



## **LEAH JAMES**

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### Top five most significant judging experiences:

- Judging Internationally - Guatemala National Shows for both Holstein and Jersey
- Judging the North Carolina State Fair Junior Show – All Breeds
- Judging the Minnesota State Fair Open Guernsey Show
- Judging the Minnesota State Fair Open Milking Shorthorn Show
- Judging the District 1 Holstein Show in Iowa

### In addition to judging conformation classes, this judge also enjoys:

- Youth Shows
- Showmanship

Leah James is a native of the state of Minnesota and finished her bachelor's degree at the University of Wisconsin - River Falls. Leah enjoys judging local, regional, and national shows with highlights including the Minnesota State Fair, the WI Junior State Fair, Nebraska Cream of the Crop Junior Show, North Carolina State Fair as well as Guatemalan National Holstein and Jersey Show. Leah's career portfolio includes serving as a type evaluator and area representative for many years with the American Jersey Association before joining the AI industry. Currently, Leah is the Global Dairy Marketing Manager at GENEX Cooperative. Leah is a YDLI alumni and a superintendent for the youth and collegiate judging contest at World Dairy Expo. Leah, her husband Jason and daughters Brenlyn, Annika, and Everlea, are also active owners of their herd - Pine-Valley Farm in SW Wisconsin. The focus of their herd includes breeding and developing elite animals across three breeds, Holstein, Jersey and Milking Shorthorn. Leah and Jason have developed All-American's including the Senior and Reserve Grand Champion of the 2022 International Milking Shorthorn Show. The couple has also put multiple bulls into stud including a former number one GJPI sire for the Jersey breed. Leah and Jason were recognized as the American Jersey Cattle Association Young Breeders in 2018 and received the sportsmanship award - Kitchell Sayre Award - at the International Milking Shorthorn Show in 2019.