



Milt Bradford Heritage of Ranching/Agriculture Memorial Scholarship

Presented by the National Youth Cutting Horse Association

BACKGROUND: Milt Bradford

Milt was born April 22, 1950, in Lufkin, Texas, the son of Milton Bradford, a Baptist preacher and Betty Hawkins Bradford, a schoolteacher. Milt spent his childhood primarily in Huntington with intermittent years in Del Rio and McAllen, Texas, where his father pastored.

As a teen, Milt found his love of horses and cattle and began to forge a life centered around that passion. After several years working for Raymond Havard in Lufkin, Milt felt he had the tools to begin his own horse auction company.

In 1990, Milt collaborated with Dan Lufkin and Lindy Burch, of Oxbow Ranch, to produce the first Will Rogers Preferred Breeders Sale. That sale set the course for Milt's next ten years of producing horse sales as Milt Bradford Productions.

As Milt Bradford Productions, Milt organized sales for the National Cutting Horse Association, the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo, and the American Paint Horse Association, among others. He also produced major production sales for clients including the King Ranch, Wichita Ranch, Oxbow Ranch, and Atwood Ranch. The Preferred Breeders Sale, launched in 1990, continues today through Western Bloodstock, Ltd.

An early proponent of cloning technology in the equine and cattle industries, Bradford was also renowned in the rodeo industry and received worldwide notice in the media, when he obtained five clones of his 1999 PRCA Bucking Bull of the Year, Yellow Jacket.

In 2000, Milt entered a partnership to form Western Bloodstock, producer of the renowned National Cutting Horse Association Sales in Fort Worth, as well as landmark sales such as the Rock Creek Ranch Dispersal, the Marvine Ranch Reduction Sale, and Walton's Rocking W Ranch Dispersal, among others.

In 2013, nearing the time that retirement beckons many who have enjoyed a fast-paced business life, Bradford and his partner, the late Ben Emison, who passed away in 2019, sold Western Bloodstock to its present owners, Jeremy and Candace Barwick.

It did not take long for Milt to realize he was not the retiring type, and after dabbling in the cattle business, he found his niche in the real estate business where, realizing the value of surrounding himself with good people, he teamed up with good friend, Don Bell.

OBJECTIVES OF SCHOLARSHIPS:

- Create four (6) \$2,500 Milt Bradford Heritage of Ranching/Agriculture Memorial Scholarships.
- Award them to youth who are planning on attending (2022/2023 Semester) or currently attending a college or a trade school and plan on carrying on the heritage of ranching and agriculture.

Donors and Selection Committee:

Christina King
Don Chapman
Teresa Home
Deb Winward
Mary Bradford

Award Presentations:

- The selection committee will announce and present the scholarships at the Youth Convention Award Banquet held at the Will Rogers Memorial Center in Fort Worth, Texas during the 2022 July Summer Spectacular Show.
- Six recipients will receive a \$2500 scholarship.

Eligibility:

- High school senior or college student pursuing an accredited two-or four-year degree or trade school with an emphasis in continuing the Heritage of Ranching and Agriculture.
- Select majors including study of ranching or agriculture. Specific course examples; agronomy, animal science and nutrition, horticulture, livestock, plant science, sustainable agriculture, agriculture education and extension, agriculture business or finance, agriculture economics, agricultural engineering, agriculture power and equipment, or animal breeding and genetics.

Applicants will be selected on following criteria. *(see separate application form)*

1. Academic Accomplishment
May include but is not limited to, grades, awards, recognition in school, etc.
 - a. Minimum current 3.0 GPA (required)
2. Extracurricular Activities
May include but is not limited to, sports, church activities, volunteer work, etc.
3. Leadership
4. Essay
5. Applications due by June 15th.

All applicants must be a NCHA Member in Good Standing.