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and Foster  
Youth in  
Agriculture.

# The Character Counts Award and High 5 Club

Almost 30 years ago, the founders of Bids for Kids came together with one goal in mind; to encourage and support area youth for their commitment with raising and showing their animals at the Junior Livestock Auctions at the Dixon and Solano County Fairs.

B4K believes in our aggie youth. We know each of them put a significant amount of time, sweat, money and sometimes tears into raising their market animals. And although every child raises their animal in hopes of a Grand Champion belt buckle and a record breaking price at market, B4K believes in the lessons learned from the project. The patience that's vital to gain the trust of a skittish lamb, the seven month commitment that's necessary to feed, care and break a 1300 pound steer, the hard work required to wash animals, clean stalls and prep their animal for showmanship and sale. And the character it takes to walk their animal to an awaiting trailer for the last time.

These kids are the sole reason for our existence as a charitable organization. B4K loves the dedication these kids have and the commitment they show. Besides B4K's financial support of our agribusiness youth, Bids for Kids would like to recognize those individuals who stand out among their peers- those students who lead by example and have others who follow them. The students who show exemplary behavior in and outside the showmanship ring. And the students who go above and beyond what is expected of them by helping others achieve their goals.

**Character Counts Award** - The Character Counts Award is a special recognition award given to those youth showman who exhibit the highest level of character. B4K believes highlighting honesty, integrity, respect, kindness, gratitude and hard-work is the core of our mission. This award emphasizes what it means to do your personal best and help others achieve the same. The recipients of the Character Counts Award will be recognized at the fairs and have a custom pennant to hang near their animals show pen.

As a 4-H, Grange or FFA leader, we are looking to you to highlight showman who exhibit the highest character. Each leader can submit one student for the B4K Character Counts Award.

**Submissions should be one page and should include the student's name, age, years showing, animals shown and why you believe this aggie exhibits the highest level of character.**

**Submissions should be emailed to [bidsforkidssolano@gmail.com](mailto:bidsforkidssolano@gmail.com) by April 21, 2017.**

**High 5 Club** - Consistent with the very origins of B4K, the High 5 Club was created to encourage the philanthropic model of giving back and the philosophical belief that no one succeeds entirely on their own. The High 5 Club is made up of junior livestock exhibitors who have committed to give 5% of their earnings back to B4K. Every generous contributor will be recognized annually at the fairs, their name in publications and they will receive a B4K – High 5 Club sign to hang near their animal's show pen.



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