

**Tennessee Cattlemen’s and Tennessee Cattlemen’s Youth Association
2023 Outstanding Youth Award**

Award Overview: The Outstanding Youth Award competition is designed to recognize a junior (ages 12-16) and senior (ages 17-21) member of Tennessee Cattlemen’s Youth Association (TCYA) for their involvement in the cattle and agriculture industries, leadership, and community service. Participants will be judged based on the magnitude of their involvement and accomplishments in the cattle industry and agriculture, leadership involvement and participation in cattle/agriculture related groups, and participation in their communities. The Tennessee Cattlemen’s Association will administer the program and choose a panel of judges to review the applications and select the winners.

Conditions of Eligibility:

- **Applicant must be a paid member of the Tennessee Cattlemen’s Youth Association.**
(Definition of a Youth Member: a paid, Tennessee resident under the age of 21 as of January 1, 2023. Youth are eligible to participate in TCYA programs up until December 31st of the year they turn 22.)
- Junior applicants must be between the ages of 12 and 16, and Senior applicants must be between the ages of 17 and 21, as of January 1, 2023.
- Former Outstanding Youth Award Recipients are eligible to compete; however, you are only allowed to win one time in each age division.

Application Procedures:

- Complete the application form and provide thorough answers to the questions listed below.
- Applications should be typed or neatly handwritten.
- Applications must be accompanied by a letter of recommendation from a County Extension Agent, Agriculture Education Teacher, or County Cattlemen’s Association President.
- The application period will run from **September 1, 2023 to December 1, 2023.** The applicant will be notified by late-December if they were chosen.
- Awards will be presented on Saturday, January 20, 2024, during the TCA Youth Awards Banquet held at the Lane Agri-Park in Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Award: The Senior level winner will receive a \$1,000 cash award and a Belt Buckle. The Junior level winner will receive a \$250 cash award and a Belt Buckle. ***Belt buckles sponsored by Oakdale Farms.***

Judging:

- Applications will be judged using the following criteria:

Application Form	10 points
Question A	20 points
Question B	20 points
Leadership Experience	20 points
Community Involvement	20 points
Letter of Recommendation	10 points
Total	100 points

Deadline: Application must be received and/or postmarked on or before **Friday, December 1, 2023,** to be considered for the award. Applications will be accepted via Google Forms, mail-in, and email.

Mail Applications to:
Tennessee Cattlemen’s Association
c/o Outstanding Youth Award
530 B Brandies Circle, Suite B
Murfreesboro, TN 37128

Or email applications to: melinda@tncattle.org, with subject line: **APPLICANT NAME OUTSTANDING YOUTH AWARD**

Tennessee Cattlemen's and Tennessee Cattlemen's Youth Association
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Application Form

Application must be received and/or postmarked on or before **Friday, December 1, 2023**, to be considered for the award.

Applicant: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

County: _____ Cell Number: _____

Email: _____

Parent or Guardian: _____

Parent or Guardian Cell Number: _____

Parent or Guardian Email Address: _____

Age (as of Jan. 1, 2023): _____ Age Division (please circle one) Junior Senior

Tennessee Cattlemen's Youth Association Membership # _____

By signing below, I certify all information in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, and that I am eligible for the Outstanding Youth Award for which I have applied.

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____

Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Please attach a letter of recommendation from County Extension Agent, Agriculture Education Teacher, or County Cattlemen's President in support of the application.

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A. Involvement in the Cattle/Agriculture Industry - This is a three-part question. How did you get involved in the cattle/agriculture industry? What is your current involvement in the industry? What are your personal interests in the industry?

B. How do you plan to stay involved in the cattle/agriculture industry in the future?

