

Montana MIWW Contestants Qualify for Nationals

By Amanda Powell, MT MIWW State Director

The Montana State Make It With Wool contest was held December 2nd and 3rd, at the Red Lion Hotel and Convention Center in Billings, Montana, in conjunction with the 133rd Annual Montana Woolgrowers Convention.

There was a total of 10 seamstresses competing in four categories - Junior, Senior, Adult and Made for Others. The Junior category for those ages 13 to 16 (as of January 1st) of the contest year, had four contestants. They were Morgan Brooks and Brooklyn Kenelty, both of Ronan, Angelina Toth of Havre, and Annie Townsend of Vaughn. There was a lone contestant, Jasmine Powell of Havre in the Senior division for those ages 17 to 24. There were three Adult contestants, Cheryl Morrison of Terry, Danielle Reier of Fairfield, and Michal Ann Stedje of Ronan. The Adult category is for those age 25 and older. The final division is the Made for Others category. In this division, a seamstress constructs a garment for someone else. The two contestants this year were Rosella Higgins of Havre and Tammy Townsend of Vaughn.

After many hours of modeling and construction judging, Janell Barber of Fort Benton, Bernie Mason of Billings, and Lisa Terry of Columbus, came away with the final placings. Winners and awards were announced during the Woolgrowers' banquet on Saturday night which featured the MIWW Style Show presented to the theme of "The Polar Express".

Representing Montana at the National Make It With Wool contest on January 26-28, 2017, in Denver, Colorado, will be Junior – Morgan Brooks and Senior – Jasmine Powell. The Adult winner, Michal Ann Stedje will now compete in a video competition which includes sending her outfit to the National Make It With Wool Committee to be judged. The winner of that judging will receive an expense paid trip to Denver, Colorado for the style show where the National winner will receive their award.

The Made for Others category was won by Tammy Townsend of Vaughn with model Shea Ostberg showing off Tammy's creation of a dress and shrug. Made for Others contestants do not compete at the National level.

If you would like more information about the Make It With Wool program, please contact State Director Amanda Powell at aspowell11@hotmail.com.