**Ranch Horse Association of Michigan**
***2018 Youth Representative Contest***

***Contestant guidelines:***

1. Must be current RHAM member in good standing.
2. Open to boys and girls between the ages of 14 and 18 as of January 1, 2018.
3. Must have never been married, divorced, or a single parent.
4. Must not have been convicted of any crime.
5. Must not be caught with drugs, alcohol, and/or tobacco products at any time while appearing on behalf of RHAM or at any ARHA show.
6. Must not cohabitate with a significant other during your reign.
7. Must not use profanity.
8. Must communicate with Youth director.
9. Must be in proper attire when representing RHAM.
10. All contestants are to act in a respectable manner at all times. Contestants may be disqualified for behaviors that are considered inappropriate. The winner may also lose their title for inappropriate behavior.
11. Contestants will not slander other contestants, judges, committee members or others involved with the RHAM or ARHA.
12. Youth Representative will automatically be on next year’s RHAM Youth Representative Committee.
13. Previous Youth Representative contest winners are encouraged to enter.

**If at any time during the reign of RHAM Youth Representative these rules are broken, Youth Representative will forfeit their title/awards (buckle) and the 1st runner up will step into their place.**

When in doubt, remember to follow the Code of the West!

***Judging/Contest***Judges will be selected for their expertise in all fields of competition. The scheduled judged activities may include essay, horsemanship, interview, speech and written test.

Based on the response/applications received by Youth Representative candidates, the RHAM Board of Directors will implement a fair and balanced competition for the candidates which may include but is not limited to: essay, horsemanship, interview, speech, written test.

The selected 2018 RHAM Youth Representative will be announced at the RHAM May show at Berrien Springs – May 12 & 13, 2018.

***Duties during year of reign:***

1. Must at all times wear appropriate show attire while fulfilling official duties.
2. The Youth Representative is to be available to participate in events to promote RHAM and ARHA during their reign. This includes the Mid-West Regional Show and the 2018 RHAM Banquet.
3. Candidate must be able to conduct flag ceremonies at the opening of each RHAM show.
4. Participate in fundraisers throughout year to raise money for future youth representative contests.