forrest Thompson

member of the NJAA since 2004. He is also a member of the Missouri Junior Angus Association (MJAA) and has served the organization as president since 2010.

As a member of the NJAA, Forrest has taken advantage of the many opportunities made available to him. He attended the LEAD conference and Show-Me beef leadership conference. He also participated in the photography contest, quiz bowl, cook-off and livestock judging at the NJAS.

"My experiences through the NJAA have been shorter compared to other juniors, but every minute of it has been exciting," Forrest says.

Forrest is currently attending Crowder Community College, working toward an associate degree in agricultural business. Forrest will be transferring to another university this fall to earn his bachelor's degree in agricultural business sales and management.

"My goals for the future are to increase the size of my registered Angus and commercial cattle herd," Forrest adds. "After I graduate from college I hope to find a job close to home so that I can achieve this goal."

Paige Tribble

Paige's NJAA career began in 2002 when her grandparents gave her an orphaned Angus heifer, placed a red show stick in her hand and paid her membership dues. Taking

"Hospitality is a word that is synonymous with Angus breeders." — Taylor Short

care of that heifer instilled in Paige a high level of responsibility, patience and gratitude.



Paige Tribble

During her first state fair, Paige noticed a booth for the Arkansas Junior Angus Association (AJAA) and became a member.

Paige served the AJAA as president from 2008-2009, and was also an Angus Foundation scholarship recipient. She received an Angus/Talon undergraduate scholarship in Louisville.

She has been an active showman at state, regional and national levels. During the NJAS she has taken part in the photography and poster contests. Paige has also participated in LEAD conferences for seven consecutive years.

"Through the NJAS, LEAD and my involvement with the NJAA and AJAA, I have made friendships and memories that will last a lifetime and life skills that are very beneficial to my future," Paige says.

Paige currently attends Arkansas State University majoring in animal science with an emphasis in pre-veterinary medicine. She hopes to attend veterinary school upon completion of her bachelor's degree.

Patricia Vaassen

"It's hard to believe that this is my last year as an NJAA member," says Patricia, who has been highly active in the NJAA and the Michigan Junior Angus Association (MJAA) since she joined in 1991. Showing at the state, regional and national levels, she is no stranger to the showing.



Patricia Vaassen

Patricia has served the MJAA in several capacities, including secretary, award chairman and director. In 2007, Patricia was crowned the Michigan Angus Queen. She was awarded an Angus Foundation scholarship.

She participated in many NJAS educational contests and leadership conferences, including the photography contest, quiz bowl, cook-off, team sales,

public speaking, LEAD and Raising the Bar.

The daughter of Dan and Sharon Vaassen, Ann Arbor, Mich., is currently enrolled at Adrian College majoring in physical therapy. "As a junior member I have learned so many organization and leadership skills that most other young people don't have the chance to experience," Patricia adds.

Ethan Whiteside

Ethan has been a 10-year member of the NJAA and the Maryland Junior Angus



Ethan Whiteside

Association (MJAA). Ethan has been actively showing on the state, regional and national levels. He has participated in the NJAA livestock judging and photography contests and the

Chef's Challenge. He represented the MJAA as a contestant in the 2011 National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest and received an honorable mention.

"My first NJAS was in 2004, and I was completely taken aback by the number of cattle that were there, all being exhibited by junior members," Ethan says. "I immediately got involved with the contests and activities and never imagined it would have taken me to the places that it has today."

The son of Michael and Julie Whiteside, Queenstown, Md., is currently enrolled at Penn State University, majoring in animal science and minoring in agricultural business. "My time as an NJAA member has been full of excitement, education and competition — all things I will take with me forever in life," Ethan says. "I am sad to see it come to an end."

Clay Williams

Clay, the son of David and Connie Williams, Bishop, Ga., has been a member of the NJAA since 2002. He is also a member of the Georgia Junior Angus Association (GJAA), serving as president in 2009, grounds chairman in 2009 and vice president in 2007.

Clay was active at the NJAS, competing in livestock judging and team fitting. He was also a LEAD conference participant. In 2010, Clay competed in the National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest and received an

honorable mention. That same year, Clay was elected to the NJAA Board of Directors, which he served as chairman in 2011-2012.



Clay Williams

"The one thing I will take from this association isn't my knowledge of cattle, nor the titles I won; instead, it will be the relationships I gained during my junior career," Clay says. "I know that it is cliché to say, but I truly believe those bonds will give me a huge advantage, as well as great happiness. I'm so thankful for the NJAA and the opportunities it has presented me."

Clay is currently a student at the University of Georgia, where he is majoring in agribusiness.

Samantha Yantis

Samantha, the daughter of Brent and Janice Yantis, Bunkie, La., has been an NJAA member since 2002. She is also a member of the Louisiana Junior Angus Association (LJAA), which she has served as president and district director. She has participated in LEAD and



Samantha Yantis

numerous contests at the NJAS, including showmanship, photography, graphic design and the cook-off.

In 2011, Samantha was selected to be the editor of the NJAA newspaper for juniors, *The Scoop*. "With my position with *The Scoop*, I was able to interact with many juniors who shared the same passion for communications about agriculture as I do," Samantha says. "The NJAA has taught me the importance of helping consumers understand the importance of CAB, and letting the consumer see the great quality the Angus breed has to offer."

Samantha is currently a student at South Louisiana Community College, Lafayette, La., majoring in marketing and communications. She plans to apply to Oklahoma State University to continue her education.