

# APPLICATION

## SENIOR SHOWMAN BUCKLE AWARD

Class of 2026 – CCJLA Livestock Show

### Applicant Information

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

High School: \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation Year: Class of 2026

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

4-H and/or FFA Membership (check all that apply):

4-H     FFA     Both

Years Involved in 4-H: \_\_\_\_\_

Years Involved in FFA: \_\_\_\_\_

Livestock Projects Shown (species & years):

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### Purpose of the Award

The Senior Showman Buckle Award honors a graduating senior who demonstrates outstanding character, integrity, leadership, kindness, service, and patriotism—both inside and outside the show ring.

This award is not based on championships or titles, but on how you represent yourself, your family, your community, and your country in everyday life.

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### Required Written Responses

Please answer the following thoughtfully and honestly. Typed responses are preferred.

## **1. Personal Introduction**

Introduce yourself. Include your background in livestock showing, your involvement in 4-H and/or FFA, and what being a showman has meant to you.

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## **2. Leadership, Service, and Character**

Describe your leadership roles, community involvement, and community service.

Include how you:

- Treat competitors
- Help younger or new exhibitors
- Represent your family and organizations
- Show kindness, responsibility, and respect

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## **3. Accomplishments and Recognition**

List any awards, recognitions, or achievements inside or outside the show ring.

(Championships are not required. Character matters most.)

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## **4. Showmanship Outside the Ring**

Explain how you demonstrate good showmanship in everyday life.

How do you “show up” when no one is watching?

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## **5. Patriotism and Citizenship**

Please write one paragraph answering the following:

- What does it mean to you to be an American?
- What does the American flag represent to you?
- What does freedom look like in your life?

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Respect for the American flag is a requirement for this award, including standing for the posting of colors, the Pledge of Allegiance, and the National Anthem.

## **References (Required)**

### **1. 4-H or FFA Leader Reference**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### **2. Added Bonus-United States Veteran Reference**

Please include a written reference from a U.S. Veteran who can speak to your character.

Veteran Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Branch of Service: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Eligibility Requirements (Applicant must meet all)**

- Graduating high school with the Class of 2026
- Registered to show at the CCJLA Livestock Show (April 2026)
- Previous livestock showing experience as a 4-H and/or FFA member
- Demonstrates respect for the American flag and national traditions
- Exhibits good moral character and citizenship

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## **Submission Instructions**

Please submit the following in one complete packet:

- This completed application
- Personal resume

Email submissions to:

 denisehouston1313@gmail.com

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## Closing Statement

The Senior Showman Buckle Award is presented to an individual who reflects the highest standards of character, compassion, leadership, service, and patriotism. This buckle represents how you show up—not only in the arena, but in life.

Good luck, and may you continue to represent the very best of our livestock community and our country.

God Bless America 

Denise Houston

Senior Showman Buckle Award Sponsor

## Sponsor Statement

This award is deeply personal to me. I am the daughter of a United States Navy Veteran, the mother of a United States Navy Sailor, the mother of a Firefighter, and I have also served as a Firefighter myself.

My children and I have experienced both love and loss within the walls of the CCJLA barn over the last 20 years. During those moments, we have witnessed the very best of human kindness—people showing up for one another, offering support, encouragement, and compassion when it mattered most. Those experiences shaped our understanding that true success is not measured by buckles or banners alone, but by character, service, and how we treat others.- Denise Houston