



"BOWLEGGED H" MAGAZINE

SUMMER 2021 • HOUSTON LIVESTOCK SHOW AND RODEO™



CONTENTS

2 2021 JUNIOR LIVESTOCK AND HORSE SHOWS

4 2021 VIRTUAL RODEO RUN
presented by ConocoPhillips

6 2021 CHAMPION AUCTION DONORS

10 THANK YOU

12 TEXAS TALES: THE TRAILBLAZERS
WRITING COMPETITION

14 ART OF THE POSSIBLE: SCHOOL ART
TRIUMPHS OVER ADVERSITY

16 THE SHOW GOES ON

18 VACCINE VOLUNTEERS

20 INCOMING CHAIRS

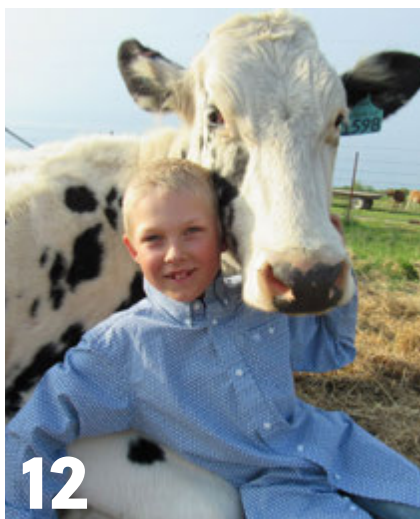
ON THE COVER



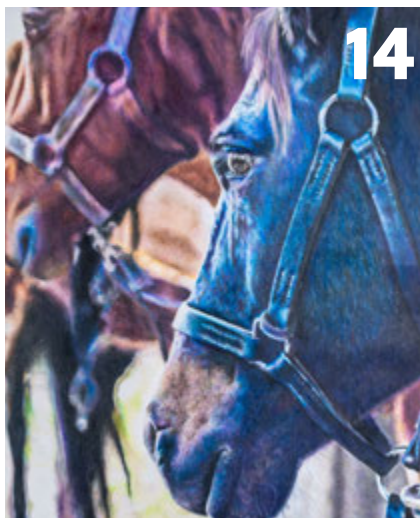
A 2021 Horse Show competitor is all smiles before heading in the ring.
Photo by Lisa Norwood.



2



12



14



16

MAGAZINE COMMITTEE

Tonya Yurgensen-Jacks, *Officer in Charge*
Kate Gunn Pagel, *Chair*

Vice Chairs

Lyn Stewart, *Copy Editor*
Ashley Plaeger, *Assignments Editor*

Editorial Board

Allyson Bandy Lambert
Becky Lowicki
Melissa Manning
Nan McCreary
Kenneth C. Moursund Jr.
Ken Scott
Marshall R. Smith III
Amy M. Tanner
Emily Wilkinson

Photographers

Linda Evans
Meredith Flaherty
Shawn Miller
Lisa Norwood
Debbie Porter

Reporters

Stephanie Earthman Baird
Scott Hill Bumgardner
Abimbola Farinde
Claudia Franks
Natalie Harms
Megan Harrington
Sarah Langlois
Lawrence S. Levy
Sandie Marrinucci
Gigi Mayorga-Wark
Rebecca McGovney-Ingram
Crystal McKeon
Mary Beth Mosley
Marina Olson
Brittany Rogers
Erika Sanchez
Susan Emfinger Scott
Angela Shah
David Simpson
Elizabeth Slaven
Sandra Hollingsworth Smith
Katy Stewart
Sarah Tucker
Todd Zucker

MARKETING, PUBLIC RELATIONS & PRESENTATIONS DIVISION

Clint Saunders
Director, Communications
Kelsey McCullough
Manager, Communications
Lene Botha Vernon
Graphic Designer

Staff Photographers

Francis M. Martin, D.V.M.
Dave Clements
Thomas Hopkins

Questions:

magazine@rodeohouston.com

RODEO OFFICIALS

Chairman of the Board

Brady F. Carruth

President and CEO

Chris Boleman

Vice Presidents

Thomas J. Baker III

Larry Biediger

Bryan J. Blonder, D.O.

Robert Clay

Ed DeCora

Alan Folger

Juan C. Garcia

John Giannukos

John Glithero

E.R. "Butch" Guerrero

Bill Hanna

Alicia Jimerson

Michelle Lilie

Emmette O. Story Jr.

D. Scott Sullivan

Chris Underbrink

Duncan Underwood

Tonya Yurgensen-Jacks

Executive Committee

Jim Bloodworth

Brady F. Carruth

Warner Ervin

Ray Hinsley

J.P. "Hap" Hunnicutt

Parker Johnson

Don D. Jordan

Kelly J. Larkin, M.D.

Jack A. Lyons

Pat Mann Phillips

Wesley Sinor

Robbie Smith

R.H. "Steve" Stevens

Joe Van Matre

Jim Winne

Lifetime Members of the Executive Committee

Don A. Buckalew

Tilman J. Fertitta

Wayne Hollis

Ed McMahon

Chris Richardson

Charles R. "Butch" Robinson

John O. Smith

Paul G. Somerville

Keith A. Steffek

James M. "Jim" Windham

AGRICULTURE

EDUCATION

ENTERTAINMENT

WESTERN HERITAGE



from the CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

As the 2021 Rodeo year has ended, I applaud you, our Rodeo family, for all the hard work and determination you demonstrated during a year of immense change and uncertainty. In reflecting on all that we accomplished this past year, our underlying purpose remained constant and central — that purpose being the support of our mission and the youth of Texas. "It's for the kids" is a phrase we repeat time and time again. This year, it rang true more than ever before as we upheld our promises to the next generation. For that, I am tremendously grateful for our compassionate and generous volunteer community.

In many ways, 2021 developed into one of our most innovative years to date. We implemented QR codes for touchless check-in during the livestock shows. We adjusted the livestock events, horse shows and auctions into private events and utilized alternate venues, such as hosting the Calf Scramble in Katy. We explored unfamiliar online

platforms and held virtual meetings, keeping us together in new ways during times when we had to remain physically apart. We successfully held a drive-through event to celebrate our scholarship recipients and reconnected with one another at the Wine Garden. Our volunteers even stepped up to the challenge and helped distribute vaccines to fellow Houstonians when our community needed it most.

The accomplishments and challenges of the past year heighten our anticipation toward all that the 2022 Rodeo has in store. Our community needs this celebration now more than ever. For many of us, last year was isolating. Here at the Rodeo, the committees we serve on are more than just volunteer positions. Our committees are our families. We are eager to reconnect and renew friendships as we come back together to do what we love.

This upcoming year is especially important, as we mark our 90th anniversary and celebrate 90 years of promoting agriculture, showcasing Western heritage and supporting the youth of Texas. With the excitement of this anniversary and the difficulties of the past year, I truly believe that the 2022 Rodeo will hold greater meaning and deeper significance than ever before. The expectations are high, and the excitement is building among our fans, constituents and supporters. They are eager and we plan to deliver.

The very thought of the 2022 Rodeo is energizing and inspiring because of you, our amazing volunteers. The enthusiasm you have for the mission of the Rodeo continues to be unwavering and unstoppable. Only with your support, ideas, generosity and hard work can we succeed, and we will never take that for granted. I look forward to seeing you once again as we welcome our volunteer family and Rodeo fans back to NRG Park and gear up for the biggest and best Rodeo ever seen in Rodeo history! 🍷

Sincerely,

Brady Carruth

2021 JUNIOR LIVESTOCK AND HORSE SHOWS

BY MARINA OLSON

Photos by Lisa Norwood and
Staff Photographer



After the cancellation of many 2021 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™ events due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2021 Rodeo still held some important events, even though they had to be modified. No one was more worried than the parents of the students who had worked tirelessly to prepare their livestock for competition. Those involved in the Junior Livestock and Horse shows were relieved when they learned they could exhibit their animals as scheduled. For many, that meant a significant financial investment and multiple years of effort.



The 2021 Rodeo simply looked a little different. Chris Underbrink, officer in charge of several committees, including the Junior Commercial Steer Feeding and Management Contest, said, “in 2021, the first priority was the health and safety of all participants.” Each junior exhibitor was allowed one adult to attend after completing a health and safety protocol checklist before entering NRG Park.

While the focus of the Rodeo has always been about the kids, it really hit home this year. Officials decided to spread the livestock exhibitions throughout March, which meant fewer people were checking in and exhibiting their animals at the same time. “For example, in previous years, there could be as many as 2,100 heifers checking in at once. This year, it was broken up into three timeslots to make it safer for all involved,” Underbrink said.

Many of the Horse Show competitions also took place in 2021 in NRG Arena. The staff was laser-focused on safety and created a new set of rules to assist with following the health and safety guidelines at the time.

“The volunteers worked hard to uphold the Rodeo’s mission through trying times. Throughout the year, we had done a lot of planning to adequately prepare for 2021 and to make sure that we followed the recommended guidelines to keep everyone safe,” said John Glithero, a vice president of the Rodeo and officer in charge of the Horse Show committees.

“Rodeo staff and committee chairs did an outstanding job of making sure that the committees were prepared and received all of the communication that they needed in order to keep everyone safe and healthy,” Glithero said. The Horse Show received many entrants in 2021, with the largest number in the youth show. There were many competitions that started with the Cutting Horse Competition on Feb. 25 and finished with the Donkey and Mule Show on March 19. Overall, the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo’s largest focus remained on the scholarships and well-being of the youth of Texas. 🌟





2021

VIRTUAL RODEO RUN

presented by ConocoPhillips

Photos courtesy of the committees

The 2021 Rodeo Run went virtual! And, as part of the competition, the Rodeo Run Committee initiated a challenge to all Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™ committees: The Committee Challenge.

Participating committees competed in two categories: Most Committee Member Participants Overall and Highest Percentage of Committee Member Participation.

Thanks to all the committees that participated and congrats to the winners!



2021 COMMITTEE CHALLENGE WINNERS

MOST COMMITTEE MEMBER PARTICIPANTS OVERALL

- Director's Club Committee
- Ticket Services Committee

HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF COMMITTEE MEMBER PARTICIPATION

- Scholarship Administration Committee
- Wine Events Committee

"I am extremely proud of my Director's Club Committee for winning the Rodeo Run 'Most Committee Participants Overall' with 65 participants of our roster of 108, as well as winning the 1932 Team Challenge! It was a huge accomplishment for our small committee. We also had 100% of our leadership AND rookies participate! It was a great way to bring a committee together that did not get to have any involvement at the 2021 show. We are ready for 2022!"

— Naphtali Carlson,
Director's Club Committee Chair

"We were very pleased that our Ticket Services Committee volunteers were so engaged in support of the Rodeo Run. Our team found all kinds of ways to participate! We have been and will be enthusiastic supporters of the 'live' event, and look forward to continued involvement in 2022!"

— Jay Crocker,
Ticket Services Committee Chair

"The Scholarship Administration Committee is excited and proud to receive recognition for our participation in this year's Rodeo Run. We are a close-knit group and enjoy being together, so this award is just an added bonus! Thank you to the Rodeo Run team for coming up with flexible options so we could walk in our own neighborhoods, with family and friends, and still represent the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo!"

— Ruthie Hébert,
Scholarship Administration Committee Chair

"The Wine Events Committee loves Rodeo Run! We have participated for several years. In fact, in 2018, Wine Events won the coveted 'Hoopla' award, and in 2020, we received the award for 'Most Unique.' Our committeemen are so enthusiastic and supportive of all aspects of Rodeo, so I was not surprised that we came in second for committee participation percentage. When it is time to support the cause and have some fun, the Wine Events Committee always steps up, plus, post-run champagne and bubbles are always a hit!"

— Karin Singley,
Wine Events Committee Chair



2021 CHAMPION AUCTION DONORS

JUNIOR MARKET BARROWS



GRAND CHAMPION

Exhibitor: Lainee Cook

Hometown: Slaton, Texas

Club/Chapter: Lynn County 4-H

Price: \$210,000

Donors: Lisa Blackwood, Jackie and Jon Hodges, Kathy and Matt Norris, and Stronghold Limited – Darrel Pearson



RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION

Exhibitor: Emily Muehlstein

Hometown: Stamford, Texas

Club/Chapter: Jones County 4-H

Price: \$160,000

Donors: Christina and Chris Box, Bridgette and John Grimes, Sheri and Rob Walker, and Mark Ward

JUNIOR MARKET BROILERS



GRAND CHAMPION

Exhibitor: Makensie Till

Hometown: El Campo, Texas

Club/Chapter: El Campo FFA

Price: \$145,000

Donors: Roger Camp, Julie and Alan Kent, Bob Van Matre, and Lynda and Jim Winne



RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION

Exhibitor: Regan Greer

Hometown: Spring, Texas

Club/Chapter: Spring FFA

Price: \$125,000

Donors: Deborah Adams and Ron Logan, Judy and Tyson Kennedy and Nancy Kennedy, Mach Industrial Group, and Shirley and Randy Meyer

JUNIOR MARKET GOATS



GRAND CHAMPION

Exhibitor: Trey Harbour

Hometown: Gatesville, Texas

Club/Chapter: Jonesboro FFA

Price: \$185,000 (Rodeo Record)

Donors: Mary and Ken Hucherson, Amy and Mark Melton, Anne and Chris Richardson, and Mary Lee and Alan Stigall



RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION

Exhibitor: Cydney Newsom

Hometown: Medina, Texas

Club/Chapter: Medina FFA

Price: \$115,000

Donors: Dr. John Cangelosi, Melissa and Jimmy Guinn, Stephen McKinney, and April and Scott Townsend

JUNIOR MARKET LAMBS



GRAND CHAMPION

Exhibitor: McKinley Clem

Hometown: Tahoka, Texas

Club/Chapter: Lynn County 4-H

Price: \$275,000

Donors: The Hildebrand Family, in memory of Ruth Ann and Dr. Tommy Hildebrand



RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION

Exhibitor: Hudson Franklin

Hometown: Shallowater, Texas

Club/Chapter: Lubbock County 4-H

Price: \$135,000

Donors: Tammy, Peyton and Mitchell Barrier; KCEF Foundation – Cookie Michael; Michelle Iversen Jeffery; Pamela M. Logsdon, CPA

2021 CHAMPION AUCTION DONORS

JUNIOR MARKET STEERS



GRAND CHAMPION

Exhibitor: William Wall
Hometown: Idalou, Texas
Club/Chapter: Idalou FFA
Price: \$400,000
Donors: Champagne Cowgirls



RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION

Exhibitor: Jett James
Hometown: Prosper, Texas
Club/Chapter: Prosper FFA
Price: \$215,000
Donors: Lisa Blackwood, Robert Clay, Julie and Alan Kent, and Kristina and Paul Somerville

JUNIOR MARKET TURKEYS



GRAND CHAMPION

Exhibitor: Amber Ellebracht
Hometown: La Vernia, Texas
Club/Chapter: La Vernia FFA
Price: \$135,000
Donors: Jennifer and Doug Bosch, Chad Clay, Robin Young-Ellis and Joe Ellis, and Greg Willbanks and Misty Robertson



RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION

Exhibitor: Jace Burkholder
Hometown: Boerne, Texas
Club/Chapter: Sandra Day O'Connor FFA
Price: \$135,000
Donors: Jeffrey David Aronoff, Greg Miller, Billy Parker and Shawn A. Smith

RODEO UNCORKED!®



GRAND CHAMPION

Wine: Alexander Valley Vineyards CYRUS, Alexander Valley, 2014

Price: \$200,000

Donors: Lisa Blackwood, Randa and Ray Gilliam, Julie and Alan Kent, and Kristina and Paul Somerville



RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION

Wine: Le Chemin Du Roi Brut, Champagne AOC, NV

Price: \$160,000

Donors: Demetra and Frank Jones, and Leticia and Stephen Trauber

SCHOOL ART



GRAND CHAMPION

Art: Painting, "Through the Years"

Artist: Jaydan Kisinger

School District: Fort Bend ISD

Price: \$155,000

Donors: Ashton and Dallas Garrison, Randa and Ray Gilliam, Mary and Ken Hucherson, and Julie and Alan Kent



RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION

Art: Mixed medium, "United Ambition"

Artist: Justin Amomoy

School District: Stafford MSD

Price: \$120,000

Donors: Cheryl and Gary Deitcher, The 3 Amigas, and Sheri and Rob Walker



THANK YOU

TO OUR AUCTION DONORS AND COMMITTEES!





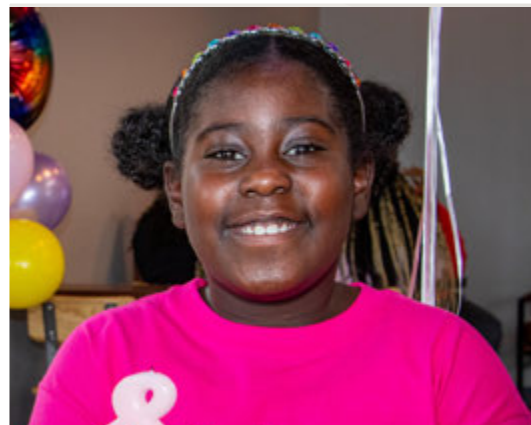
TEXAS TALES: THE TRAILBLAZER'S WRITING COMPETITION

BY : BRITTANY ROGERS

Photos courtesy of the families

A Texan's pride for the Lone Star State runs deep. This past spring, Texas youth had the opportunity to express their love for Texas through the inaugural Writing Competition, coordinated by the Rodeo's Trailblazer Committee. Just as the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™ is invested in youth education, the Trailblazer Committee has a long-standing commitment to literacy.

"It was our mission to make a meaningful and impactful contribution to the Rodeo," Trailblazer Committee Chair Janeen Comer said. After retiring their Ladies' Night Out event in 2020, the Trailblazers looked to enhance their commitment to literacy in Texas. The committee assembled a team, named SPURS, to focus on their literacy platform and the digital execution of the new writing competition. The writing competition "paid tribute to the Western heritage of the Rodeo and the spirit of competition within Rodeo events," Comer said. In previous years, the Trailblazers held a drive within Rodeo committees to collect and distribute children's books.



CYDNEY HOWELL / TRAILBLAZER'S CHOICE ESSAY



CLAIRE PUMPHREY / 1ST PLACE ESSAY



EMMA FERGUSON / 2ND PLACE ESSAY



AVA BESSLER / 3RD PLACE ESSAY



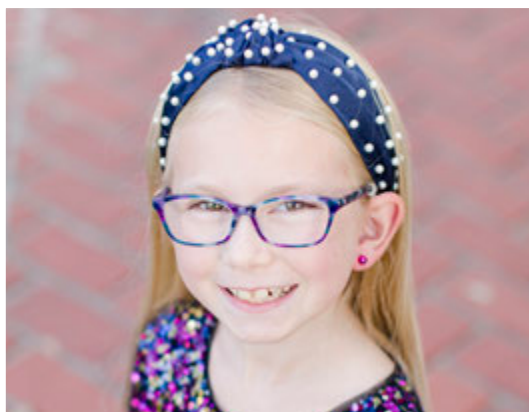
BRYSON COURTNEY / TRAILBLAZER'S CHOICE POETRY



HUNTER HOFFMAN / 1ST PLACE POETRY



BLAISE BAYER / 2ND PLACE POETRY



SAVANNAH EVANS / 3RD PLACE POETRY

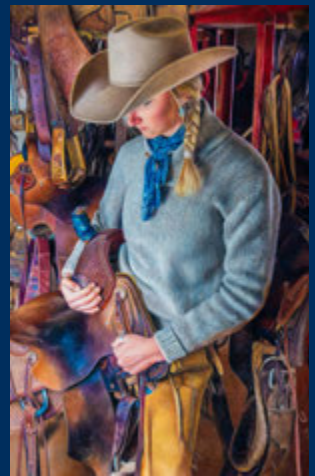
Getting the word out to Texas-area teachers and parents was easy. The SPURS contacted former Ag Education coloring participants and their own network of teachers, friends and family. The contest was geared toward second graders and consisted of an essay or poem submitted and reviewed digitally. The committee received hundreds of entries from all over Texas, including big cities, small towns and homeschool applicants. To narrow down entries, the Trailblazer's SPURS team blindly reviewed and selected the finalists. Then, specialty judges that included a children's book author and an elementary school writing specialist awarded first, second and third place in both categories.

The writing prompt, "Why I am Proud to Live in Texas," had students draw on their experiences visiting the Rodeo and everyday Texas life. "The submissions were so unique and entertaining. On top of barbecue, boots and cowboy hats, these kids love Whataburger, H-E-B, Dr. Pepper and Buc-ee's," Comer said. "The entrants did a good job in keeping with the theme of what the world thinks Texas is." Some of the entries were so engaging, the committee initiated a "Trailblazer's Choice" award to recognize notable entries.

Vice Chair Tammy Shepperd played a key role in the creation, organization and execution of the contest. "Our mission is to encourage the students to continue their creative writing and develop a love of reading books from this experience. Each year, we hope to touch more students and garner more entries with a goal of doubling entries in 2022," Shepperd said. The Trailblazers look to continue and expand the writing competition to additional grade levels and recruit more students and schools to participate next year.

The finale of the contest was a virtual awards ceremony, which took place May 11. Rodeo Chairman of the Board Brady Carruth, and President and CEO Chris Boleman were present to celebrate these young writers on their achievements. 🌟

The 2022 contest will kick-off this coming winter. Interested teachers and parents can find details at rodeohouston.com/Get-Involved/Exhibitors-Participants/Writing-Competition.



Art of the Possible

SCHOOL ART TRIUMPHS OVER ADVERSITY

BY SANDIE MARRINUCCI

Photos courtesy of the School Art Committee

How do you plan, manage and successfully produce an art competition for 133 school districts during a pandemic? You need to be flexible and focused, according to Alicia Thompson Smith, Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™ School Art Committee chair.

The impact of COVID-19 was unclear in May 2020 when School Art registration was scheduled to take place. “We had so many questions,” Smith said. “Would there be a Rodeo in 2021? How was the school year going to proceed and how would it impact art classes? Would NRG be available for collaboration and judging? There was only one path forward: we needed to monitor the situation and establish a flexible process and schedule.”

The committee made its decisions based on notifications from the Rodeo office, the state and the counties. Bottom line, district judging occurred and 72 pieces were selected for auction from the 95 public and 38 private schools that participated.

Innovation thrived amid the uncertainty. The committee created a photo bank to help artists find source material, a great new tool that will be provided again next year. For students talented in digital technology, the Graphic Design Contest was introduced. For this event, students designed a poster to promote the 2022 School Art Contest, showcasing their talent through computer graphics.

The judging process was also modified. “There were many discussions on how to judge artwork this year, including whether to meet virtually or in person,” said Kathleen Wagner, vice chair of judging. “We decided to meet in person and mandated social distancing, masks and gloves in order to do so.” There were also many logistical

issues to solve. Getting the artwork to NRG Center was one of them. “We provided teachers with the opportunity to drop off the artwork, but most opted to do so in person. They were delighted that the art competition provided their students with an important sense of normalcy during troubling times,” Wagner said.

Despite the uncertainty regarding the opening or closure of schools and families struggling with health and financial concerns, response to this year’s competition was impressive. Students submitted more than 200,000 entries at the district level. District representatives then brought 4,700 pieces of artwork to NRG for district judging in January. From these, 712 were chosen for Best of Show, Gold Medal and Special Merit awards and displayed in the first-ever online Hayloft Gallery. The final 72 were then selected for the School Art Auction.

“Our committee worked together in person and on Zoom to ensure our artists were the focus of everything we did. Everyone on the committee concentrated on helping students during the auction,” said Dawne Martin, School Art Auction Committee chair. “We also have the most incredible buyers who give from their hearts, support our young artists and believe in the mission of the Rodeo.”

For more than 50 years, the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo School Art Competition has provided pre-K through 12th grade students with the opportunity to participate in district shows, earn scholarships and travel to summer workshops. In 2021, the art of making things possible is again on display in the online Hayloft Gallery, demonstrating that when we work together, we can make it happen, even during a pandemic. ‡

The Show Goes On

BY SARAH TUCKER

Photos by Meredith Flaherty



When the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™ announced it was canceling the 2021 Rodeo in February, the Calf Scramble committees sprang to action because their events needed to happen.



“Our decision immediately was ‘we’re going to still scramble,’” said officer in charge Tom Baker. “We don’t know how, we don’t know where, but we’re going to scramble for sure.”

By April, the Calf Scramble had relocated to the Katy ISD W.E. “Billy” Morgan Rodeo Arena with a few changes. The program was condensed from one scramble daily for 20 days to a total of 16 scrambles throughout four days. In addition, instead of the high school students chasing calves in front of thousands of people under the bright lights of NRG Stadium, the scramblers would chase their calves in front of a small crowd of fellow scramblers, family, friends and agriculture science teachers in a more traditional, outdoor arena.

The changes did not seem to faze the scramblers, however. Michael Williams Jr., from Kingwood ISD, was the first to catch a calf in his scramble. While NRG Stadium would have been “way cooler,” he did not mind the new location. He was so focused on catching his calf that he did not even realize people were watching.

Mackenzie Roy, a 5-foot-tall sophomore from Hooks ISD, said she could feel her blood pumping and hear the crowd cheering during her scramble. And though the Katy arena felt larger than the traditional venue, “I would’ve been more nervous at NRG,” she said.

After grabbing a calf, haltering it and convincing it somehow to cross that white line, Roy, Williams and other scramblers earned a \$1,750 certificate to purchase a heifer or steer. And, the work does not end there. The scrambler then raises the calf, keeping donors apprised with monthly updates. The following spring, the scramblers show their calves at the Rodeo and can earn an additional \$500 for completing their project.

“This cycle is another reason why the Calf Scramble committees knew they had to have a scramble this year — they would have lost an entire year,” Baker said. The Calf Scramble committees also enlisted the help of the World’s Championship Bar-B-Que Committee to feed the scramblers, their families, donors and committee members throughout the four days.

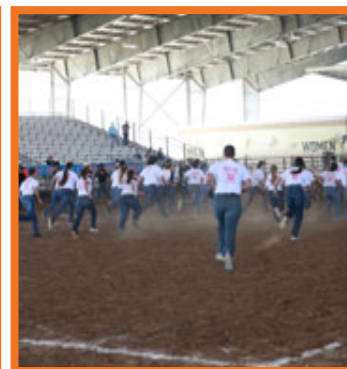
“During a normal Rodeo, it’s a ‘rushed deal,’” Baker said. The donor meets their successful

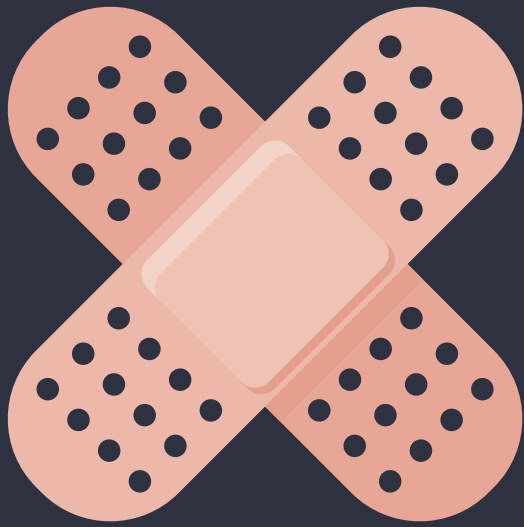
scramblers briefly before everyone leaves to go enjoy the night’s musical performer.

“Here they had a meal together, and we’ve never done that before,” Baker said. “The donor meets their scrambler and family and starts the whole relationship off on a much better foot.”

Another change was announcing scramblers’ names as they ran out onto the dirt. This was not done at NRG Stadium, and Baker hopes it is something they can carry forward to next year’s Rodeo.

And, while the committee had a steep learning curve in 2021 — planning an event in less than three months with a minimal number of support staff — it was a good learning experience that Baker feels only improved the committee and future scrambles. “We can’t wait for 2022,” Baker said. “We go back to normal, but our normal is going to be the best that it’s ever been.” †





VACCINE



Even without the full 2021 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™ this year, some of the Rodeo's 35,000 volunteers are still serving their community. Ever since the COVID-19 vaccine became available in Houston, the Rodeo began working with various health organizations to coordinate volunteers for some of the vaccination sites.

Chief Volunteer and Human Resources Officer Melinda "Mel" Reeves determined what was needed in terms of volunteers and then emailed committee members in a call for volunteer sign-ups.

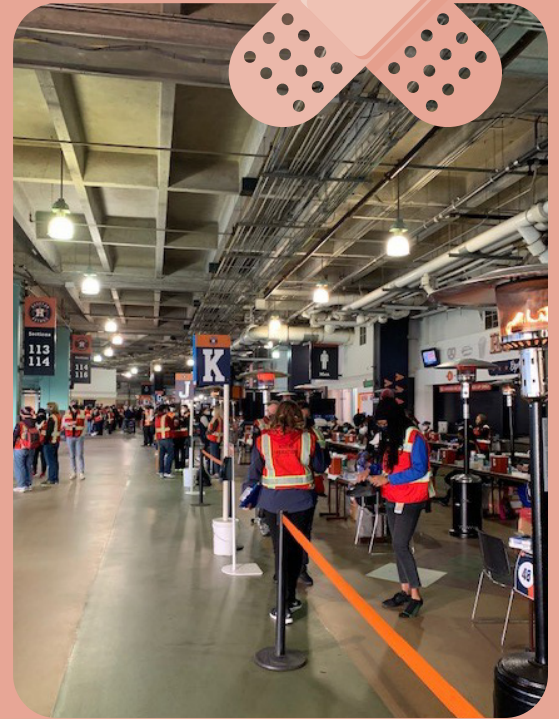
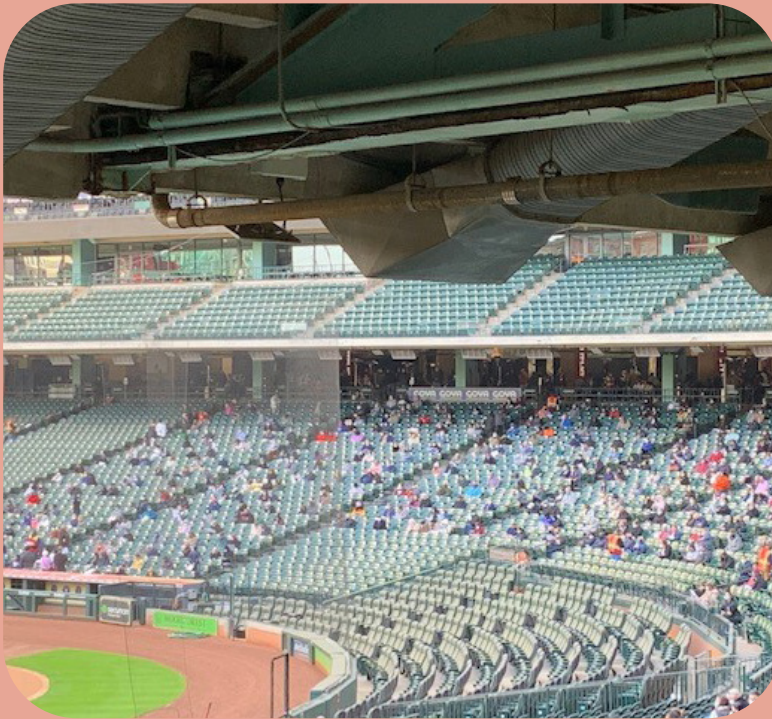
"It was like giving out free tickets to a concert," Reeves said. "The email went out and it was filled in two minutes."

The first groups were sent to two mega vaccination sites. Memorial Hermann ran the site at NRG Park while the Houston Health Department oversaw the other location at Minute Maid Park.

The initial need was for medical volunteers, so the requests first went to the Health Committee, the Medical and Safety Committee and the RODEOHOUSTON® Sports Medicine Committee. But the organizations realized there were logistical

VOLUNTEERS

BY NATALIE HARMS
Photos courtesy of volunteers



roles such as directing traffic, running check-ins and helping with the flow of arrivals that were needed, as well.

"These logistical roles were a natural fit for Rodeo volunteers," said Brooks Bradford, chair of the Commercial Exhibits Committee and a vaccination volunteer in one of the first groups the Rodeo sent out to help.

"It was putting everything we do in March to work. I wish we could have done even more," Bradford said. "There's not another organization in the world that could put enough volunteers who know what they're doing in that short of time."

Every day, each organization called for 50 to 100 volunteers split across two shifts. This need kept rising as more and more vaccines came into the city and as more health organizations tapped into the Rodeo volunteers.

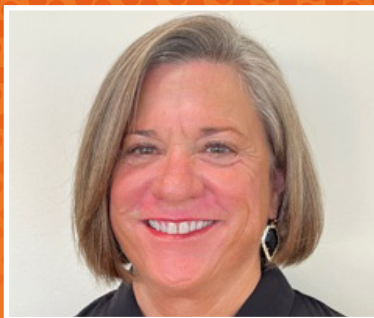
The experience was overall positive for Bradford, who said he was impressed with his fellow volunteers who continue to show up for their Houston community.

"It felt very familiar — like a day at the Rodeo. You're there helping fellow Houstonians and being a smiling face for these folks," Bradford said. †



Ronald Anderson

Events & Functions



Beth Briscoe

All Breeds



Ray Gilliam

Wine Sales

INCOMING COMMITTEE CHAIRS



New Committee

Locks and Keys
Committee



Josh Harrison

Poultry Auction



Loren Vining

Rodeo Contestant
Services



the HOUSTON TRADITION #SINCE1932

FEB. 28 – MARCH 20, 2022 *at* **NRG PARK**

WORLD'S CHAMPIONSHIP BAR-B-QUE CONTEST
FEB. 24 – 26, 2022





P.O. Box 20070
Houston, Texas 77225-0070
Address Service Requested

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
HOUSTON, TX
Permit No. 9791



#RODEOHOUSTON

rodeohouston.com