

NEWS RELEASE

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Minnesota Beef Expo Awards

2024 Minnesota Youth Beef Experience Program Heifers to 11 Youth

Oct. 22, 2024

St. Paul, Minn. – The Minnesota Beef Expo awarded 11 heifers to deserving youth through the Minnesota Youth Beef Experience Program (MYBEP) on Saturday, Oct. 19. From a pool of 77 applications, each recipient was selected based on their passion for agriculture, commitment to raising a heifer, financial need and willingness to learn. Recipients are responsible for raising, breeding and maintaining records on the care of the animal, while providing progress reports to their mentor, breed representative and Minnesota Beef Expo staff. Donors of the heifers will serve as mentors to MYBEP recipients. Since the start of the program 20 years ago, MYBEP has awarded a total of 180 heifers. The 2024 MYBEP heifer recipients are:

- **Troy Clemenson of Zumbrota, Minn.** received an Angus heifer donated by Stehr Farm, Derek Stehr of Zumbrota, Minn., on behalf of the Minnesota Angus Association.
- **Oriana Jewison of Waseca, Minn.** received a Charolais heifer donated by Polzin Cattle, Chris, Leslie, Brooke, Desirae and Colton Polzin of Darwin, Minn., on behalf of the MN/WI Charolais Association.
- **Avery Stark of Cannon Falls, Minn.** received a Hereford heifer donated by Pressnall Family Farms of Randolph, Minn., on behalf of the Minnesota Hereford Breeders.
- **Samantha Bender of Howard Lake, Minn.** received a Maine Anjou heifer donated by D-K Hawkins Cattle, Dan, Kimberly, Connor, Emma, Andrew and Caleb Hawkins of Garfield, Minn.
- **Alivia Uhlenkamp of Green Isle, Minn.** received a Red Angus heifer donated by Compeer Financial. She will be mentored by Steve Pomeranke.
- **Trevin Dicke of Goodhue, Minn.** received a Shorthorn heifer donated by Mulberry Lane Shorthorns, Cathy & Dennis Hoffbeck of Morgan, Minn., on behalf of the Minnesota Shorthorn Association.
- **Tatym Travis of Greenwood, Wis.** received a Simmental heifer donated by Oak Meadow Farms, Dr. Lynn, Barb, Matt, Jessica, Hunter and Garrett Aggen of Harmony, Minn., on behalf of the Minnesota Simmental Association.
- **Riley Rickford of Barnesville, Minn.** received a Simmental heifer donated by St. Germain Simmentals, Adam and Theresa St. Germain of Winnebago, Minn., on behalf of the Minnesota Simmental Association.
- **Madison Holtz of Little Falls, Minn.** received a South Devon heifer donated by K&M Cattle, Matt & Kindra Wayrynen of McGregor, Minn., on behalf of the Northern States South Devon Association.
- **Olivia Matchey of Independence, Wis.** received a Speckle Park heifer donated by Hay Creek Speckle Park, Brad & Lacey Sonnentag and family of Boyd, Wis., on behalf of the American Speckle Park Association.
- **Audrey Hendrickson of Truman, Minn.** received a heifer awarded during the MYBEP Ideas & Insights Symposium donated by the Minnesota State Cattlemen’s Association. They will be mentored by Mark Pesek.

The recipients will compete for the MYBEP Achievement Award at the 2025 Minnesota State Fair.

For further information on the Minnesota Beef Expo and MYBEP visit mnbeefexpo.com or contact Karmen Sperr at karmen.sperr@mnstatefair.org.