



For Immediate Release
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SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE FOR YOUNG PA DAIRY LEADER ATTENDING LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

New Class of Young Dairy Leaders Institute Begins March 2011

HARRISBURG – The Center for Dairy Excellence is helping to prepare the next generation of dairy leaders to address the challenges and opportunities facing the industry by offering one Pennsylvania dairy producer with a scholarship to the Holstein Foundation’s Young Dairy Leaders Institute, or YDLI.

The three-phase program is open to young adults ages 22-45 with an interest in the dairy industry. It takes place over 13 months, beginning in March 2011. The program covers current and relevant topics facing today’s industry.

Next year’s program is the seventh such opportunity. Four hundred young adults from across the country participated in the first six programs.

“Pennsylvania producers who have graduated from the YDLI program have gone on to become some of our industry’s most valued leaders,” said John Frey, executive director of the Center for Dairy Excellence. “By offering this scholarship—for which any Pennsylvanian accepted into the program is eligible for consideration—we hope to encourage more young dairy enthusiasts to take part in the invaluable training and bring back ideas to raise the bar for Pennsylvania’s dairy industry.”

Phase I of the program focuses on individual leadership and personal development. Phase II requires participants to complete a series of assignments in their community that emphasize the advocacy and outreach skills gained during the first phase.



Phase III features sessions on advanced media training, meeting and board skills, influencing public policy and continued advocacy. The program emphasizes communications and networking among peers, skills that participants can use long after graduating from the program.

The first and third phases of the program will meet in Albuquerque, N.M. The projects to be completed as part of the second phase must be done between the two meetings.

The Center for Dairy Excellence will select its scholarship winner from among the Pennsylvania dairy producers accepted into the new YDLI class. To apply for the YDLI program, contact the Holstein Foundation at 1-800-952-5200, ext. 4261. Application deadline is Aug. 2.

For more information about the scholarship opportunity, call the center at 717-346-0849 or e-mail info@centerfordairyexcellence.org.

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The Center for Dairy Excellence is an initiative of the Department of Agriculture and was launched in January 2004 by Governor Edward G. Rendell. Bringing together people from more than 40 different dairy organizations in Pennsylvania, the Center's mission is to enhance the profitability of the dairy industry by empowering people, creating partnerships, and increasing the availability and use of resources. Learn more about the Center at www.centerfordairyexcellence.org.