

Back Our Youth

What do you support in your community? Regionally? Nationally? Internationally? What gets you so fired up that you need to jump on the bandwagon to support it? As a retired educator, board member of the Reining Horse Foundation (RHF) and chair of its scholarship committee, I am all about supporting the next generation of NRHA leaders: our youth.

The programs of the National Reining Horse Youth Association (NRHyA) are funded through RHF. We just concluded the 2024 RHF scholarship season and are about to embark on 2025. In the July issue of the NRHA Reiner, you can read about scholarship recipients receiving a portion of the program's \$70,000 in annual awards. You might even recognize recipients!

Do the youth in your affiliate know about ways they can earn awards outside of showing? NRHA youth members 18 years of age or younger as of January 1 can earn prizes and scholarships by participating in the Varsity Reining Club (VRC).

VRC was established to engage youth members and encourage them to become more active at both local and national levels. This program offers opportunities to contribute to NRHyA while developing and maturing.

In addition to assisting youth members form connections with their peers, NRHyA strives to promote life skills. Performing community service, being an active member in a group, learning to work with others, speaking, writing and creating are all important skills that can be further developed by

participating in this program.

Youth gain points by helping at shows, aiding one another at the barn, excelling in academics, speaking to groups and being creative. There are four categories in which youth can earn points:

- Contributions (fundraising, community service, pitching in);
- Creativity (photography, creative writing, creative artwork);
- Publicity (hold or attend a meeting, report back, spread the word, referrals); and
- Academics (good grades).

Active NRHyA members (18 years of age or younger as of January 1) can register for VRC with their email addresses and a password. They will receive email confirmation that their membership has been approved. View the categories and details at varsityreining.com.

RHF is blessed by gifts which allow us to support reining's youth. I hope you jump on the bandwagon today as a donor and champion of young people in your circle.



Terri Mainey
Board Member

To donate, visit reiningfoundation.com, or contact the RHF at 405-946-7400, ext. 106, or rhf@nrha.com.



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