



## HONORING THE LEGACY BUILDING THE FUTURE

a campaign for the National Western Center



Photo Credit Tommy Collier

### National Western's new Livestock Center to be named in honor of Sue Anschutz-Rodgers



Photo Credit Anya Semenoff

The National Western Stock Show is in full swing, but the big news today came from outside the arenas. At an event this afternoon, [Honoring the Legacy campaign](#) announced a major gift from one of the great supporters and benefactors of the National Western—and the West in general. The new Livestock Center will henceforth, and in perpetuity, be named [The Sue Anschutz-Rodgers Livestock Center](#).

The Sue Anschutz-Rodgers Livestock Center is going to be an incredible facility. It will honor a truly incredible woman I've long been proud to call my friend.

Sue needs no introduction, but let me remind you of a few of her many accomplishments. She serves on the board of the Western Stock Show Association, which oversees the National Western Stock Show, and as a vice-chair of the Honoring the Legacy Campaign. For decades, she has made concerted efforts to support rural Colorado.

In 2006, she was the first woman in her own right to receive National Western's Citizen of the West award. It's given annually to someone who embodies the spirit and determination of the Western pioneer, and who is committed to perpetuating the West's agricultural heritage and ideals. Sue was—and did—all that in spades. She hasn't stopped since.

Sue is perhaps best-known for her philanthropy as trustee, chair of the board, and president of the Anschutz Family Foundation as well as for her service on many nonprofit boards. But she considers herself a rancher first. She grew up in a Kansas family whose ranching background harked back generations, and she owns and operates Crystal River Ranch, a prominent cattle and hay ranch in Carbondale, which she grew from a single bull and 33 cows in 1987 to a herd of 1,700 today.

Sue was inducted in the Colorado Women's Hall of Fame [in 2008](#) and in the Colorado Business Hall of Fame [in 2017](#). She has sought to foster and preserve the ranching way of life in a variety of ways. One example is her key role in establishing and leading the Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust, the leading advocate and resource for voluntary preservation of ranchland in future generations.



So the Sue Anschutz-Rodgers Livestock Center, one of [four major facilities](#) to be built with this campaign's proceeds, has much to live up to. The new Sue Anschutz-Rodgers Livestock Center will be the hub of all livestock activities and provide multi-use, flexible indoor and outdoor facilities year-round. Those facilities will include a stadium with up to 5,000 seats; a free-span barn; a new junior market barn; an enlarged auction arena; and trade show and retail space, meeting rooms, suites and flexible conference space. It is no overstatement to say that the Sue Anschutz-Rodgers Livestock Center will be among the most accommodating—and most-used—on the new National Western Center campus.

Denver Mayor Michael B. Hancock, who spoke at today's event, called Sue's gift "a monumental step forward in the development of the new National Western Center."

"Denver is indeed fortunate and blessed to have people like Sue Anschutz-Rodgers step forward and lend not only your resources, but also your name and your brand to this project," the mayor said.

Pat Grant, the Western Stock Show Association board chair, added, "This gift, and Sue's continued leadership and guidance, will prove indispensable as we move forward with this once-in-a-lifetime project."

I couldn't agree more.

Thank you for your support of our campaign to secure the future of the National Western, and I hope to see you at the Stock Show, which runs through January 27.

For news, updates and more on the Honoring the Legacy campaign for the National Western, visit

[honoringthelegacycampaign.com](http://honoringthelegacycampaign.com)

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