

RITA VALADAO MEMORIAL AWARD

Western Classic Junior Dairy Show - westernclassicdairy@hotmail.com

IN MEMORY OF

One week after the 2022 Western Classic, Rita, age 10, was brought to heaven on the wings of angels after an on-farm accident. Rita had exhibited at the Western Classic since she was old enough and enjoyed showing cows throughout the Central Valley. To remember and honor Rita's life, this memorial award has been established.

REQUIREMENTS

- Age 8-12 (as of January 1, 2026)
 - Complete application and essay
 - Must be a participant in the Western Classic Junior Dairy show. This means you can participate in the judging contest, clinics (on years we have them) or any of the cattle show classes (costume, showmanship or heifer/cow classes)
 - Have a county fair that has a Dairy Replacement Heifer program where you can sell your project calf
 - Participate in an interview during the Western Classic (time will be announced at the show)
 - Be present at the Western Classic on Sunday, March 10, 2026 during the heifer show for the announcement of the winner of the award
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MEMORIAL AWARD

- A project heifer donated by the Valadao Family
- Heifer is to be selected within 2 months of the Western Classic Junior Show and must be picked up no later than June 30, 2026
- Age of heifer will be determined based on what works for the recipients County Fair
- Supplies to groom and show your heifer
- A project scholarship to assist with costs of feeding and caring for your heifer

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Name: _____ Age (as of 1/1/26): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

County Fair: _____

4-H Group (not required): _____

APPLICATION:

Essay: Describe your interest in having a dairy heifer project, include which County Fair you would sell your heifer at, experience with dairy cattle, and showing history (please provide in essay format, one page or less, and attach to your application).

RETURN COMPLETED APPLICATION AND ESSAY BY: MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2026

Email: westernclassicdairy@hotmail.com

