

MSCA Awards Beef Heifer to Kayla Mulhern



Kayla and MSCA Vice President Dar Giess

Kayla Mulhern was awarded a purebred Shorthorn heifer at the 10th Annual Minnesota Beef Exposition. Kayla was one of 7 young adults that received a heifer through the Minnesota Youth Beef Experience Program. The Minnesota Cattlemen's Association (MSCA) along with six of Minnesota's beef breed associations each donated a heifer to this year's program. Competition for the heifers was intense as the program had 51 applicants this year.

Kayla is from Fountain Minnesota and is the daughter of Tim and Dawn Mulhern. Kayla's parents operate a farm primarily

raising row crops. Kayla is very active in 4-H and is working hard to expand her small herd, which now consists of a cow, a calf and her new Shorthorn heifer. Kayla is currently in the 7th grade. She is looking forward to next year when she will be old enough to join the local FFA chapter. In addition to her 4-H cattle project she also raises a lamb each year. This year her 4-H lamb won Kayla a trip to show at the State Fair.

Members of the Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association donated the funds to purchase Kayla's heifer, which came from the annual seed stock sale held at Beef Expo. Kayla was interested in a Shorthorn, a breed that she was already familiar with. She carefully looked over all the cattle offered for sale that day and then with the assistance MSCA's Vice President Dar Giess Kayla settled on a shorthorn heifer which also placed as the Beef Expo's Reserve Champion Shorthorn Heifer.

Kayla plans on expanding her herd and is looking forward to showing her heifer at the local county fair and at as many other livestock shows as she can get to next year. With a taste of showing livestock at the state fair, she is also hoping to return to the state fair next year, this time with a heifer.

The Youth Beef Experience Program aids youth in getting a start in the beef cattle business by providing a heifer calf to program participants on the basis of merit, need, future goals and ability to care for the animal. Any youth age 12 to 16 who is a 4-H or FFA member may apply. Each program participant is responsible for raising the calf, arranging for her to be bred (artificially or naturally), maintain complete records on her care, and provide monthly progress reports to the owner and the Beef Expo. The program has been in operation for 6 years and has placed 42 heifers into the care of budding young Minnesota cattlemen and cattlegirls.

The Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association (MSCA) is a non-profit membership driven organization dedicated to enhancing the profitability of Minnesota's Beef Industry. Cattle producers and industry partners interested in joining MSCA can visit www.mnsca.org for additional information and a membership application.