

# J.O. CRAVENS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The J.O. Cravens Memorial Scholarship honors the memory of J.O. Cravens, a lifelong rodeo cowboy and founding member of the International Professional Rodeo Association (IPRA) who valued education.

Cravens began his rodeo career in 1944 at age 13. As there were no youth rodeos, he was riding against adults and beating them. He competed in bareback and bull riding for more than 40 years retiring in the early 1980s.

As a founding member of the IPRA, he helped write the rules and bylaws of the association and served as its first bull riding director. He was runner-up to his traveling partner Ben Jordan for 11 world titles. Cravens qualified for the first International Finals Rodeo in bull riding.

At age 36 he started college while rodeoing, working and raising two daughters with his wife Mary, a two-time world champion barrel racer. He began teaching high school history while continuing to rodeo.

He served many years as a board member, president and executive director of the IPRA, retiring from teaching school to work full time for the association. During his time at the helm, the IPRA reached several milestones: moving its headquarters from Pauls Valley, Oklahoma, to Oklahoma City, exploring new venues for the International Finals Rodeo and making the decision to move the finals to Oklahoma City.

Another major move was partnering with the city of Shawnee, Oklahoma, to sanction the International Finals Youth Rodeo (IFYR), the world's richest youth rodeo in 1992. The event is held each year in July.

He was a longtime rodeo judge after he retired from competition, judging both the IFR and the IFYR many times. In 1966 he taught the the rodeo industry's first judges' clinic and continued training judges for years.

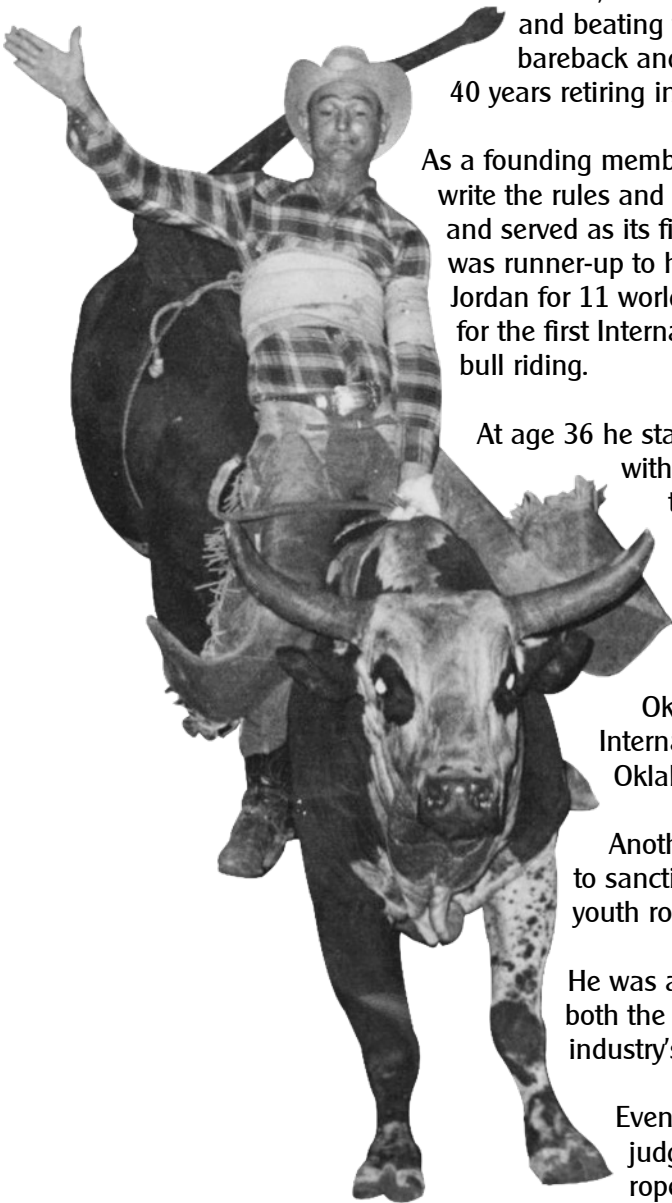
Even after he retired from judging professional rodeos, he continued judging youth rodeos and teaching young cowboys and cowgirls the ropes of rodeo.

J.O. Cravens died September 13, 2018, at age 87, and this scholarship honors two important aspects of his life: rodeo and education.

*If you are a 2021 high school graduate who is involved in rodeo, plans to attend college, university or trade school on a full-time basis, and are looking for financial assistance, you qualify. Participation in college rodeo is not required.*

Download the electronic version of this application at [www.cowboysanta.com/jo.pdf](http://www.cowboysanta.com/jo.pdf)

FOR INFORMATION OR TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS, EMAIL [jo@cowboysanta.com](mailto:jo@cowboysanta.com).



# J.O. CRAVENS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM

(Deadline May 10, 2021 - Winner to be announced June 10, 2021)

## PLEASE INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS:

1. a copy of your high school transcript
2. a recent head shot wearing a western hat
3. a rodeo photo (action, candid or group shot)
4. a double-spaced essay/personal narrative no longer than 500 words describing your accomplishments in and out of rodeo, your future goals and what rodeo means to you.

*Feel free to include letter(s) of recommendation, additional photos/video or anything else you think will help the selection committee make their decision.*

Applicant Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Best Contact Number \_\_\_\_\_

## RODEO INVOLVEMENT (Mark all that apply and give details in your written narrative.)

- Contestant     Specialty Act     Committee Member     Personnel  
 Other (music director, social media, photographer, stock contractor, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

Please list the top two highlights of your rodeo life so far.

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## EDUCATIONAL PLANS

Name of high school where you are a 2021 Graduate \_\_\_\_\_

College/University/Trade School you plan to attend \_\_\_\_\_

Planned major or field of study \_\_\_\_\_

What are your career plans at this time? \_\_\_\_\_

What attracts you to this field? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Please list all scholarships and student financial aid of which you are assured (attach extra list if needed)

_____	\$ Amount _____
_____	\$ Amount _____
_____	\$ Amount _____

Will you be able to attend college without financial assistance?  Yes  No

Anticipated aid from parents/family/college savings per semester \_\_\_\_\_

Anticipated personal earnings from jobs/rodeo per semester \_\_\_\_\_

Will you need to take out a student loan to attend college?  Yes  No



## LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES - SCHOOL & COMMUNITY

Please summarize your major high school activities. *(Attach additional sheet if needed.)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Scholastic Honors

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Leadership Activities – School & Community

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



*Applicant Signature* \_\_\_\_\_ *Date* \_\_\_\_\_

Scholarship is judged as follows: 40% on rodeo involvement,  
25% on scholastic & community activities,  
20% on financial need  
15% on essay/personal narrative.

Email application and supporting materials to [jo@cowboysanta.com](mailto:jo@cowboysanta.com). Call Johna Cravens at 580-235-2664 or Dayna Cravens at 580-235-2868 with questions or send questions by email to [jo@cowboysanta.com](mailto:jo@cowboysanta.com).