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For the St. Paul Rodeo

## **MAKING THE GRADE**

*St. Paul Rodeo awards annual scholarships*

St. Paul, Ore. (June 2, 2025) – The St. Paul Rodeo Association Foundation has awarded its annual scholarships.

Josephine Edwards and Stella Koch are recipients of \$5000 each for their continued education.

Edwards, the daughter of Charles and Tiffany Edwards, is a 2025 graduate of St. Paul High School. One of the school's seven valedictorians, she has a 4.0 GPA and was involved in high school volleyball, basketball, softball, and track and field. She was a member of FFA, St. Paul Business Leaders of America, Key Club, International Club, Art Club, FCA, and the National Honor Society.

As a student athlete at St. Paul High School, she volunteered at the St. Paul Rodeo, with the parking, in the Trading Post Tent, and with the Booster Club concessions. With her mom and her brother, Edwards arrived at the Booster Club trailer a few hours prior to rodeo start time, to warm hot dogs and brats and prepare the cakes for strawberry shortcake.

Her favorite job at the rodeo was the Booster Club trailer. "I got to see so many people there," she said. "The atmosphere in the trailer, helping people, giving them shortcake, I really enjoyed it."

Because of her volunteer work, Edwards doesn't usually get to see the rodeo, but she loves it.

"The rodeo is such a big part of St. Paul," she said. "The entire town is the St. Paul Rodeo."

This fall, Edwards will be a student at Westminster University in Salt Lake City where she will major in biology. She hopes to be an orthopedic surgeon someday.

Koch, the daughter of Todd and Jennifer Koch, just finished her freshman year at Eastern Oregon University in La Grande. A 2024 graduate of St. Paul High School, in high school, she competed in volleyball, basketball, softball, and track and field and was a member of FFA, St. Paul Business Leaders of America, Key Club, FCA, Associated Student Body, and the National Honor Society. She was one of the valedictorians in the class. She plays college volleyball at Eastern Oregon University.

Like Edwards, she volunteered at the St. Paul Rodeo, with parking, concessions, set up and cleanup. Last year she helped with social media, taking pictures and video.

"It was fun to see all the people come to town and take pictures of them smiling and having fun," she said.

“It’s cool that we get to share our little town with them and capture those pictures.”

Koch is studying agricultural entrepreneurship. Her family ties to the St. Paul Rodeo run deep: her dad Todd is a director; uncle Mitch Coleman is a pickup man, grandpa Steve Coleman is a former director and past president, and her brother Rawley is a bareback rider who competed at St. Paul. Her dad and grandpa Steve are former bareback riders who also competed at St. Paul.

The St. Paul Rodeo Foundation awards two scholarships each year; one to a graduating senior of St. Paul High School and one to a child of a St. Paul Rodeo Association member. Edwards is the graduating senior; Koch’s father is a rodeo association member.

The St. Paul Rodeo is July 1-5 with performances nightly at 7:30 pm and a 1:30 pm matinee on July 4.

Tickets are available online at [StPaulRodeo.com](http://StPaulRodeo.com). They range in price from \$26 to \$80.

For more information, visit the website or call 800.237.5920.

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Cutlines:

Josey Edwards was awarded a St. Paul Rodeo Association Foundation to further her studies at Westminster University this fall. Photo courtesy Emily Haven.

Stella Koch is the recipient of a \$5,000 scholarship from the St. Paul Rodeo Association Foundation. The St. Paul High School student will be in her second year at Eastern Oregon University this fall. Photo courtesy Laney Brentano.



