

Butler County 4-Her Wins National Livestock Competition



13-year-old Cami Miller set her sights high when she applied for the National Western Catch-A-Calf Contest last November. She received a notice in March that she was one of 40 youth selected to participate in The 2021-2022 program.

Prior to COVID, youth had to catch a calf at the National Western Stock Show in Denver Colorado. However, due to COVID, youth had to apply to be a part of the program. The application required information on the pen the animal would be in, how they planned to care for the animal, their knowledge and background with livestock, a parent's signature and the 4-H Agents signature just to name a few.

Sponsors provide the calf to the 4-H'er and the 4-H'er then is required to feed, halter break, provide all the care and bring the calf to the National Western Stock Show. Ms. Miller picked her calf up in Nebraska the first weekend of May, filled out monthly financial reports, wrote monthly letters to her sponsor, completed a record book and returned to the National Western Stock Show in Denver Colorado January 7th - 9th. During her time at the show, she also was required to participate in a speech and interview. She showed her calf in a market class and also participated in showmanship along with other required contests.

The overall Grand and Reserve exhibitor is not determined on the quality of the steer. The exhibitors receive their steer based on a random draw but must still place in the top 4 of their class. Each year the steers come from a different breeder, but all steers come from the same breeder. This year's steers were Shorthorns that were raised by Peak View Ranch out of Fowler Colorado. Cami named her steer Romeo.

In addition to placing in the top 4 of their class, exhibitors also receive points based on showmanship, interview & speech, Record Book, Monthly reporting and sponsor communications and the production phase. Exhibitors also vote for the Herdsmanship award where they vote for 1 exhibitor who cooperated with others, cleanliness of stalls and consistency of work just to name a few. 36 of the initial 40 Catch-A-Calf youth completed the program and exhibited at the National Western Stock Show

At the conclusion of the show, Ms. Miller earned the following:

- Showmanship division winner
- 1st place in Market class
- Herdsmanship award winner
- 6th place tie on monthly reporting and sponsor relations
- 4th place in Record Book division (scored a 49.1 out of 50 points)
- 3-way tie for 4th place in the Speech and Interview division
- 2nd place in the Production phase
- 2022 National Western Stock Show Catch-A-Calf Grand Champion



Cami went back to Denver this past week and sold her steer in the Junior Market Livestock Auction at the conclusion of the 2022 National Western Stock Show.