



American-International Charolais Association

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Charolais Junior National Participants Claim Contest Honors

The junior members attending the 2025 American-International Junior Charolais Association (AIJCA) Junior National Show and Leadership Conference in Springfield, Missouri, participated in contests throughout the week of June 16-21. Participants competed for ribbons, awards and scholarship dollars. The \$500 AIJCA Premier Challenge Champion, sponsored by Zehnder-Waage Partnership, awards an individual of any age competing in at least four of the personal development contests. Congratulations to this year's AIJCA Premier Challenge Champion, RYANNE CRUTCHER, Fair Grove, Mo. Additional Premier Challenge honors went to Reserve Champion - KASHLYN KREBS, Gordon, Neb.; 3rd Place - BREEZE BUNKER, Sparta, Wis.; 4th Place - OAKLEY SCHOEN, Holt, Mo.; 5th Place - HADLEE HOLT, Lake Preston, S.D.

Contest winners are as follows:

Art

Junior Division

Champion: Karsten Schwecke, Gibbon, Minn.

Reserve Champion: Elijah Downey, Hope, Ind.

Intermediate Division

Champion: Lora Sonderup, Fullerton, Neb.

Reserve Champion: Kashlyn Krebs, Gordon, Neb.

Senior Division

Champion: Madison Borg, Concord, Neb.

Reserve Champion: Hadlee Holt, Lake Preston, Neb.

Cook-Off

Junior Division

Champion Team: Big Top Bites – Oakley Schoen, Holt, Mo.; Kendall Peuster, Richmond, Mo.; Harper Johansen, Lebanon, Mo.

Reserve Champion Team: Circus Cowboys– Gates Peuster, Richmond, Mo.; Jackson Stone, Clinton, Mo.; Trace Ridder, Hermann, Mo.; Trigg Ridder, Hermann, Mo.

Intermediate Division

Champion Team: Kook'n K's – Khloe Olson, Lake Preston, S.D.; Kinzlee Olson, Lake Preston, S.D.

Reserve Champion Team: Show Sistas – Atley Patrick, Chilhowee, Mo.; RYANNE CRUTCHER, Fair Grove, Mo.; Jessi Hankins, Springfield, Mo.; Jillian Stone, Clinton, Mo.

Senior Division

Champion Team: Home Cookers – Breeze Bunker, Sparta, Wis.; Josi Schrader, Wells, Kan.; Cody Jedlicka, Koshkonong, Mo.

Reserve Champion Team: Kaleb & The Dynamos – Marie Downey, Prattville, Ala.; Eliza Downey, Prattville, Ala.; Kaleb Crowder, Hope, Ind.

Adult Division

Champion Team: JLM - Jose Luis Mendiola Jr., Laredo, Texas; Bobby Molina, Laredo, Texas; Ramiro Ruelas, Laredo, Texas; Juan Castillo, Laredo, Texas

Reserve Champion Team: JS Crew - Tonya Jedlicka, Koshkonong, Mo.; Dale Jedlicka, Koshkonong, Mo.; Hailey Michel, Koshkonong, Mo.; Melody Simpson, Thayer, Mo.

Talent

Junior Division

Champion: Madalyn Ditloff, Bradshaw, Neb.

Reserve Champion: Gabriella & Dalila Wantoch, Colfax, Wis.

Intermediate Division

Champion: Samuel Cordray, Mt. Juliet, Tenn.

Reserve Champion: Huck Plyler, Hope, Ark.

Interview/Resume

High School Division

Champion: Alyssa Kent, Lucas, Iowa

Reserve Champion: Alex Barnard, Foosland, Ill.

College Division

Champion: Marie Downey, Prattville, Ala.

Reserve Champion: Shade Bunker, Sparta, Wis.

Photography

Junior Division

Black & White Champion: Grace Durney, Mountain Grove, Mo.

Black & White Reserve Champion: Carolyn McHugh, Quincy, Ind.

Color Champion: Elsie Bertsche, Flanagan, Ill.

Color Reserve Champion: Cauby Larson, Leoti, Kan.

Intermediate Division

Black & White Champion: Samuel Cordray, Mt. Juliet, Tenn.

Black & White Reserve Champion: Elijah Dehan, LaMonte, Mo.

Color Champion: Elijah Dehan, LaMonte, MO

Color Reserve Champion: Carter Greer, Shelbyville, Texas

Senior Division

Black & White Champion: Tayhlor Elmore, Hominy, Okla.

Black & White Reserve Champion: Sarah Barron, Mount Vernon, Ky.

Color Champion: Jady LeDoux, Harrold, S.D.

Color Reserve Champion: Jady LeDoux, Harrold, S.D.

Impromptu Speech

Junior Division

Champion: Kale Head, Marmaduke, Ark.

Reserve Champion: Harper Johansen, Lebanon, Mo.

Intermediate Division

Champion: Kole Harris, Hepler, Kan.

Reserve Champion: Kelton Arthur, Stillwater, Okla.

Senior Division

Champion: TJ Mueller, Lincoln, Neb.

Reserve Champion: Nissa Olsen, Manhattan, Kan.

State/Affiliate Scrapbook

Champion: Kansas Junior Charolais Association

Reserve Champion: Missouri Junior Charolais Association

Prepared Speech

Junior Division

Champion: Lainey Trauernicht, Wymore, Neb.

Reserve Champion: Landree Leifeste, Cameron, Texas

Intermediate Division

Champion: Elijah Hancock, Lebanon, Tenn.

Reserve Champion: Rynne Crutcher, Fair Grove, Mo.

Senior Division

Champion: Jalyann Hoover, Carthage, Mo.

Reserve Champion: John Hancock, Lebanon, Tenn.

Poster

Junior Division

Breed/Assn. Promotion Champion: Owen Downey, Prattville, Ala.

Breed/Assn. Promotion Reserve Champion: Miranda McKown, Valley Center, Kan.

Herd Advertisement Champion: Luke Sonderup, Fullerton, Neb.

Herd Advertisement Reserve Champion: Kinzlee Olson, Lake Preston, S.D.

Graphic Design

Intermediate Division

Breed/Assn. Promotion Champion: Ridge Conway, Canton, Texas

Breed/Assn. Promotion Reserve Champion: Lora Sonderup,

Fullerton, Neb.

Herd Advertisement Champion: Clay Conway, Canton, Texas

Herd Advertisement Reserve Champion: Lora Sonderup, Fullerton, Neb.

Senior Division

Breed/Assn. Promotion Champion: Hayden Englert, Washington, Kan.

Breed/Assn. Promotion Reserve Champion: Bella Parker, Godley, Texas

Herd Advertisement Champion: Hadlee Holt, Lake Preston, S.D.

Herd Advertisement Reserve Champion: Bella Parker, Godley, Texas

Sullivan Supply Showmanship

Junior Division

Grand Champion: Claire Cunningham, Rose, Okla.

Reserve Grand Champion: Marley Godwin, Prescott, Ark.

3rd Overall: Easton Hill, Nunn, Colo.

4th Overall: Adler Patrick, Chilhowee, Mo.

5th Overall: Briggston Bertsche, Onida, S.D.

6th Overall: Lainey Trauernicht, Wymore, Neb.

7th Overall: Gates Peuster, Richmond, Mo.

8th Overall: Bevin Bertsche, Onida, S.D.

9th Overall: Trey Davis, Iva, S.C.

10th Overall: Harper Johansen, Lebanon, Mo.

Intermediate Division

Grand Champion: Kelton Arthur, Stillwater, Okla.

Reserve Grand Champion: Josey Tolbert, Canon, Ga.

3rd Overall: Aubrey Duff, Camden, Ind.

4th Overall: Rylie Smith, Grinnell, Iowa

5th Overall: Kashlyn Krebs, Gordon, Neb.

6th Overall: Ryli Bivens, Burleson, Texas

7th Overall: Shawn Leifeste, Camerson, Texas

8th Overall: Madilynn McCain, Delphi, Ind.

9th Overall: Kara Brooks, Brush Creek, Tenn.

10th Overall: Reid Groves, Beggs, Okla.

Senior Division

Grand Champion: Kelly Gaffney, Barneveld, Wis.

Reserve Grand Champion: Hayden Englert, Washington, Kan.

3rd Overall: Lucas Crutcher, Fair Grove, Mo.

4th Overall: Alyssa Meier, Clinton, Tenn.

5th Overall: Claire Norris, Eudora, Kan.

6th Overall: Jayce Dickerson, Paradise, Kan.

7th Overall: Josi Schrader, Wells, Kan.

8th Overall: Brooke Polzin, Darwin, Minn.

9th Overall: Mackenzie Neal, Lewisburg, Ohio

10th Overall: Jady LeDoux, Harrold, S.D.

Weaver Livestock Team Fitting

Junior Division

Champion Team: Tri- State Tranquilizers 2.0 – LJ Wells, Norfolk, Neb.; Briggston Bertsche, Onida, S.D.; Bevin Bertsche, Onida, S.D.

Reserve Champion Team: Carny Crew – Easton Hill, Nunn, Colo.; Sutton Hill, Nunn, Colo.; Reed Pratt, Pueblo, Colo.

Intermediate Division

Champion Team: The Ballers – Reid Groves, Beggs, Okla.; Huck Plyler, Hope, Ark.; Shawn Leifeste, Cameron, Texas; Rianne Crutcher, Fair Grove, Mo.

Reserve Champion Team: The Whites – Cash Pratt, Pueblo, Colo.; Trace Johnson, Monte Vista, Colo.; Kashlyn Krebs, Gordon, Neb.

Senior Division

Champion Team: Mom's Favorites – Jady LeDoux, Harrold, S.D.; Alyssa Meier, Clinton, Tenn.; Kelly Gaffney, Barneveld, Wis.; Will Hoopes, Letts, Iowa.

Reserve Champion Team: Midwest Fitters – Weston Schrader, Wells, Kan.; Rylie Meinhardt, Onaga, Kan.; Sidney Allard, Sidney, Neb.; Reed Hedrick, Shirley, Ind.

Team Sales

Junior Division

Champion Team: Champions – Sutton Schwarz, LaCygne, Kan.; Grayson Schwarz, LaCygne, Kan.; Liam Englert, Washington, Kan.; Braelynn Reed, Louisburg, Kan.

Reserve Champion Team: Performance Plus – Oakley Schoen, Holt, Mo.; Gus Schoen, Holt, Mo.; Jackson Stone, Clinton, Mo.

Intermediate Division

Champion Team: Show Sisters – Jessi Hankins, Springfield, Mo.; Jillian Stone, Clinton, Mo.; Atley Patrick, Chilhowee, Mo.; Rianne Crutcher, Fair Grove, Mo.

Reserve Champion Team: The Whites - Cash Pratt, Pueblo, Colo.; Trace Johnson, Monte Vista, Colo.; Kashlyn Krebs, Gordon, Neb.

Senior Division

Champion Team: Midwest Marketers – Weston Schrader, Wells, Kan.; Josi Schrader, Wells, Kan.; Maddy Krueger, Bennington, Kan.; Rylie Meinhardt, Onaga, Kan.

Reserve Champion Team: Dal Dav Charolais – Marie Downey, Prattville, Ala.; Eliza Downey, Prattville, Ala. Kaleb Crowder, Hope, Ind.

Quiz Bowl

Champion Team: White Lightning – Briggston Bertsche, Onida, S.D.; Kashlyn Krebs, Gordon, Neb.; Kelly Gaffney, Barneveld, Wis.; Shade Bunker, Sparta, Wis.; Breeze Bunker, Sparta, Wis.

Reserve Champion Team: Carter's Angels – Carter Greer, Shelbyville, Texas; Camille Greer, Shelbyville, Texas; Bella Parker, Godley, Texas; McKenna Mitchell, Justin, Texas; Lexi Huse, Elm Mott, Texas

Skit

Best Comedy: Kansas Junior Charolais Association
Best Dressed: Missouri Junior Charolais Association
Most Creative: Downey Family

State Participation

11 or More Participants: Kansas Junior Charolais

Association

10 or Less Participants: South Dakota Junior Charolais Association

State Herdsmanship

11 or More Head: Kansas Junior Charolais Association

10 or Less Head: Louisiana Junior Charolais Association

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