



NHSR FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS - NHSFR

NHSR FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AWARDED TO NHSFR QUALIFIED GRADUATING SENIORS ON THE BASIS OF ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE, FINANCIAL NEED, STATED GOALS AND OBJECTIVES, AN APPLICATION AND INTERVIEW PROCESS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION SUCH AS COMMUNITY SERVICE, AWARDS AND HONORS, SCHOOL INVOLVEMENT AND RODEO PERFORMANCE.

THE MAJORITY OF SCHOLARSHIPS ARE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$500. HOWEVER, THERE ARE SEVERAL SPECIAL SCHOLARSHIPS GIVEN IN HONOR AND/OR IN MEMORY OF SEVERAL SPECIAL PEOPLE THAT HAVE HELPED MOLD AND SHAPE NOT ONLY THE FOUNDATION BUT THE NHSRA AS WELL. OTHER SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AWARDED FOR THOSE ENTERING COLLEGE IN SPECIFICALLY DESIGNATED AREAS OF STUDY. THESE SPECIAL SCHOLARSHIPS RANGE IN AMOUNTS OF \$1,000 TO \$5,000 EACH. THE SPECIAL SCHOLARSHIPS TO BE AWARDED THIS YEAR ARE:

Mullins Memorial Award, \$5,000 – Given in memory of NHSRA Founding Father Claude Mullins and his wife Tavalli. Mr. Mullins was a school superintendent in Texas who in 1949 organized the first ever national championship rodeo for high school students after he had produced two successful state finals rodeos in his home state of Texas the two years prior. He started high school rodeo on the basis of keeping education at the forefront of the mission of the organization. It was at his insistence that academic requirements be included for qualification to compete in high school rodeo as well as college scholarships being a part of the awards from the very first national finals rodeo.

Corral Boots Scholarship, \$5,000 – NHSRA's new boot sponsor is proudly presenting a \$5000 scholarship to one outstanding senior NHSFR qualifier headed to college! The Foundation is grateful to Corral Boots for going a step beyond and granting this opportunity to a well-deserving cowboy or cowgirl.

Lane Frost Memorial Award, \$4,000 – Given in memory of NHSRA National Champion Bull Rider and PRCA World Champion Bull Rider Lane Frost who was tragically killed at the 1989 Cheyenne Frontier Days Rodeo while competing in his signature event. Funds for this scholarship are provided by the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Alumni Association.

John Hatley Memorial Award, \$4,000 – Given in memory of one of the founding members of the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Alumni Association, Mr. John Hatley. Funds for this award are also provided by the organization of which he was a founding member.

Cinch Academic Finals Cowboy and Cowgirl Awards, two in the amount of \$3,000 each – Sponsored by Cinch Jeans and Shirts, these scholarships are awarded to the highest scoring academic senior boy and girl competing at the NHSFR. Based on academics as well as other "all-around" factors provided by the contestant's application and interview, each of the two prestigious awards are in the amount of \$3,000.

WESA Awards, two in the amount of \$2,500 each – The Western and English Sales Association provides two, two-year scholarships (awarded to one boy and one girl) that have ties to the western and/or English industries either through a manufacturer or retail outlet. These scholarships are renewable the second year providing the recipient meets academic standards and is still enrolled in college. The first year is \$1,500 and the second year is in the amount of \$1,000.

Western Specialty Insurers Awards, two in the amount of \$1000 each – Funds for these scholarships are provided by the current insurance company of the NHSR Foundation and the NHSRA, Western Specialty Insurers. Given to one boy and one girl based on academic achievement, rodeo success, community service and involvement in extra circular and community activities.

PRCA Gold Buckle Award, two in the amount of \$1,500 each - The Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA) provides the funds for these two scholarships. PRCA, headquartered in Colorado Springs, Colo., is the largest and oldest rodeo-sanctioning body in the world. for contestants and monitoring livestock welfare to boosting entertainment value and promoting sponsors.

Rodeo Historical Society Awards, five in the amount of \$1,000 each – The Rodeo Historical Society provides the funding for five scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 each that are awarded to NHSFR senior qualifiers whose families are Rodeo Historical Society members. The RHS' Rodeo Hall of Fame enjoys a prominent and important place in the renowned National Cowboy Museum in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Meagan McCain Memorial Awards, three in the amount of \$1,000 each – These scholarships are given in memory of an alumni of the Georgia High School Rodeo Association, Meagan McCain. Meagan was attending college in Texas when she was killed in an automobile accident. The funds for these awards are given by her parents, family and friends in her memory.

J.D. Hebert Memorial Steer Wrestling Scholarships, two in the amount of \$1000 each – Awarded to NHSFR Steer Wrestling Qualifiers, these scholarships are presented in memory of J.D. Hebert, the 2008 National Chute Dogging and Team Roping Champion and the 2011 National Steer Wrestling Reserve Champion, as well as Louisiana's 2012 Steer Wrestling Champion, who died at the age of 21 on October 15, 2015, as the result of a crew boat explosion in the Gulf of Mexico. His parents, Joey and Lisa Hebert, created the scholarship fund to make a difference in the lives and futures of cowboys and cowgirls. Family friends Mitch, Tammy, Rowdy and Remy Parrot, along with Nicky and Stephanie Rodrigue and the Hebert family, coordinate the annual J.D. Hebert Memorial Steer Wrestling every February in Sulphur, Louisiana, with Junior and Open Divisions that include cowboys from throughout the country.

Gene Litton Memorial Award, \$1,000 – Given in memory of Gene Litton of Gillette, Wyoming who dedicated his lifetime to supporting the NHSRA. Gene was a former National Director for Iowa as well as former NHSRA Executive Secretary/Treasurer. He also served on the Foundation Board, was a founding member of the Foundation and served as Vice President for many years.

Pat Litton Service Award, \$1,000 – Given in honor of Pat Litton of Gillette, Wyoming who has dedicated her life to supporting the NHSRA. Pat is a former National Director for Wyoming and served for many years as the NHSFR Rodeo Secretary as well as Secretary of the NHSR Foundation. She remains on the Foundation Board today.

Earl Northrup Memorial Award, \$1,000 – Given in memory of former NHSRA National Director from North Dakota, Earl Northrup. Earl served on the NHSRA board for over 33 years, served as national president twice during those years and was the Cutting Arena Director for many, many years at the NHSFR. He also served as the Foundation President for several years and was a founding member of the Foundation.

Harold “Gabby” Hayes Memorial Award, \$1,000 – Mr. Hayes served both the Foundation and the NHSRA as each of the organization’s Secretary during the early times the two organizations were being formed. He was instrumental in developing the scholarship awards given at the finals and was a dedicated individual who served the NHSRA unselfishly for many years.

Ken Norris Memorial Award, \$1,000 – Ken Norris was a true asset to the NHSRA, having served as the National Director from Utah for over 20 years. He was past National President, recipient of the Kenny Ivester Memorial Award and Man of the Year and served on many committees. His true passion was the rule book. He was dedicated to the rules and by-laws of the NHSRA and took upholding them very seriously and is sorely missed by the Association.

Ray & Cindy Spence Service Award, \$1,000 – Awarded for the first time in 2018, this scholarship honor the many years of dedication and array of services that Ray and Cindy Spence of Georgia have provided to the youth of NHSRA for many years. They have served as NHSRA National Directors and on the Board of Directors of the National High School Rodeo Foundation, providing the daily tasks of processing and paying scholarship funding claims. They continue to serve on the Board of Directors and assist with the activities of the Mid-Winter Meeting and the National High School Finals Rodeo Foundation fundraisers and activities.

Corbin Carpenter Memorial Award, \$1,000 – Given in memory of Corbin Carpenter of Louisiana. Corbin was injured at the NHSFR in Farmington, New Mexico a few years ago and was never expected to walk again. One year later, he walked into the arena at the NHSFR to thank all those that supported his recovery and soon after that, he was riding and competing again. He was tragically killed in an automobile accident a couple of years after that triumphant return to the NHSFR.

Rick Spence Memorial Award, \$1,000 – Given in memory of former NHSRA member Rick Spence of Georgia, this scholarship is provided by his parents and family. Rick was the son of Ray and Cindy Spence who have been very involved and supportive of both the Georgia High School Rodeo Association and the NHSRA. They both have been state board members and Ray was the National Director for Georgia for over 20 years, serving as National President. Ray and Cindy are both current board members and officers of the Foundation. Rick qualified for the NHSFR in various events over the years and was a great role model for young and old alike. He was taken from us far too soon after a battle with cancer.

Acentric Video Media and Technology Scholarship, \$1000 – Awarded to senior NHSFR qualifiers pursuing degrees in the areas media, technology or mass communication, this scholarship is funded by Adam and Jessica Reynolds, owners of Acentric Video, the official photographer and videographer of the National Junior High Finals Rodeo and the National High School Finals Rodeo.

Billy Duhon Memorial Award, \$1000 – Given in memory of “Mr. Billy” of Louisiana who dedicated his life to rodeo and assisting young people excel in the rodeo arena. He attended many NHSFRs and headed for many a steer wrestler. He gave of his time and expertise to train and educate any contestant who was willing to learn and grow. He was a staple around the qualifying rodeos in Louisiana and volunteered many hours each year at the NHSFR.

ProRodeo Hall of Fame Western Heritage Award, \$750 – The ProRodeo Hall of Fame provides the funds for this scholarship that will be awarded to an individual who exemplifies Western Heritage, the Code of the West and living by Cowboy Ethics in his or her everyday life. The recipient of this scholarship should live the cowboy lifestyle every day and not just on weekends while attending a rodeo. He or she should be proud of their western heritage, promote it to others and be a role model for not only their peers, but people of all ages. Their behavior and the way they live their life should symbolize ethics, responsibility, honesty, pride, hard work, fairness and trust.

Kate Scott, DVM, Animal Welfare Scholarship, \$500 - The recipient should have a strong interest in animal welfare. They should plan to pursue education in the area of Veterinary Medicine, Animal Science, Agricultural Education, or Animal Law/Lobbying. New in 2019, this scholarship is funded by Chatham Veterinary Service. Dr. Scott is a former National Director from North Carolina and NHSRA Animal Welfare committee chair.

Teskey's Top Hand Awards, two in the amount of \$500 each – Funds for these awards are provided by Teskey's, an NHSRA National Sponsor. Given to one boy and one girl, the honorees are selected on the basis of an all-around performance both in and out of the rodeo arena.

NIRA Tip of the Hat Awards, two in the amount of \$500 each – Funds for these scholarships are sponsored by the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association, headquartered in Walla Walla, Washington. Awarded to one boy and one girl, the recipients are selected based on excellent performance in all areas of rodeo and student life.