

FRIDAY, JULY 26  
PRELIMINARIES - 8 AM  
FINALS - 6 PM



IACO   
INTERNATIONAL  
AUCTIONEER  
CHAMPIONSHIP

75<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL

PITTSBURGH,  
PA

Conference & Show

JULY 23 - 27,  
2024

# Welcome to the 2024 INTERNATIONAL AUCTIONEER CHAMPIONSHIP

The International Auctioneer Championship (IAC), held annually by the National Auction Association, is the world's premier showcase of auction talent. IAC Champions are considered to be "the best of the best" within the auction industry. From livestock and auto auctioneers to real estate and benefit auctioneers, each auctioneer competes against fellow professionals to be crowned as the IAC Champion.

Each year, the winning male and female contestants receive a \$10,000 cash award, trophy and championship ring. They are judged by seven judges through interviews and the bid calling competition. The bid calling portion, in which each contestant sells two items on stage, is comprised of preliminary and final rounds.

IAC Champions go on to represent the NAA and the auction industry for the next year at state association meetings, in media interviews and elsewhere. This booklet lists the contestants in this year's event in the order they will compete.

Good luck to all of the 2024 IAC contestants!

## Contest Rules

Contestants must be 18 years of age or older, a current NAA member, be registered for Conference and pay applicable fees. There are seven judges. Points are awarded by categories in the bid-calling and interview segments.

The order in which contestants will compete in the preliminaries was determined by a drawing of names by NAA staff.

There are two divisions, men and women. Competitors for both divisions were combined into one drawing. Competing order was announced at the mandatory Contestant Roll Call and Orientation Meeting.

Each contestant sells two items consecutively. The scores from the preliminaries determine the finalists. The number of finalists for each division (men and women) is based on a sliding scale of total entries. Interviews are conducted for finalists only. Final scores are determined by combining the interview score (40% of total) and the bid-calling score (60% of total).

**Please note: This page contains a summary of rules for the contest. Full details are available online at [conferenceandshow.com](http://conferenceandshow.com).**

# Past Champions

- 1988 Paul C. Behr, CAI, BAS, Centennial, CO  
1989 Marvin E. Alexander, CAI, Martin, TN  
1990 Neal Davis, Beebe, AR  
1991 Spanky Assiter, CAI, AARE, Canyon, TX  
1992 Shane Ratliff, CAS, Crete, IL  
1993 Tracy D. Sullivan, Prague, OK  
1994 Marcy Goldring-Edenburn, Farmington, IL  
Greg M. Highsmith, Vinitia, OK  
1995 Shannon Mays, CAI, AARE, BAS,  
El Dorado Springs, MO  
Scott Steffes, CAI, CES, West Fargo, ND  
1996 Renee Jones, Chicago, IL  
Gregory Rice, Coshocton, OH  
1997 Andy Dunning, Plano, TX  
Lori Kiko, Canton, OH  
1998 Mike Jones, CAI, BAS, GPPA, Dallas, TX  
Pamela Rose, CAI, AARE, Maumee, OH  
1999 Cheri Boots-Sutton, Bowling Green, MO  
Wayne Wheat, Bryan, TX  
2000 Amy Assiter, CAI, Canyon, TX  
Michael Espe, Elburn, IL  
2001 Scott Musser, CAI, AMM, Pasco, WA  
JillMarie Wiles, CAI, BAS, Canby, OR  
2002 Jill Doherty, Bay Shore, NY  
Bill Sheridan, CAI, AARE, GPPA, Mason, MI  
2003 Kaija Kokesh, Palisade, MN  
Jeff Stokes, Edgewood, WA  
2004 Merv Hillpipe, Cedar Falls, IA  
Dawn Wilfong, Elkhart, IN  
2005 Cary Aasness, Dalton, MN  
Johnna Wells, Portland, OR  
2006 Barbara Bonnette, CAI, AARE, GPPA,  
Alexandria, LA  
John Nicholls, CAI, AARE, AMM,  
Fredericksburg, VA  
2007 Bryan Knox, CAI, GPPA, Huntsville, AL  
Denise Shearin, Brandywine, MD  
2008 C.D. "Butch" Booker, Colfax, WA  
Jodi L. Sweeney, Waukon, IA  
2009 Kevin Borger, Shawnee Mission, KS  
Terri Walker, CAI, BAS, CES, Memphis, TN  
2010 Eli Detweiler, Jr., CAI, Ruffin, NC  
Kristine Fladeboe-Duininck, BAS, Spicer, MN  
2011 Camille Booker, CAI, CES, Eltopia, WA  
Joseph Mast, CAI, Millersburg, OH  
2012 Justin Ochs, CAI, Hendersonville, TN  
Lynne Zink, CAI, BAS, CES, Joppa, MD  
2013 Megan Niedens, CAI, BAS, Wichita, KS  
Andy White, Ashland, OH  
2014 Wendy Lambert, BAS, Coppell, TX  
Jason Miller, CAI, Quaker City, OH  
2015 Peter Gehres, CAI, CAS, CES, Hilliard, OH  
Tammy Tisland, Hines, MN  
2016 Richard "TJ" Freije, CAI, Clayton, IN  
Beth Rose, CAI, AARE, AMM,  
Maumee, OH  
2017 Sara Rose Bytnar, CAI, AARE, AMM,  
Naples, FL  
Dustin B. Rogers, CAI, CAS, Mt. Airy, NC  
2018 Barrett Bray, CAI, AMM, BAS, Edmond, OK  
Emily Wears Kroul, CAI, ATS, BAS,  
Solon, IA  
2019 Morgan Hopson, CAI, Oklahoma City, OK  
Trey Morris, CAI, BAS, CAS, Murray, KY  
2021 Nick Bennett, CAI, AMM, BAS,  
Bozeman, MT  
Laura Mantle, CAI, CAS, Gahanna, OH  
2022 Chantel Kimball, CAI, Eltopia, WA  
Jerick Miller, Cambridge, OH  
2023 Halie Behr, BAS, Parker, CO  
Brian Damewood, Purcellville, VA

# Past Junior Champions

- 2007 Trev Moravec, David City, NE  
2008 Jacob Barth, Moses Lake, WA  
2009 Justin Schultis, Fairbury, NE  
2010 Nolan Bell, Gray, PA  
2011 Curtis Wetovick, Fullerton, NE  
2012 Julia Sparks, BAS, Canyon, TX  
2013 Halie Behr, BAS, Grimes, IA  
2014 Justin Croy, Culver, IN  
2015 Jeremy Garber, Lincoln, MO  
2016 Brooke Gillespie, Graceville, MN  
2017 Kendall Nisly, Kirksville, MO  
2018 Cotton Booker, Colfax, WA  
2019 Tyce Freije, Indianapolis, IN  
2021 Landen Morris, Roanoke Rapids, NC  
2022 Jesse Garber, Stewartsville, MO  
2023 Brandon Mendoza, Hennessey, OK

# Judges



**NICK BENNETT, CAI, AMM, BAS**  
Manhattan, MT

Nick Bennett is a first-generation auctioneer raised in Central Ohio and now makes his home in Manhattan, Montana. In 2012, Bennett attended auction school and now finds himself very fortunate to work full-time in the auction industry. As an auction company owner, contract auctioneer and auction school president, the auction business allows Bennett the opportunity to explore his passions for entrepreneurship, leadership and education.



**THERESA BLOCHER**  
Paris, OH

A full-time auctioneer and realtor with KIKO since 1988, Theresa Kiko-Blocher specializes in selling residential real estate, investment properties, and farms. Theresa is a third-generation member of the company. She has a bachelor's degree in Business from The Ohio State University and holds a broker's license. She served two terms on the Ohio Auctioneer Commission – serving as Chairwomen during her second term – which oversees requirements for courses of study in auctioneering. In 2024, Theresa was inducted into the Ohio Auctioneer's Association (OAA) prestigious Hall of Fame.



**SHANNON MAYS EASON, CAI, AARE, BAS**  
El Dorado Springs, MO

Shannon Mays Eason holds the title of 1995 International Auctioneer Champion – Women's Division. She is the owner, auctioneer, and broker of Shannon & Associates Real Estate and Auctions in El Dorado Springs, MO that has been in business over 35 years. Eason is a lifetime member of the National Auctioneer's Association, and a member of the Missouri Professional Auctioneer's Association, Missouri and National Association of Realtors, The Greater Springfield Board of Realtors, Kansas City Realtor Association and the Ozarks Board of Realtors. She is a licensed auctioneer and broker in several states.



**JUDD GRAFE**  
Stewartville, MN

Judd T. Grafe is the President and CEO of Grafe Auction Company, a trailblazer in the commercial and industrial equipment auction industry since 1959. Judd is one of a small handful of auctioneers licensed to conduct business in every state. Judd is the Vice-President of the National Auction Foundation, a past-president and Hall of Fame member of the Minnesota State Auctioneers Association. He is married to Deanne, the love of his life, and they have two wonderful children, Lexi and Isaiah. Judd's leadership continues to position Grafe Auction as a trusted partner and catalyst for business transformation and success.

# Judges



**BRANDON NEELY**  
Mount Jackson, VA

Brandon Neely was the 2015 World Livestock Auctioneer champion and the 2012 Greater Midwest Livestock Auctioneer Champion. Brandon has been a top finalist in the World Automobile Auctioneer Championship multiple times. He currently works 5 weekly car auctions a week and 3 livestock markets. He is happily married to his wife Jackie and has a 2 year old daughter Olivia, they reside in Mount Jackson, VA. They own and operate a beef cattle farm raising 300 head of cattle. He is a native of West Virginia, born and raised in Berkeley Springs. I am passionate about our industry and enjoy helping young talented auctioneers!



**CHARLOTTE PYLE, CAI, AARE**  
Shinnston, WV

Charlotte, along with her husband Joe own and operate Joe R. Pyle Complete Auction and Realty Co., in Shinnston, WV, conducting over 1,000 Real Estate and Personal Property auctions annually in West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Maryland, and Ohio. Charlotte served as President of the National Auto Auction Association in 2012. She has been the Chairman of the Independent Auction group for over 25 years, serving as the Executive Committee Secretary, holds Legislative and Membership Committees' seats, and is Secretary of the Southern Chapter.

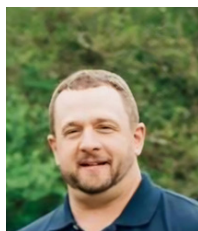


**EMILY WEARS-KROUL, CAI, ATS, BAS**  
Salmon, ID

Emily Kroul (Wears) is a second-generation auctioneer. She worked in the family auction business from an early age and attended WWCA at 17. Emily began competitive auctioneering soon after auction school and was fortunate to win three state championships: Iowa, Colorado and Wyoming. After 10 years of competing in the IAC, she won the women's division in 2018. Emily holds the CAI, ATS and BAS designations and continues to operate her own branch of the family business in Salmon, Idaho where she lives with her husband and two daughters.

NATIONAL AUCTION ASSOCIATION  
**Conference & Show**  
SCHAUMBURG, ILLINOIS JULY 15-19, 2025

# Contestants



## CONTESTANT 1

**JAMES MASON**  
Fillmore, NY

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2016, 2018

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, New York 2012, 2024

James graduated from Missouri Auction School. James has been the lead auctioneer at RG Mason auctions since 2002 plus lead auctioneer for several auction companies in multiple states. James lives in Fillmore, NY, with wife Crystal and 2 daughters Mila and Morgan. James enjoys and loves selling farm machinery and construction equipment to his wonderful customer base. James wishes good luck to all his fellow competitors.



## CONTESTANT 2

**VINCENT PIKE**  
Eastern Cape, South Africa

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** No

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, South African National 2024

Day to day Vincent works as a Livestock agent, selling and buying cattle and sheep. He attended the South African College of Auctioneering to further his passion. He always had big pleasure from using his voice for sports commentary and radio. Vincent started auctioneering in 2019, and has had opportunities to sell different breeds of livestock and everything from racing pigeons to farming equipment. He has been part of various charity events selling wines and antiques. Vincent has a passion for the auctioneering profession and would like to create an opportunity to further the development of his auction chant, and broaden opportunities in this professional career. The opportunity to go abroad and learn different styles and techniques will be a big addition to his arsenal. Having the necessary tools to do my job to the fullest.



## CONTESTANT 3

**DAVE YEARSLEY, BAS**  
Hurlock, MD

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 1998-2003

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Maryland

Dave is a first-generation auctioneer. He was always fascinated by the sound of the auctioneer which he began to imitate. He studied auctioneering under Wallace P Taylor Hurlock, MD. Also studied under Chuck Cumberland, Billy Long, Darrel Ball, Neil Davis, Bing Carter, at auction school. Dave has his own business DW Yearsley Custom Farming. This allows him to auctioneer when called upon. Dave competes to better himself as an auctioneer and help promote auction method of marketing.

# Contestants



## CONTESTANT 4

**WADE LEIST**  
Boyer City, MI

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2015, 2016, 2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Michigan 2015; Tennessee 2022

Wade is a second generation auctioneer from Northern Michigan who has competed in numerous contests. He has two state championships under his belt as well as been named International Livestock Auctioneer Champion, Greater Midwest Livestock Auctioneer Champion and multiple time Top Ten Finalist in the World Livestock Auctioneer Championship. In 2023 he was an IAC Finalist. Wade specializes in livestock auctions and charity auctions traveling the United States and Canada for both. Wade enjoys working for ranchers and farmers just as much as worthy nonprofits. In his spare time he and his family enjoy camping and tending to their horses.



## CONTESTANT 5

**LOREN BEACHY, CAI**  
Middlebury, IN

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** No

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Indiana 2023

Loren became an auctioneer at eighteen in 2005, after finishing his studies at Repperts School of Auctioneering. He is the president of Bright Star Auctions, a company that he serves with gratitude and responsibility. Loren also has the CAI designation, which he obtained in 2022. Loren was honored with the Rose award at the conclusion of CAI. He is a member of the Indiana Auctioneers Association, as well as serving on its board of directors. Loren is always eager to learn more and to help his profession grow. He read books on different subjects, such as history, theology, and business. He loves hot peppers and strong coffee. Loren is a husband and father, who lives in Middlebury, IN with his wife Regina and their two daughters and one son.



## CONTESTANT 6

**DEAN GUNTER, BAS, CAS**  
Colorado Springs, CO

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2018-2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Colorado 2018

Dean Gunter is a Marine Corps Veteran, first serving as a Marine Corps Drill Instructor. Dean graduated from the World Wide College of Auctioneering in September 2010 and went on to win the Rookie Bid Calling Contest for auctioneering at the annual Colorado Auctioneers Association competition in 2011. He serves on the board of Directors for the Colorado Independent Auto Dealers Association and Charity Fund. Dean currently owns Mile High Car Company Colorado Springs, CO. Dean is very passionate about auctioneering and loves using this passion as a tool to serve those who have sacrificed so much for our communities and our country.

# Contestants



## CONTESTANT 7

**JOSH PHELPS**  
Oklahoma City, OK

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2022-2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Oklahoma 2022; Kansas 2022; Nebraska 2023

Dr. Josh Phelps is an award-winning competitive and contract auctioneer based in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. He is the founder and Principal Auctioneer of K-A Auctioneers LLC and Phelps Fundraising Auctions LLC, as well as the Principal Auctioneer for KirkAngel Inc, where he is a licensed Real Estate Broker. Josh is a Graduate of the Mendenhall School of Auctioneering and a founding faculty instructor at the Oklahoma Auction School. Josh is married to internationally-celebrated trumpeter, Dr. Lacey Phelps.



## CONTESTANT 8

**EVAN GALLO**  
Canfield, OH

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** No

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** No

Evan Gallo is a first-generation auctioneer from Canfield, Ohio. Evan grew up just two houses down from his local weekly live auction, where he worked his first job at 12 years old as a runner. It was there that he discovered his passion for live auctions. After graduating from high school, he attended the University of Mount Union for two years. When COVID-19 shut down in-person classes, Evan seized the opportunity to attend the Reppert School of Auctioneering and earned his Ohio Apprentice Auctioneer License. Armed with new expertise and eager to capitalize on it, he decided to build his own company. He founded Evan Gallo Auctioneers LLC, a company specializing in the sale of investment-grade antiques and collectibles. This leap of faith has proven to be a rewarding venture and a valuable learning experience in entrepreneurship and innovative auctioneering.



## CONTESTANT 9

**MATTHEW HOSTETTER, CAI, CAS, CES**  
Beaver Falls, PA

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2010-2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Western Canada 2013; Pennsylvania 2013; Western Virginia 2016

Matt, a third-generation auctioneer, resides in the charming city of Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania, with his wife, Cassandra, and their four children: Ellie, Abram, Levi, and Eden. As a dedicated professional, Matt has made significant contributions to his family's long-standing auction business located in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.



# Contestants



## CONTESTANT 10

**CODY DAWSON, BAS**  
Templeton, CA

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2022-2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** No

World Champion College of Auctioneering in Bakersfield, California was where Cody's education began. Since course completion he has enjoyed selling at various auctions as a contract auctioneer. Selling antiques, business liquidations, estate sales, automobiles, and many more has been his background. Over twelve years ago, Cody obtained the Benefit Auctioneer Specialist designation. Specializing in benefit auctions has become his main focus. Having Conference & Show in my home state was a major sign. Cody looks forward to continuing education and promoting this industry and the National Auction Association. True price discovery and the best example of free market transactions. Auctions work!



## CONTESTANT 11

**WENDY GRIMM, AMM, BAS**  
Gasburg, VA

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2022-2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** No

Wendy Grimm is a second generation auctioneer from a family that has been in the industry over fifty years. She is currently principal auctioneer and marketing director at Daniel Auction Service and specializes in trucking salvage, personal property, and benefit auctions. Wendy competed in the International Auctioneer Championship for the first time in San Diego in 2022 and was honored as the Bob Steffes Rising Star Award recipient. Wendy served as a Director for the Virginia Auctioneers Association from 2019-2023, and in 2024, Wendy made history by being installed as the first female President of the association.



## CONTESTANT 12

**REED TOBOL**  
Ronan, MT

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2016-2019, 2021-2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Montana 2018

Born & raised in Northwest Montana, Reed currently resides on the family farm west of Ronan with his wife and three children, where he and his brother farm seed potatoes and grain of nearly 1,000 acres. He is a partner in Rivers West Auction, a diverse auction company that sells assets from fishing poles to real estate and tractors to collectables. Reed and his team offer live/ simulcast auctions as well as online only auctions. They pride themselves in the ability to market, sell and shipping to bidders all over the world. He is privileged with multiple opportunities throughout the year to work as a contract bid caller at a wide variety of banquets and special events raising money for deserving causes.

# Contestants



## CONTESTANT 13

**JOSEPH DIEHL**  
Seattle, WA

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2018, 2020, 2022

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** No

Joseph always had a passion for auctions. As a teenager, his father was in the business of renting “public address” or PA systems to local businessmen. One of these businesses conducted auctions. So Joseph and his family would set up the equipment and then observe (and sometimes participate) in the event. Fast forward to 50 years later: after retiring from a long career as a dual professional - CPA and lawyer, Joseph decided to live his passion. He enrolled and graduated from a national auction school at age 67! He has gravitated to charity and nonprofit auctions - in order to “give back” in his golden years. Joseph is 75 years old and still going strong!



## CONTESTANT 14

**LAKE BOEHM**  
Cambridge, MN

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Wisconsin 2023

Lake Boehm is the Location Manager and Sales Manager at Hansen Auction Group's heavy equipment yard in Princeton, Minnesota. This location specializes in liquidating heavy equipment and other large assets at auction. Lake is also a contract auctioneer with a focus on benefit auctioneering. He has a passion for raising money for great causes and truly enjoys his work. Lake graduated from the Reppert School of Auctioneering in 2019 and is currently entering his third year of the CAI program in Bloomington, Indiana. He holds auctioneering licenses in Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Indiana. Lake currently resides in Cambridge, Minnesota, with his wife Emilie.



## CONTESTANT 15

**TANNER ROBERTS**  
Hickory, KY

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2019, 2021-2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Kentucky 2019

Tanner makes his home in Mayfield, Kentucky with his wife Kaydi and two children, Rowan and Ramsey, where they enjoy spending time on their family farm raising livestock. He is a first generation auctioneer who is blessed to be chasing his childhood dream each week of traveling across the country selling various assets. Often times you could find him after school looking through local newspapers on a weekly basis searching for the next opportunity to spend his Saturday morning sitting under some of the local auctioneers in his area. He hopes to one day be that local auctioneer for another young aspiring child like himself, and help them turn their passion into a profession like he is doing today.

# Contestants



## CONTESTANT 16

**ADAM MARSHALL**  
Kearney, NE

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2017-2018, 2021-2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Nebraska 2016; Iowa 2016

Adam is a 3rd generation auctioneer with 13 years experience. He operates an auction company in central Nebraska selling land, farm & heavy equipment, firearms and specialty auctions. He conducts both live and timed online auctions throughout Nebraska. In his free time he spends time with his wife Jennifer & three sons going on trips and golfing.



## CONTESTANT 17

**JORDAN MIEDEMA, CAI**  
Byron Center, MI

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2022-2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Michigan 2022  
Jordan Miedema is a graduate from Reppert Auction School and has a

Bachelors Degree in Business administration from Davenport University. Jordan has worked in various positions within the family business from a young age. Jordan is currently President of LASTBIDrealestate.com. Jordan is a licensed real estate broker in Michigan and enjoys helping clients sell their properties. Jordan served on the Michigan Auctioneers association board of directors and is a past president. Jordan has a passion for the auction industry and is continuously seeking opportunities to learn and grow. Jordan enjoys attending conference and show, and enjoys networking with old and new friends and participating in competitions. Jordan enjoys being outdoors, hiking with his wife Casey and daughter Decklyn, playing different sports, and hunting for deer and elk. He also enjoys working around the family farm with his dad and brother.



## CONTESTANT 18

**CHANDLER FLOYD**  
Canal Winchester, OH

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** No

Chandler is a first-generation auctioneer from Columbus, Ohio. Being a proud graduate of The Ohio Auction School class of 2021. His primary focus is contract auctioneering and benefit auctions. He is very well versed in all different types of asset classes. Chandler has been very fortunate to gain knowledge and expertise from great mentors along the way and will forever be grateful for their willingness to help and share their information. Chandler is currently working on his AMM and CAI designation along with BAS in December. When Chandler is not working he enjoys camping, traveling and spending time with friends and family.

# Contestants



## CONTESTANT 19

**BILLY PEYTON**  
Middletown, OH

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2016-2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Michigan 2019; Ohio 2020

Billy Peyton is a full time Auctioneer from Preble County Ohio. Billy sells 3 auto auctions weekly. He's a proud member of the NAA, OAA, MAA. He is the current Ohio Auctioneers Association President. Billy and his wife Katie have one daughter, Reagan. In his spare time he and his wife farm and raise/feed cattle.



## CONTESTANT 20

**INDIA MCGOVERN**  
Elida, OH

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** No

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** No

India McGovern is a second-generation auctioneer and began her professional journey by attending The Ohio Auction School in 2016. She obtained her auction license in 2017 after a year of apprenticing. Based in Lima, Ohio, she plays an integral role in a busy auction house with seven auctioneers. Beyond her primary responsibilities, India enjoys contract work for other companies, which allows her to travel and meet new people. India is dedicated to filling gaps and helping others achieve their goals, and she actively competes in industry events to connect with and learn from fellow auction professionals. She actually met her husband at the Ohio Auctioneer Association Conference & Show, and the two work together regularly. India competes to better know her fellow auction professionals.



## CONTESTANT 21

**GRACEE POORMAN**  
Somerset, OH

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** No

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** No

Gracee is a first-generation auctioneer, and she embarked on her journey into the auction profession by attending the Ohio Auction School in August 2022. With dedication and passion, she acquired her license for the state of Ohio in October 2022, marking the beginning of her exciting career in the industry. From contract and independent auctioneering to organizing benefit auctions and participating in online auctions, she has immersed herself in various aspects of the field. As a first-generation auctioneer, Gracee has encountered the evolving landscape of the industry, with many auctions transitioning to online platforms. While this shift has limited opportunities for extensive live calling practice in her area, she has embraced the challenge by participating in competitions.

# Contestants



## CONTESTANT 22

**MARCELA DAVILA DIEZ GUTIERREZ**

Mayhill, NM

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2019, 2021-2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** No

Marcela Davila Diez-Gutierrez is a first-generation, bilingual contracted auctioneer born and raised in Mexico City with current residency in New Mexico. She is the first certified female auctioneer in the country of Mexico and graduated from World Wide College of Auctioneering in 2017, Professional Ringman Institute in 2021 and has been a part of the auction industry for 11 years. Marcela is extremely passionate about the auction business, and her expertise in multiple fields of the industry have led her to not only be able to call bids, but also understand the auction world being able to do consulting, ringing, clerking, cataloguing, photographing, packing, shipping, running software, selling bilingually and planning and executing an auction from beginning to end on a regular basis.



## CONTESTANT 23

**LEE DERRYBERRY**

Decaturville, TN

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** No

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** No

Lee, a first-generation auctioneer from Decaturville, Tennessee, says meeting countless members of the NAA has been a blessing, with many playing significant roles in shaping a successful career. Graduating from Nashville Auction School in January 2023, followed by the University of Tennessee at Martin in the fall of 2023, provided a solid foundation for a future in the auction business. Lee feels like the auction industry found him rather than the other way around. Bid calling stands out as one of the most enjoyable aspects of being an auctioneer, and having a platform to showcase unique chants is something to be thankful for. Competitive auctioneering also creates a way for spectators to learn more about this industry as a whole.



## CONTESTANT 24

**DAN "BLACK ICE" NEWMAN, AMM, BAS**

Anchorage, AK

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2021-2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** No

Dan "Black Ice" Newman is a professional certified auctioneer and founder of Alaska Premier Auctions and Appraisals, having graduated from the Missouri Auction School in 2018. His full-service auction house business is now in its sixth year of operation and proudly employs 45 team members, working out of their new property in the heart of Anchorage, Alaska. He is the proud father of two amazing boys and a spectacular little girl, and a very lucky husband to his incredible wife, with whom he'll be celebrating 8 years of marriage on 7/30.

# Contestants



## CONTESTANT 25

**WILLY SAWATZKY**  
Namiquipa, Chihuahua Mexico

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** No

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** No

Willy makes his home in Chihuahua, Mexico. He is a dual citizen of Canada and Mexico, and does his auctions usually in German and Spanish for my general audience. Willy went to Worldwide College of Auctioneering school in February of 2017. He was introduced to the auction world when he was driving a truck for his father-in-law and loading all kinds of different farm equipment. That's when Willy was amazed with how fast the auctioneer would be selling the different lots. His favorite thing to do is to spend quality time with his lovely wife and their 5 year old daughter, who is so smart already for her age. He tries to teach her to be an auctioneer and she knows her numbers to 100 already. Now Willy just needs to teach her the filler words so she can have a good chant.



## CONTESTANT 26

**TYCE FRELJE**  
Clayton, IN

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Indiana 2021

Tyce is a 4th generation auctioneer and has been coming to IAC for many years. Tyce won the IJAC in 2019. His family business sells real estate, construction, agricultural, and transportation equipment. As well as a real estate brokerage and full service appraisal side of the company. Tyce works as a contract auctioneer all across the country.



## CONTESTANT 27

**BRONSON GANGWER**  
Elkhart, IN

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** No

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Indiana Junior 2020

Bronson Gangwer, hails from Goshen, Indiana. As a kid admittedly, he was constantly in trouble for talking in school and entertaining the class. Today, he is thankful to say he is a father of two and now gets paid to talk and entertain people. Following high school, he dove into all things motor-driven and adrenaline-based. Bronson raced dirt bikes and motorcycles all over the Midwest; performing stunts in Arizona and later taking up sky-diving. In 2018, he graduated from Reppert School of Auctioneering. For the past 5 years, he has worked for Bright Star Auctions as an Equipment Specialist and Auctioneer. An auctioneer for community charity events and he still enjoys the thrill of racing and marveling at the earth from 10,000 feet while waiting for the chute to open; Sundays after church, it's prime family time and weather permitting, a long, leisurely motorcycle ride.

# Contestants



## CONTESTANT 28

**CARRIE HESSNEY-DORAN, CAI, AMM, CES**  
Geneva, NY

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2016, 2018, 2022-2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, New York 2016

Carrie is a 2nd generation auctioneer in Geneva, the Heart of the Finger Lakes region, New York. She works alongside her Dad, Joe at Hessney Auction Company where they specialize in Firearms, Coins and Jewelry. Carrie is a graduate of the Missouri Auction school. Carrie's passion for fundraising auctions has really grown, working for non-profits has become a significant part of her business over the past few years. Carrie is a past board member for the New York State Auctioneers Association serving in many positions. In 2023, she was awarded the NYS Auctioneer of the Year award. She and her husband Tim have a son Skye, and two girls, Lucy and Evelyn who all take their part working for the business.



## CONTESTANT 29

**J. MERYL STOLTZFUS**  
Newport, PA

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2016-2018, 2021-2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Pennsylvania 2016, 2023

A seasoned Realtor and Auctioneer with over 15 years of experience, specializing in farm and land real estate in Pennsylvania and Maryland. At Beiler-Campbell Realtors & Auctioneers, J. Meryl focuses on delivering high-quality marketing and transaction solutions for his clients. His expertise extends to handling all types of real estate transactions, as well as auctions for heavy equipment and horses. In his opinion the National Auction Association has done an excellent job with the IAC to create a platform to not only showcase skills but to also learn and mingle with some of the best in the industry. J. Meryl is blessed to be PA Auctioneers Champion as well as a PA Champion of Champions winner. Living with his wife Katie and their five children (3 girls and 2 boys) on their 114-acre farm, he is deeply integrated into the agricultural and equestrian communities.



## CONTESTANT 30

**TREVOR HOOLEY**  
Pelham, GA

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** No

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** No

A first generation auctioneer, Trevor recently graduated from Nashville Auction School. He loves meeting people both at auction conventions and at auctions. He also enjoys the sense of family that is obvious among auction professionals. He looks forward to meeting as many people as possible in the future and is also very much looking forward to meeting the people that he has watched compete over the years.

# Contestants



## CONTESTANT 31

**TASABAH MALONE, CAI**  
Paragould, AR

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 1998-2012

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** No

Tasabah Malone, which, perhaps quite fittingly or amusingly, means War Woman. Her journey over the last 25+ years in the auction industry has been shaped by resilience, passion, and a calling to help others. What she loves most about auctions is the service it provides to others. As an auctioneer, your client often reaches out to you during one of their most challenging moments. Participating in the IAC contest after not doing so in over a decade is about being a role model for the next generation of auctioneers, such as her son, and showing them that perseverance, kindness, and hard work pay off. And showing them that whether you get first place or last, the journey impacts you the most.



## CONTESTANT 32

**WAYNE YODER, CAI**  
Bridgeport, WV

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2014-2017, 2022-2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Ohio 2019; West Virginia 2022

Wayne is a partner with Kaufman Realty and Auctions at their office in Bridgeport, West Virginia where they employ auctioneers, realtors and a full-time online-only personal property crew. He specializes in commercial and residential real estate and especially loves selling land and farms while taking personal pride in getting the best satisfaction for his clients. Since growing up in a community where auctions are a way of life, he is passionate about keeping the tradition alive, especially in the youth of our generation. He is grateful to serve on the DECA Task Force for the NAA, which gives him the opportunity to do that. Wayne lives in Bridgeport, WV with wife, Shyla and their son, Alexander.



## CONTESTANT 33

**JOHN BEECHY, CAI, CAS**  
Goshen, IN

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2012-2018; 2021-2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Indiana 2013; Michigan 2016; Midwest 2023

John Beechy is a seasoned contract auctioneer renowned for his expertise in selling a diverse range of assets, including automobiles, livestock, real estate, and equipment. With over 14 years of experience in the auction industry, John has developed a reputation for his dynamic auctioneering style and his ability to achieve top dollar for his clients.



# Contestants



## CONTESTANT 34

### KYLEE HOSTETTER

Beaver Falls, PA

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2008, 2014, 2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Pennsylvania 2007

Kylee is a third-generation auctioneer in a family business that was founded by her beloved grandparents back in 1955. Auctioneering and this business are in her blood - she grew up watching her grandparents and parents run auctions, learning the trade from a young age. Now, she is proud to carry on that tradition and bring her family's auction services to a new generation. When she is not working, her top priority is her family. A proud mom to six fantastic kids who keep her busy! They are Kylee's pride and joy in life. She strives to strike a healthy balance between her auction work and being present for all the important moments with her wonderful children as they grow up. Both family and the auction world are tremendously important to Kylee.



## CONTESTANT 35

### COTTON BOOKER

Colfax, WA

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2022-2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Northwest 2021; Oklahoma 2023

Cotton grew up in and around the auction industry and is proud to be a third-generation auctioneer. He attended World Wide College of Auctioneering in 2016 and has been fortunate enough to assist his family from an early age in a wide variety of assets that have consisted of agricultural, commercial, and industrial equipment, as well as fundraisers, real estate, and purebred livestock auctions. His passion for bid calling came at a young age watching his father, cousins and numerous other talented auctioneers compete in the IAC. In 2018, Cotton won the IJAC and had the honor to serve as a youth ambassador for the NAA.



## CONTESTANT 36

### MARTY GRIEPENTROG

Portage, WI

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** No

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Wisconsin 2024

Marty has spent his entire life in South-Central Wisconsin, growing up on his family farm in rural Marquette County. Marty has also been involved in the auction business for more than 13 years with Hamele Auction Service. Marty's expertise includes selling various properties such as land, country homes, hunting land, farms, and managing estate and business liquidations.

# Contestants



## CONTESTANT 37

### JEREMY MILLER

Fairland, OK

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2012, 2015, 2019, 2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Oklahoma 2012

Jeremy is a third generation auctioneer who lives in Fairland, Oklahoma with his wife Susan and their four wonderful children. He works as a contract auctioneer selling livestock, agricultural and construction equipment along with being a licensed Realtor. He has made many lifelong friends while competing in the IAC and the World Livestock Auctioneer Championship. The camaraderie with the other contestants as well as the opportunity to better your own skills as an auctioneer make the journey to become a world champion a worthwhile endeavor.



## CONTESTANT 38

### CODY AASNESS

Fergus Falls, MN

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2015-2016, 2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, North Dakota 2015; Minnesota 2023

Cody is a second-generation auctioneer with over a decade of experience at United Country Aasness Auctioneers, a family-owned business he's been involved with his entire life. He specializes in real estate, equipment, and specialty auctions, as well as conducting benefit auctions in his community. Cody lives in Fergus Falls with his wife, Morgan, and their two sons, Brixton and Maddox. His family-oriented values and deep roots in the community are reflected in his professional approach, focusing on integrity and dedication in every auction he conducts. Cody believes in giving back to his community and frequently volunteers his time and expertise for local events and causes.



## CONTESTANT 39

### BRAD MCGOVERN

Elida, OH

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2022

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Ohio Junior 2020; Michigan 2024

Brad McGovern is a seasoned professional in the auctioneering and real estate industries, driven by a passion for excellence and a commitment to community service. In 2016, Brad attended Reppert School of Auctioneering in Indianapolis, Indiana, laying the foundation for his successful career. He further honed his skills at Hondros College of Business, obtaining licenses as an Ohio auctioneer and real estate salesperson. Brad is the proud owner and operator of McGovern Auctioneers, LLC. Additionally, he serves as a dedicated auctioneer at Auctions On 309 in Lima, Ohio, and as a Realtor with CCR Realty. His hands-on approach and expertise in commercial and residential real estate, firearms, commercial liquidations, and benefit auctions set him apart in the industry.

# Contestants



## CONTESTANT 40

**BEN ROES**  
Jarrettsville, MD

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** No

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Maryland 2024

Ben Roes is a professional and fundraising auctioneer with over 20 years of experience. His auctioneering career began several years ago, when he continually received feedback after his first auction as a young adult about his natural generosity, outgoing nature, and excellent public speaking abilities. It was at that sale that he got the inspiration to do something with his life to help others and began his journey forward into the auction business. Ben is married to Dorothy and together they have one son. He loves going on vacations with his family, camping, going to the beach, and to sprint car races.



## CONTESTANT 41

**SCOTT KUNTZ, CAI**  
Macon, MO

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** No

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Missouri 2024

Scott wanted to be an Auctioneer since he was 9 years old. The year 2000 he was 18 years old and went to the World Wide College of Auctioneering in Mason City, Iowa. After becoming a graduate of World Wide he started Scotty's Auction Service. Scott gives thanks to God, his amazing team.



## CONTESTANT 42

**JOFF VAN REENAN, CAI, AARE**  
Johannesburg, South Africa

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2006

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** No

Joff van Reenan is Founder and CEO of The Chant Laboratory, a Founding Partner, Lead Auctioneer, and Former Director of The High Street Auction Company, is a distinguished figure in the auctioneering world, renowned for his expertise, innovation, and unparalleled record-breaking achievements. With over three decades of experience, Joff has established himself as one of South Africa's foremost auctioneers, holding an impressive array of national records across various auction categories. His remarkable accomplishments include orchestrating the largest-ever single multi-property auction, commanding a staggering 1.2 billion valuation in a single day. Notably, Joff secured dual records with the swift sale of the iconic Kyalami F1 GP racetrack at 205 million, achieving the highest-ever commercial property auction sale price and South Africa's highest real estate auction price.

# Contestants



## CONTESTANT 43

### GORDON AMSTUTZ

Bamberg, SC

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** No

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, South Carolina 2024

Gordon grew up in rural Pennsylvania and his auction experiences involved attending livestock and firearms sales with his family. In 1995, he relocated to South Carolina and made his living as a dairy and beef farmer. While still farming, Gordon entered the auction industry in 2016. He worked first as a clerk and ringman before attending World Wide College of Auctioneering in 2019 and getting his South Carolina auctioneers license. In 2020, Gordon and his family made the decision to sell the farm and he is now employed as a contract auctioneer and sales representative for Innovative Poultry Products, LLC. Gordon and his wife, Gwendolyn are the proud parents of Lane, Avery, Shea, and Gabrielle and are excited about welcoming their first grandchild in December 2024.



## CONTESTANT 44

### SUZANNAH UNDERWOOD, BAS

Ventura, CA

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** No

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** No

Suzannah is a fifth generation California native from a farming family and a first-generation professional auctioneer. She combined her passion for serving charitable causes and desire to support the agriculture community by graduating from the Western College of Auctioneering to become a benefit auctioneer. Now the co-chair of her local Ventura County Junior Livestock auction, Suzannah is committed to helping 4H, FFA, and Grange members raise funds for their future. She works with non-profit organizations throughout the year as a benefit auctioneer and is also a professional voice-over artist. Suzannah resides with her husband and two sons in Southern California, where they spend time at the beach and out on the farm and ranch with their dogs, horses and cattle.



## CONTESTANT 45

### DAVID WHITAKER

Ames, IA

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2012-2019, 2021-2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Iowa 2011; Missouri 2012; Nebraska 2014; Minnesota 2018

David Whitaker is an experienced auctioneer with a genuine passion for the art of selling. With over a decade of experience, David has continually worked to improve his skills, striving to engage audiences with his stage presence and ability to achieve the best outcomes for every item. He is known for his professionalism and dedication to his work.

# Contestants



## CONTESTANT 46

**ANDREW YODER JR., CAI**  
Jane Lew, WV

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2013-2016, 2018, 2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, West Virginia 2015; Ohio 2016

Andrew grew up in central Ohio on a 120-acre dairy farm attending the local livestock and farm Auctions with his dad or Grandpa. Andrew is a first-generation Auctioneer. Yet he feels like he has been in and around auctions for as long as he can remember. In 2005, he graduated from the Walton School of Auctioneering. As an accomplished Licensed Auctioneer and Realtor, he operates across the states of West Virginia, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. Outside of work, he resides in Jane Lew, WV, with his beloved wife, Mary, and their children: Olivia, Jocelyn, and Donovan. They cherish spending quality time together, playing golf and embracing the great outdoors.



## CONTESTANT 47

**DANA BALSAMO**  
Princeton, NJ

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** No

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** No

Dana Balsamo is originally from Brooklyn, NY, and now resides in Princeton, NJ. She became an auctioneer as a change of life career after both her daughters went to college. She became a PA Licensed Auctioneer in 2019, KY Licensed in 2022, and started Dana Auctions LLC in Princeton, NJ in May 2020. She was previously an antiques dealer specializing in textiles, with Quilts being her special interest for 25 years. Dana is a Certified AQS Quilt Appraiser and Quilt Historian. Her auction business was featured in the January 2024 edition of QuiltFolk Magazine. And she was also invited to participate as an Antiques Roadshow Appraiser for Textiles in Urbandale, IA in June. Dana won 1st Place in the Great Allentown Fair Bid Calling Competition in 2022, and Top Female Competitor in the PA State Bid Calling Competition in 2023.



## CONTESTANT 48

**FRANCES FRIPP, BAS**  
Halton Hills, Canada

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2017-2019, 2022-2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Ontario 2020

Frances went to the Canadian Auction College in 2008 and has worked within many of the industries of the Auction world. She is an automotive auctioneer and Benefit Auctioneer Specialist. Frances is an Ontario Provincial Grand Champion Auctioneer and Ontario Auctioneer's Association Past President and Board Member. She is the National Auction Association's Ambassador for Canada and one of the only Benefit Auctioneer Specialists in the country. Frances has worked with foundations across Canada raising millions of dollars in funds.

# Contestants



## CONTESTANT 49

**KERVIN YODER, CAI**  
Stuarts Draft, VA

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** No

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Virginia 2024

Kervin Yoder, his wife Karla, along with 3 mischievous boys, are the owners of Enlisted Auctions. His distinctive touch with our customers and clients helps provide that personal connection that makes Enlisted Auctions a success.



## CONTESTANT 50

**EDWARD KNIGHT, CAI**  
Walland, TN

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2012, 2014, 2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Tennessee 2012

President of EK Auctioneers founded in 2003 in East TN. Edward has sold in USA, Ireland, England, Spain, Netherlands, Germany, Japan, Hong Kong, Philippines, Dubai, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and Mexico. He attended MO Auction School in 1996. In his spare time he likes to spend with his wife Sarah and 4 kids at sporting events and on their small cattle farm.



## CONTESTANT 51

**JESSE GARBER**  
Stewartsville, MO

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** No

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Ohio 2024

Jesse's passion for auctioneering ignited at a young age; from the age of 2, he found himself immersed in the electrifying atmosphere of auctions. Jesse's deep-seated love for the industry is evident in his every word, earning him the prestigious awards of 2022 International Junior Auctioneer Champion as well as the 2024 Ohio Auctioneer Champion.



## CONTESTANT 52

**SCOTT MIHALIC, CAI**  
Chardon, OH

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2011-2019, 2021-2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Minnesota 2019

A first-generation auctioneer and graduate of Reppert's School of Auctioneering, Scott has been an auctioneer for 29 years, calling bids throughout the United States. Scott has a daughter, Gabby and a son, Griffin.

# Contestants



## CONTESTANT 53

**JAKE YODER**  
Port Royal, PA

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2016-2018, 2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Pennsylvania 2018

Jake Yoder sells real estate & on site equipment auctions in Pennsylvania & has also assisted with transactions & auctions in New York, Florida, West Virginia, & Kentucky. He is a proud father of 3 energetic children, and is married to the love of his life. Favorite hobbies include, spending time with family, attempting to become a grill expert, watching basketball, & always looking to learn more about the auction industry from other auctioneers! For Jake one of the most satisfying parts of the auction business is to help buyers and sellers get the results they need and want for their families. Jake attended Worldwide College Of auctioneering, and Ohio advanced bid calling school. He is the 2018 Pennsylvania State Champion Auctioneer and has received the Bob Steffes Rising Star award in the International Auctioneer Championship.



## CONTESTANT 54

**MARY HARTLEY**  
Ashland, OH

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** No

Growing up on the family farm in Ashland County, Ohio, showing fair animals, Mary is no stranger to the auction industry. She went to Hondros Real Estate School and became an auctioneer after attending Reppert Auction School. She has been in the auction industry for over 15 years. Mary enjoys getting to auction, be a ring person, and clerk when needed. She believes it is a lot of fun to work in such a high energy atmosphere while helping sellers and buyers representing such a wonderful industry. She feels very fortunate to get to work car auctions every week, horse auctions, benefit auctions and everything in between! Her family still resides in Ashland County, and she enjoys spending time with her husband Andy and their 4 kids.



## CONTESTANT 55

**JAMES YODER, CAI**  
Lost Creek, WV

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** No

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, West Virginia, 2020

James Yoder, CAI, is a professional in auctions and traditional real estate. He lives in Harrison County with his wife Sharon and their two daughters, Eliyanah and Caroline. James focuses on helping people and companies who are facing transitions in life, offering a full range of services for selling properties and personal items.

# Contestants



## CONTESTANT 56

**DYLAN KALLEMEYN**

St. James, MN

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** No

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Minnesota 2024

Dylan grew up in an auction family. A fourth-generation auctioneer, he attended the World Wide College of Auctioneering in Mason City, Iowa. Many of the opportunities he has had to sell for different auctioneers have come through the friendships he has made being a member of state auctioneer associations close to home. Being a member of his state associations has also helped him form some lifelong friendships. Outside of the auction industry he works for a farm with a family friend outside of Truman, MN.



## CONTESTANT 57

**JOE BODNAR**

New Brunswick, NJ

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2017

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, New Jersey, 1999, 2009, 2012

At age 17, Joe Bodnar worked at a local auction carrying furniture on and off a truck. 30 years later he runs one of Central New Jersey's largest auction firms! Selling Antiques, Collectibles, Historical Items, Toys, New Action figures, Video Games, Trains, modern collectibles, and art he specializes in bringing an estate collection to market. Now with this post-covid era, Joe has pivoted to online-only auctions with a podcast style live broadcast for every sale. He uses podcast technology so you feel as if you are in the auction room anywhere in the world. This format has proven to work bringing the online to a new exciting era. Just this past September he broadcasted live with Kevin Smith selling his personal comic book art collection streaming over multiple platforms and racking up hundreds of thousands of views all over the world!



## CONTESTANT 58

**JONATHAN NOEL, CAI**

Nicholasville, KY

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2015-2016, 2022-2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Kentucky 2015

Jonathan Noel, Owner and Auctioneer of Noel Auctioneers & Real Estate Advisors, was born and raised in Harrodsburg, Kentucky. Noel, a first-generation auctioneer, has been going to auctions since he can remember and was always intrigued by the sound of the auctioneer. Noel has always strived to be on the cutting edge with education in the auction and real-estate business. He attends monthly educational seminars to stay up to date on the ever-changing business of real estate auctions. Noel conducts auctions across the country and treats every client with the respect and dignity he shows his own friends and family.



# Contestants



## CONTESTANT 59

**MATTHEW SANDMANN, CES**

Atoka, OK

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2022-2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Arkansas 2021, Oklahoma 2024

Matthew Sandmann is a first-generation auctioneer and the driving force behind Sandmann Auction Group LLC, a full-service auction company specializing in estate, liquidation, and fundraising auctions in Southeastern Oklahoma and North Texas. With a focus on providing professional, comprehensive auction services that maximize value for clients and support the communities they serve, Matthew has built Sandmann Auction Group into one of the most sought-after fundraising auction companies in Southern Oklahoma. Matthew resides with his wife, Dawna, and their three daughters, Abby, Cate, and Beth. Together, they embody the spirit of a first-generation auction family, raising cattle and actively participating in every auction. The Sandmann family takes pride in providing the same level of care and dedication when managing auctions on behalf of their sellers as they do in their personal lives.



## CONTESTANT 60

**KARA BELCHER-MILLER**

Ullin, IL

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** No

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** No

Kara enrolled in the World Wide College of Auctioneering in 2000. Kara's hard work and dedication paid off in 2012 when she was crowned the Illinois State Ringman Champion, a testament to her ability to engage and inspire bidders. Today, Kara specializes in conducting online-only auctions in Southern Illinois. As she continues to build her reputation in the auction industry, Kara remains committed to delivering exceptional results for her clients while quietly pursuing her own goals and aspirations.



## CONTESTANT 61

**MICHAEL ADCOCK**

Lancaster, PA

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** No

Michael Adcock has come up with a family of auctioneers. His father was the 1991 World Automobile Auctioneer Champion. Michael followed in the family legacy by becoming the youngest to ever win the same title in 2009 at the age of 22. His brother, Charles Adcock, won the championship the very next year. With family all over the United States, the Adcock family has become synonymous with the automotive auction industry. This, along with the lifelong friendships that are gained at each of these events is something that Michael holds close.

# Contestants



## CONTESTANT 62

### SPENSER KARNS

Portage, PA

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** No

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** No

Spenser is a first-generation auctioneer from Bedford County, Pennsylvania.

After graduating from auction school in 2021 as a “long-time bidder, first-time caller,” he immediately immersed himself in the auction industry. In 2023, Spenser was honored to win the Pennsylvania Bid Calling Rookie Championship and followed this achievement by winning the West Virginia Auctioneers Association Rookie Grand Championship in March 2023. He competes not only for himself, but his family back at home and those who are not able to see how far he has come in the last three years. “I lost my grandfather in October of 2020 right after I enrolled in auction school, when I told him I wanted to be an Auctioneer he said ‘You have talked from dawn till dusk since you were two, I think you found your calling.’ I have been wearing his cowboy boots at competitions and special events ever since, they may not be the best boots, but they were his and the thought of still being able to take him along with me to these events would make him proud.”



## CONTESTANT 63

### GRANT PHIPPS

Plain City, OH

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Ohio Junior Champion 2022

Grant Phipps, and I am a proud first-generation auctioneer from Plain City, Ohio. I own and operate my own company, Phipps & Co LLC, specializing in selling a diverse range of asset types, including real estate, downsizing, estate sales, among other personal property. Brokered under Auction Ohio, I have built a business that is known for its integrity, efficiency, and exceptional service.



## CONTESTANT 64

### ISAAC STOLLER, CAI

Bluffton, IN

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2021, 2022

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Indiana 2020

Isaac is a first-generation professional. His journey began with his graduation from Reppert Auction School in 2007, followed by his graduation from IRLA in 2019. Currently aligned with Steffen Group, an Auction and Real Estate company, Isaac brings unparalleled passion and proficiency to his craft. In 2014, he embarked on a journey of love and partnership with his wife Megan, marking the beginning of a decade filled with cherished moments and milestones. The year 2019 heralded another momentous chapter in Isaac's life with the arrival of his son, Niles, infusing boundless joy and growth into their family dynamic.

# Contestants



## CONTESTANT 65

**DOUG BRADFORD, CAI**  
Carrollton, TX

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2022-2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** No

Doug is a first generation auctioneer working primarily as a contract auctioneer and ringman and a benefit auctioneer helping nonprofits raise money and improve their communities. He has served in the Texas Auctioneer Association since 2015. Doug is licensed in Texas, Tennessee, Florida, and Arkansas. He competes primarily because he enjoys it, but it helps him get better as an auctioneer and speaker every time he competes.



## CONTESTANT 66

**KATIE IMHOLTE-GABRIEL, BAS**  
St. Louis Park, MN

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2015-2018, 2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** No

Katie's roots in the auction industry run deep, having grown up working at her family's company, Black Diamond Auctions. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire with a bachelors degree and is a CPA. Currently, she is the Business Development Director for a global consulting firm. She is a graduate of the World Wide College of Auctioneering and holds a Benefit Auctioneer Specialist designation. Through her work with Fladeboe Advancement, Katie is passionate about aiding non-profits in raising the funds they need to pursue their missions. She is actively involved in the Minneapolis community and is committed to international business and humanitarian causes.



## CONTESTANT 67

**STEPHEN LARAVIERE, CAI**  
Galax, VA

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2018-2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Virginia 2020, 2021

Stephen LaRaviere is a full-time auctioneer based in Galax, VA. He owns and operates Matthews Auctioneers, a full-service auction company with multiple locations. The company specializes in retail returns, real estate, and commercial surplus. Stephen is married to his wife Samantha, and they have three daughters: Kinsley, Molly, and Merci. From a young age, Stephen wanted to be an auctioneer and is now fulfilling that dream. His passion for auctioneering has driven him to excel in the industry, earning him two top 10 finishes in the prestigious International Auctioneer Competition.

# Contestants



## CONTESTANT 68

**MAX WOLF, BAS**  
Baltimore, MD

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** No

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Maryland 2019

Max Wolf is from Baltimore County, MD. Originally from a small town in eastern CT, he attended Penn State University for undergrad, and id a year away from receiving his MBA from the University of Wisconsin. Between growing up on a dairy farm and attending his uncle's sales, Max was attending auctions frequently and decided to attend Missouri Auction School in 2017. One of his first connections proved a valuable one that got me involved with high capacity fundraising. A friend that has competed in the IAC in the past mentioned it doesn't matter what stage you've sold on, selling in front of your peers and judges at the top level pushes you way out of your comfort zone, and its simply an irreplaceable experience. Max is thankful to the NAA for making this even possible, and looking forward to the new relationships and memories coming out of this week!



## CONTESTANT 69

**RYLAN SHEA, CAI**  
Bowling Green, KY

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Kentucky 2023

A first-generation auctioneer with nearly a decade in the industry, Rylan was the 2023 Kentucky State Champion and is the owner of 6S Auction Company in Bowling Green, Ky. 6S Auction Company specializes in real estate auctions including farmland and residential properties. He is most proud of his life at home, Rylan has an incredible wife who is carrying their first child to be here in November.



## CONTESTANT 70

**COLIN MCPeAK, CAI**  
Needmore, PA

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** No

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Mid-Atlantic 2023

Colin McPeak is a husband, father, and professional Auctioneer. His primary responsibilities include auctioneering, client relations, and brokering high end collections. Colin earned two diplomas from World Wide College of Auctioneering in 2018. One for the general course and the other in bilingual auctioneering. He has completed the Certified Auctioneers Institute program through the NAA. He is also a proud NAA member and belongs to several state associations that include: Pennsylvania, Maryland, West Virginia, Ohio, and Virginia. He loves everything about this industry and can't get enough of it.

# Contestants



## CONTESTANT 71

**JARED LUSK**  
McMinnville, TN

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** No

Jared has always enjoyed hearing auction stories. As he got older he started a timber company and attended several auction. He would try calling bids when he was operating a piece of equipment and finally he decided to attend Nashville Auction School and was able to meet some of the best in the industry. The auction industry has been good for Jared and provided him with some of his closest friends and business partners. He enjoys competing because every time he walks off a stage he learns something new to make himself better in some way and the friendships that comes with competing are priceless to Jared.



## CONTESTANT 72

**MATTHEW GODBEHERE, CAI, BAS, CAS**  
Hot Spring, AR

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2016-2018, 2021-2022

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Arkansas 2016

Matt is a third-generation auctioneer. His career began in 2004 after graduating from Missouri Auction School in St. Louis. Matt's career began to shift in 2015 after attending his first Conference and Show. At the end of 2018, Matt stepped away from his family business to pursue contract auctioneering and primarily becoming a full-time professional fundraising auctioneer. Matt, his wife Anna, and their two children, Jude and Caroline reside in his hometown of Hot Springs National Park, AR. His wife teaches third grade now that the kids are in school. Jude (8) will be going into third grade this year, and Caroline (6) just finished Kindergarten, and is eager to start her first grade year.



## CONTESTANT 73

**CODY SHELLEY**  
Burleson, TX

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2019, 2022

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Texas/Oklahoma 2020

Cody Shelley, a first-generation auctioneer with 16 years of experience, founded Shelley Auction Services 9 years ago. As a contract auctioneer, he has traveled the nation serving clients in various industries including; Automobiles, Purebred Cattle, Quarter Horses, Heavy Equipment, and Non-Profit Organizations. Cody's dedication to the auction industry has yielded a thriving career and enterprises, but he remains focused on laying a strong foundation for the next generation, his two children. When not conducting auctions, Cody enjoys spending time at his home in Burleson, TX with his wife Ashley and their two children, Jakup (14) and Bexley (8).

# Contestants



## CONTESTANT 74

**SHANE MCCARRELL, CES**  
Clarksville, TN

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2019-2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Tennessee 2019

Shane McCarrell is a distinguished professional who wears multiple hats as an auctioneer, real estate agent, and educator. After dedicating over 12 years to active-duty military service in the esteemed United States Marines and United States Army, Shane has firmly established his roots in Middle Tennessee. As a devoted father of six children and a fervent advocate for the industry, he co-owns the Nashville Auction School, where he has invested countless hours imparting his vast knowledge and expertise to aspiring auctioneers.



## CONTESTANT 75

**BRIAN OBERHOLTZER**  
Reinholds, PA

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** No

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Pennsylvania 2021

Currently Brian works various equipment consignment auctions across the eastern part of the USA. He is also employed by Euro Auctions and Yoder & Frey. He has been in the auction business since 2009, and became fully licensed in 2015. His home in Reinholds, PA is shared with wife Holly and 2 children Josephine & Gabriel. Brian is serving as the vice president for the Pennsylvania Auctioneers Association, which he has been actively involved with since 2016. He is currently involved with his local church, helping to spread the word of God to the unsaved; and also furthering his kingdom with kindness and love. Brian is competing in the contest this year to help grow my auction chant. He believes that when we perform under pressure is when we better ourselves. Competitions can bring out the best in a person and Brian hopes everyone the best of luck this year.



## CONTESTANT 76

**CODY MANSPILE**  
Lexington, VA

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** No

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Virginia 2022

Cody Manspile is the founder and lead auctioneer at Circle C Auction Company. This has been his lifelong dream, selling his first item at only eleven years old. The year 2016 was a very productive year for Cody; he graduated from Rockbridge County High School, attended the World Wide College of Auctioneering in Iowa and founded his business. Circle C Auction Company specializes in estate and farm liquidations. When Cody is not on the block, he is at his family farm caring for his prized flock of North Country Cheviot sheep and his small herd of beef cattle.

# Contestants



## CONTESTANT 77

**DANIEL DEGARMO**

Chillicothe, OH

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** No

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** No

Born and raised in Limestone, WV, Daniel landed in Ohio after college while pursuing a girl and a sustainable income. After now being in ministry for over 30 years, Daniel has 8 children, a bride of 27 years and he owns and operates 2 auction houses in Southern Ohio. He loves bringing people together under one roof with a common interest - bidding and buying anything and everything at the call of the auctioneer. He has been blessed to do this now for 5 years in support of his large family. His wife and kids all work at the auction houses on Thursday and Friday nights. Every time Daniel gets behind the microphone he aims to bring the audience out of the stresses and frustrations of the real world into a world of "good food, great deals and bad jokes."



## CONTESTANT 78

**PAUL MCCARTAN**

Rosemount, MN

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2006, 2010-2017, 2021

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** Yes, Iowa 2003; Nebraska 2005; Minnesota 2009

Paul's journey in the auction and real estate world spans an impressive 36 years, marked by a myriad of successful endeavors and notable achievements. Having conducted thousands of auctions across 49 states and Canada, as well as facilitating over 4,000 real estate transactions, Paul's expertise in his field is unparalleled. His extensive experience is not only a testament to his skill but also reflects his unwavering dedication to his craft. His induction into the 2022 Hall of Fame with the Iowa Auctioneers is a crowning achievement, recognizing his significant contributions and impact on the profession. Beyond his professional success, Paul finds fulfillment in his personal life. Celebrating 33 years of marriage to his college sweetheart and raising three successful young adult children, he cherishes the joys of family life.



## CONTESTANT 79

**JONI NASH**

Pawhuska, OK

**Have you participated in the IAC before?** Yes, 2005, 2023

**Are you a current or past state bid calling champion?** No

After graduating Western College of Auctioneering in 2003, the auction world welcomed this girl with open arms. Joni worked in nonprofit management for twenty years, while continuing to specialize in benefit auctions. Since 2021, Joni has worked full time in auctions. Joni is a first generation auctioneer, as she has recently recruited her nephew into the business with hopes to carry on the love of the trade to future generations.

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