

MINNESOTA YOUTH BEEF EXPERIENCE PROGRAM

The purpose of this program is to aid youth in getting a start in the beef cattle business by awarding heifer calves to program recipients on the basis of merit, need, future goals and ability to care for the animal and establishing a connection with a mentor. Any youth ages 12–16 who is a 4-H, FFA or Junior Breed Association member may enter (previous winners of MYBEP heifers are ineligible). **Deadline to enter is Sept. 9, 2019.** Heifer recipients will be selected by a committee, and the heifers will be awarded during the 2019 Beef Expo.

The MYBEP Committee will select 10 heifer recipients from the pool of qualified applicants. Each selected recipient will own the heifer jointly with the donor until the completion of the program, at which time the recipient will receive full ownership of the heifer and her offspring. Each recipient will be responsible for raising the calf, arranging for her to be bred (artificially or naturally), maintaining complete records on her care, and providing quarterly progress reports about the heifer to the donor and the Beef Expo staff. Failure to adequately follow these requirements during the course of the year when the heifer is owned in partnership may cause the recipient to forfeit ownership of the animal. Minnesota Select Sires will donate two straws of semen, and Purina Animal Nutrition LLC will donate 100 pounds of feed to each winner. Awarded youth will also receive a clipper donated by Andis and a halter from the Beef Expo. Each recipient will compete for the MYBEP Achievement Award during the 2020 Minnesota Beef Expo.

Qualifications

- Must be 12-16 years of age as of Sept. 9, 2019.
- Must be a member in good standing of 4-H, FFA or a Junior Breed Assn.
- Must be a resident of Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota or Wisconsin.
- Previous recipients of MYBEP heifers are ineligible to enter.

Criteria

- Demonstrates commitment to agriculture.
- Defines clear future goals.
- Demonstrates financial need.
- Outlines ability to raise the animal in a proper setting.

Application

- Complete online application form by Sept. 9, 2019.
- Obtain two letters of reference: one from your 4-H Extension officer, FFA adviser or Jr. Breed Association adviser; the other from an adult who is not related to you but knows you well enough to comment on your abilities and commitment. Letters of reference may be emailed to beef.expo@mnstatefair.org or sent to MYBEP-MN Beef Expo, 1265 Snelling Ave. N., St. Paul, MN 55108.
- Write a personal letter of intent explaining why you want/need the calf and why you feel you are a good candidate for this project.
- **All materials must be submitted together online on or before the deadline of Sept. 9, 2019.**

17TH ANNUAL SUPREME ROW FEMALE & STEER SELECTION

Heifers will be awarded on Saturday, Oct. 19

— DONORS —

Angus Heifer

donated by Elmdale Farm, Gary and Kathy Eikmeier, from Pipestone, Minn., co-sponsored by Schiefelbein Farms, Kimball, Minn., and the Minnesota Angus Association.

Charolais Heifer

donated by North Grove Charolais, Dennis & Kari Fischer, Brandon Fischer, and Dustin & Maggie Fischer, Grove City, Minn., of Minnesota/Wisconsin Charolais Association.

Charolais Heifer

donated by the Minnesota/Wisconsin Charolais Association

Hereford Heifer

donated by Mittag's Shadow Ridge Ranch, Randy and Liz Mittag, River Falls, Wis., of the Minnesota Hereford Breeders.

Red Angus Heifer

donated by Compeer Financial with Steve Pomerence being the mentor.

Shorthorn Heifer

donated by Gene and Roberta Francis Family, Lawton, N.D.

Simmental Heifer

donated by Krueger Simmentals, Paul & Cassie and Blake, Luke and Bree, Hastings, Minn., of the Minnesota Simmental Association.

Simmental Heifer

donated by Thesings Riverside Ranch, Eric A. and Darcy, Eric M. and Shelby, Rita, Coy, Kasie, and Hazel Thesing of Carlos, Minn., and Jennifer and Adam, Axel, and Owen Fredman of Rose City, Minn., of the Minnesota Simmental Association.

South Devon Heifer

donated by DLCC Ranch, Dar and Lynn Giess, Pierz, Minn., and the Northern States South Devon Association (NSSDA).

Symposium Donation Heifer

donated by Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association.



Please visit our website for more information about the program and to access the online application and learn more about the donors.

mnbeefexpo.com



MINNESOTA YOUTH BEEF EXPERIENCE PROGRAM

SAMPLE APPLICATION - DO NOT MAIL IN - MUST BE COMPLETED ONLINE

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Birthdate _____ Age on 9/9/19 _____ Grade in school _____

Name of father/male guardian _____ Occupation _____

Name of mother/female guardian _____ Occupation _____

Estimated percentage of family income derived from agriculture _____

Please circle most relevant residence type: Town/city Rural/non-farm Working ranch/farm

Number of livestock (if any) already owned by applicant _____ By family _____

Beef _____ Dairy _____ Sheep _____ Swine _____ Other _____

If I am selected, my calf will be kept and cared for at (include address and description of facilities): _____

Estimated distance of livestock facilities to home residence _____

If selected, the two breeds I would choose for my MYBEP heifer are*: 1. _____ or 2. _____

*Please note: Indication of breed choice will not guarantee final selection. Choice of breed awarded will be solely at the discretion of the MYBEP Selection Committee. All committee decisions will be final.

School name _____

4-H, FFA Chapter or Jr. Breed Association _____

4-H Leader, FFA Instructor or Jr. Breed Association Adviser _____

Future career/occupational goals _____

Applicant testimony: I have read the rules and agree to abide by them. I am a 4-H member, FFA member or Junior Breed Association member in good standing. I am between the ages of 12–16 and live in one of the eligible states. I understand that I am responsible for raising, caring for, breeding and showing this heifer for one year. I also commit to completing five progress reports and a scrapbook depicting my experience. I will communicate with donor/mentor regularly and be a good MYBEP representative.

Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian testimony: I am the parent/guardian of the applicant and do hereby give permission for my child to participate in this program if selected. I also hereby, on behalf of and for the child, myself, my heirs, executors and personal representatives, waive and release any and all rights and claims for injury, death, theft or damages that may result of this child receiving, raising and exhibiting a calf (if awarded).

Signature: _____

Adviser testimony: The facilities for raising a calf and the abilities of the applicant are adequate to successfully complete this project. The applicant meets the age and membership requirements as set forth in the official rules and regulations.

Signature: _____

Please provide the email address for your hometown newspaper (not web address): _____



MINNESOTA YOUTH BEEF EXPERIENCE PROGRAM

SAMPLE APPLICATION - DO NOT MAIL IN - MUST BE COMPLETED ONLINE

Name _____

Highlight your 4-H, FFA or Jr. Breed Association experiences:

List other school activities and community involvements:

Share previous experience and background in working with beef cattle:

Add any other information or details pertinent to this application:

Must be Completed online

CONSIDERED APPLICATIONS MUST INCLUDE:

- Completed application form (incomplete applications will not be considered) submitted via the online form at <http://bit.ly/1eATjQf>. You can also find the online application form link on the Minnesota Beef Expo website at mnbeefexpo.com. Must be submitted by Sept. 9, 2019.
- Two letters of reference: one from your 4-H Extension officer, FFA adviser or Junior Breed Association adviser; the other from an adult who is not related to you but knows you well enough to comment on your abilities and commitment. Letters can be emailed to beef.expo@mnstatefair.org or mailed to MYBEP-MN Beef Expo, 1265 Snelling Ave. N., St. Paul, MN 55108.
- A one-to two-page personal letter of intent explaining why you want/need the calf and why you feel you are a good candidate for this project. Please make sure to address your commitment to agriculture, explain future goals and how the heifer fits in, financial needs, and ability to raise and show the animal. There is a section in the online application to type your personal letter of intent.
- All materials must be submitted on or before the deadline of Sept. 9, 2019.
- Note: Previous recipients of MYBEP heifers are ineligible to enter.

Please do not mail in an application. If you can not complete the online entry form, please contact Virginia Mold at 651-288-4440 or 651-643-6476 or virginia.mold@mnstatefair.org.

Meet This Year's Youth Beef Experience Sponsors

ANGUS HEIFER: donated by Elmdale Farm, Gary and Kathy Eikmeier, from Pipestone, Minn.

Gary and Kathy Eikmeier, owners of Elmdale Farm, in Pipestone, Minn., are very happy to provide the 2019 MYBEP Angus heifer. The Eikmeier family has always believed in the positive experiences Junior programs can provide for youth, and MYBEP and the Minnesota Beef Expo are great examples of these types of programs. Elmdale Farm's Angus herd was started in 1917 by Gary's great-grandfather, August Eikmeier, and his sons, Earl and Harry, later known as Eikmeier Brothers. The brothers decided to use Angus bulls on their Shorthorn cows prior to this and to stay with tradition, there are still a few blue roan cows in their pastures today. Gary's parents, Glen and Karen Eikmeier, took over the herd in the early 1970's. Gary's sisters and brother, along with Gary, were always encouraged to participate in any Junior activity that came their way. Gary enjoyed showing cattle and being on many General Livestock Judging teams over the years. The Eikmeier family has shown cattle since the 1940's at County fairs, State fairs and National shows like Denver and Kansas City because the Eikmeiers think hanging out with other cattle folks is about as good as it gets.

Kathy and Gary both grew up in strong Angus families and found out after they started dating that their parents knew each other--so much for meeting the parents! Gary and Kathy's children, Jessica and Grady, were active in cattle shows and judging during their 4-H time and are still active in cattle and youth programs. Gary and Kathy have five happy and healthy grandkids, and Grandpa Gary cannot wait for them to get old enough to hold the halter of a black Angus heifer. Presently, the Eikmeiers run about 40 cows on the family farm southwest of Pipestone, and they try to have half the cows as Registered Angus and the other half Maines and Maintainers. They have been involved with the Minnesota Beef Expo since the start and have watched it grow and evolve into one of the premier events

in this area. The Eikmeiers felt it was time to give something back to a program that has given so much to them. Gary's parents and grandparents instilled in their children that to ensure the future of the beef industry, they need to start with the youth. Gary and Kathy are confident that their ancestors are smiling down from heaven knowing that an Elmdale Angus heifer will be part of the MYBEP program this year. The Eikmeiers hope this heifer will be the start of a successful herd for its new owner, and they wish many happy memories to the MYBEP recipient of this Elmdale heifer co-sponsored by Schiefelbein Farms and the Minnesota Angus Association.

CHAROLAIS HEIFER: donated by North Grove Charolais, Dennis & Kari Fischer, Brandon Fischer, and Dustin & Maggie Fischer, Grove City, Minnesota, of Minnesota/Wisconsin Charolais Association.

North Grove Charolais was established in 1994 by Dennis and Kari Fischer with the purchase of four Charolais heifers that became 4-H projects for their young children, Brandon, Jamie, and Dustin. Today, the herd consists of about 60 head of registered Charolais and commercial cows used in their embryo transfer program. North Grove Charolais focuses on raising quality cattle that are performance-oriented, while standing out in the show ring. They strive to produce cattle with superior genetics that fit in any operation and genetics that will improve any herd.

To provide maximum genetic potential, North Grove Charolais' breeding is 100 percent artificial insemination and embryo transfers. Their criteria in bull selection are backed by strong cow families, sound structure, depth of body, docility, performance data, and breed-leading EPDs. North Grove Charolais' embryo transfer program has been a very successful part of their Charolais operation. Today, their embryo transfer program consists of four elite donor cows. These cows are backed by popular genetics in the Charolais breed. North Grove

Charolais markets their cattle through consignment sales across the Midwest. They also host an annual online sale in the fall. North Grove Charolais is located in Grove City, Minn., which is 70 miles west of the Twin Cities. Today, the farm is owned and operated by Dennis and Kari, Brandon, and Dustin and Maggie Fischer. The Fischer family is passionate about mentoring youth involved in the cattle industry. They are active youth leaders in Meeker County 4-H and the Minnesota/Wisconsin Junior Charolais Association. They are also members of the American International Charolais Association. The Fischer family is excited for the opportunity to award a heifer and mentor a deserving youth!

CHAROLAIS HEIFER: donated by the Minnesota/Wisconsin Charolais Association.

The organization has about 100 members that consist of commercial, feed yard and purebred breeders across the two states, and this heifer will be the 4th heifer that the Minnesota/Wisconsin Charolais Association has donated to a fortunate young person and the 4th time a member from the Association will mentor the youth. The past MYBEP Charolais recipients continue to be very active in cattle oriented events.

HEREFORD HEIFER: donated by Mittag's Shadow Ridge Ranch, Randy and Liz Mittag, River Falls, Wisconsin, of the Minnesota Hereford Breeders

Shadow Ridge Ranch was established in 1996 on a small hobby farm outside of River Falls, Wis. By recommendation of the family veterinarian, Registered Polled Herefords became the chosen breed for the family because of their docile temperament, superb mothering ability and lack of horns. Liz's first cow and calf were purchased at an auction. The herd quickly increased in number with cattle purchased by private treaty and at the Indianhead Polled Hereford Association Annual Cattle Sale. By using A.I. and quality herd sires, Shadow Ridge Ranch's herd size has increased with cattle that

have sound legs and feet, good udders, excellent mothering abilities and quality carcasses with large rib eye and well marbled meat. In 2012, Liz met Randy Mittag, and they joined forces. Randy and Liz moved south of River Falls where they have established a management intensive grazing farm and calve 25 - 30 cows. Calves are raised for breeding animals, and steers are sold privately. The Mittag's finish steers as corn finished and have begun providing grass fed beef for a local food cooperative. Shadow Ridge Ranch is honored to be able to provide a heifer to a young person. Randy and Liz hope to motivate the recipient to enjoy and appreciate Herefords as much as they do.

RED ANGUS HEIFER:
donated by Compeer Financial with Steve Pomeranke being the mentor

Compeer Financial is a member- owned Farm Credit cooperative serving and supporting agriculture and rural communities. The \$18 billion organization provides loans, leases, risk management and other financial services throughout 144 counties in Illinois, Minnesota and Wisconsin. Based in the Upper Midwest, Compeer Financial exists to champion the hopes and dreams of rural America, while providing personalized service and expertise to clients and the agriculture industry. Compeer Financial is the third largest member of the Farm Credit System, a nationwide network of lending institutions that support rural communities and agriculture with reliable, consistent credit and financial services. Steve Pomeranke will be the mentor for this Red Angus heifer recipient.

SHORTHORN HEIFER:
donated by Gene & Roberta Francis Family, Lawton, N.D.

The Gene and Roberta Francis family is excited to participate in the 2019 Minnesota Youth Beef Experience Program through the donation of a Shorthorn heifer. Gene and Roberta are proud that their grandchildren are the sixth generation to be involved with Shorthorn cattle since the first Shorthorns arrived on the homestead of Roberta's great-grandfather in the early 1900's. Today, the herd consists of about 60 producing females. Bulls and females are sold as breeding stock, primarily to

commercial producers. Steers are sold directly to a feedlot where carcass data is obtained and analyzed. Genetic selection is focused on to ensure the production of functional cattle that perform in the harsh North Dakota environment and have enough eye appeal to be accepted by Shorthorn breeders. Gene is a livestock hauler, and Roberta a registered nurse, so the cattle must be able to calve with minimal intervention. For that reason, most calving is done in May and June when the weather is warmer.

Gene and Roberta's three adult daughters, Crosley, Riley and Phoebe, all showed Shorthorns as Junior exhibitors. Crosley won Showmanship titles at the very competitive Illinois State Fair Junior Show. Riley and Phoebe both served as Minnesota Shorthorn Lassie Queens, with Riley being crowned the National Alternate Queen. Most summers were spent with the family happily being involved with Junior Nationals, and they treasure the friendships which blossomed at these cattle events. Gene and Roberta and family believe in the importance of youth involvement in the beef industry and look forward to working with the individual who receives the Francis' family heifer.

SIMMENTAL HEIFER: donated by Krueger Simmentals, Paul & Cassie and Blake, Luke and Bree, Hastings, Minn., of the Minnesota Simmental Association

Krueger Simmentals is a registered Simmental cow-calf to finish, family operation. The Krueger family calves 120 pairs from January to April. They also crop farm 1,100 acres of corn, alfalfa, soybeans, rye, and wheat. They have three talented kids. Blake is nine and is very active with the cattle, and he enjoys learning new insights about the beef industry every day. Luke is six and wants to be at the farm helping wherever he can. Bree is two and enjoys hanging out and having tractor rides every time she comes to see the farm. This is the second time the Kruegers have given a heifer. They had a great experience the first time they donated a heifer, so when the opportunity to donate a second heifer came around, the Krueger's said that they would be honored to support a program that has done such a great job getting cattle to next

generation and getting youth involved in the beef industry.

SIMMENTAL HEIFER: donated by Thesings Riverside Ranch, Eric A. and Darcy, Eric M. and Shelby, Rita, Coy, Kasie, and Hazel Thesing of Carlos, Minnesota, and Jennifer and Adam, Axel, and Owen Fredman of Rose City, Minn., of the Minnesota Simmental Association

Thesing's Riverside Ranch is a successful family cattle operation. Eric A. and Darcy, Eric M. and Shelby, Rita, Coy, Kasie, and Hazel Thesing of Carlos, Minn., and Jennifer and Adam, Axel, and Owen Fredman of Rose City, Minn., are proud to donate the 2019 MYBEP Simmental heifer. Eric A. and Darcy own Central Marine and Sports in Carlos, and Darcy works in the lab at the Douglas County Hospital. Eric and Darcy purchased their first Simmental cows in 1986 and shortly after, a registered bull was purchased. A percentage herd was built by registering the calves from Eric's dad's commercial herd, slowly working towards an all registered herd. They calve about 75 registered purebred and percentage females each year, comprised of 65 cows and 10 heifers. The Thesings utilize A.I. and embryo transfer in their breeding program and retain about 20 females each year for sale either as open or bred, along with 8 to 10 bulls that are sold for breeding purposes, with the remaining calves sold as feeders or fattened for sale as off-farm beef.

Eric M. and Shelby got married in 2011 and were fortunate enough to purchase the family farm from Eric A.'s parents, Connie and Roy, where the cattle operation was started. Eric is employed at Central Marine and has significantly assisted in the growth of their crop farming operation to its current 800 acres. Shelby works at the Housing and Redevelopment Authority of Douglas County. She finds time to care for the household raising their four children and is determined to make time in the evenings to work with haltered calves and ride horses.

Jennifer and Adam, with their two boys, reside in Rose City. Jennifer works at Central Marine and Adam for Border States Electric. The couple raises their own commercial herd influenced by Simmental genetics.

Eric and Darcy worked to teach their children to work hard for what they want. The entire family is always willing to assist each other in all the aspects relating to the farm. They have strived to develop a cow herd that will be sustainable for years, and they hope the herd will be enjoyed by family in generations to come. They feel it is important to continue to promote the breed and to continue their involvement by getting other kids involved with agriculture. They are very honored to be a part of the 2019 MYBEP heifer program.

SOUTH DEVON HEIFER: donated by DLCC Ranch, Dar and Lynn Giess, Pierz, Minn. and the Northern States South Devon Association (NSSDA)

The Northern States South Devon Association was formed over 15 years ago by a small group of South Devon breeders in central-Minnesota. An active and enthusiastic group of South Devon producers from Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota, and Montana, currently promote South Devon cattle throughout the Midwest by participating in farm shows, 4-H and FFA activities, Junior shows and livestock events. A strong number of passionate and talented Junior Association members participate each year at the Minnesota Beef Expo. Members from NSSDA have strongly supported MYBEP since its beginning by donating a South Devon heifer each year to a deserving Junior. Northern States South Devon Association members donate funds toward the support of a MYBEP heifer, and then a heifer is selected and

purchased from one of the members each year. NSSDA is proud that all of the past MYBEP recipients of South Devon heifers are active members in the North American South Devon Junior Association.

Since the early 1980's, Darlynn Cattle Company, otherwise known as DLCC Ranch, has been in the seed stock business. The guiding principles to Dar and Lynn's operation have remained a balanced approach to genetics with emphasis on growth and carcass merit, a sincere focus on eye-appeal and udder quality, and emphasizing the effects of hybrid vigor through the production of their Poundmaker cattle. Dar and Lynn's philosophy to cattle breeding is represented in every animal they sell, and the Giess' pride themselves in producing honest cattle that give producers real results.

Dar and Lynn and family have always been dedicated to the cattle industry by being active in a variety of state and national cattle industry groups including MSCA, Northern States and the National South Devon Associations. They are also strong supporters of youth events in the cattle industry, where they have served as judges at local 4-H livestock shows and work with area youth on cattle showmanship and handling skills. The Giess family is pleased and proud to be associated with the Minnesota Youth Beef Experience Program and is excited to help another youth with the gift of this heifer and another mentorship opportunity.

SYMPOSIUM DONATION

HEIFER: donated by the Minnesota's State Cattlemen's Association

The Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association (MSCA) is a membership-based organization that represents cattle producers and individuals who are part of the cattle community in Minnesota. The Association is currently offering opportunities for junior members through the creation of the Minnesota Junior Cattlemen's Association. The junior program will provide junior leadership development, career opportunities and junior activities at the MSCA State Convention, Summer Cattlemen's Tour and many other events.

The MSCA currently represents over 1,000 members from all segments of the beef community. They are proud of their partnership with over 20 local cattlemen's associations from around the State that affiliate with the MSCA. The MSCA is primarily focused on addressing local, state and federal issues that impact the long-term viability of cattle production and ensuring that Minnesota's business climate welcomes the growth and long-term success of raising cattle in Minnesota. The MSCA also works on several promotional activities during the year, including FarmFest, the Minnesota Beef Expo, the Minnesota State Fair, Cattlemen and Capitol events, both in St. Paul and Washington, D.C., and many more! The MSCA has provided 13 heifers since the creation of the Symposium concept, and MSCA is happy to provide another heifer this year to another deserving youth.