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Contact: Jennie Richmond, Star of Texas Fair and Rodeo/Rodeo Austin

512.919.3000 phone

512.919.3005 fax

Jennie@RodeoAustin.com

www.RodeoAustin.com

**MISS RODEO AUSTIN CROWNED MISS RODEO TEXAS TEEN – AUSTIN CLAIMS
3RD CONSECUTIVE STATE TITLE**

Austin, Texas, July 7, 2010 – It is with great pride that Rodeo Austin announces that their very own Miss Rodeo Austin 2009, Courtney Elliott, was crowned Miss Rodeo Texas Teen last week. This is the third consecutive title for Miss Rodeo Austin representatives in the Miss Rodeo Texas Competition. Miss Rodeo Austin 2007, Lauren Graham, was crowned Miss Rodeo Texas Teen in 2008 and Devin Felger, Miss Rodeo Austin Princess 2009, was crowned Miss Rodeo Texas last year. Rodeo Austin is proud to have three deserving young ladies win at the statewide competition ever year over the past three years.

Courtney Elliott was excited and very proud to participate in the Miss Rodeo Texas Pageant as Miss Rodeo Austin. She said, “I experienced such a great sense of accomplishment and excitement when I was announced as the new Miss Rodeo Texas Teen. I had finally reached the goal for which I had been preparing. I am looking forward to making appearances all over the state promoting the title of Miss Rodeo Texas Teen, our Western heritage, and educating the general public about Texas’ state sport, rodeo.”

In winning the prestigious title as the 38th Miss Rodeo Texas Teen, Courtney received a

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\$1,000 scholarship, trophy saddle, trophy buckle, mohair jacket and other valuable prizes. In competing for the title of Miss Rodeo Texas Teen, Courtney also won the category of Horsemanship. She reflected, “To me, Horsemanship is the most coveted category to win, as it is what distinguishes ‘rodeo’ queens from other pageant winners”.

In the sport of rodeo, Miss Elliott is a four-year member of the Texas High School Rodeo Association where she served as Miss Texas High School Rodeo Region VII 2008 and 2009, and competed in breakaway roping, pole bending, and barrel racing. Courtney was also 2007 Miss Rodeo Brazoria County Fair Association, 2008 Miss Jasper Lions Club Rodeo, and 2009 Miss Rodeo Austin. Courtney is also a member of the American Quarter Horse Association, and many local rodeo associations where she has won four all-around cowgirl titles.

A Texas tradition for almost five decades since the first Miss Rodeo Texas in 1963, the Miss Rodeo Texas Pageant has produced seven Miss Rodeo Americas. Since the inception of the Miss Rodeo Texas Pageant, Miss Rodeo Texas and Miss Rodeo Texas Teen have served as vibrant, colorful goodwill ambassadors of rodeo, the official sport of Texas, working closely with professional rodeos, rodeo associations and community organizations to keep our western heritage and the western industry alive and flourishing in today’s society.

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***Miss Rodeo Austin 2009 Courtney Elliott takes home the
2010 Miss Rodeo Texas Teen Crown***

The Star of Texas Fair and Rodeo, a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization, contributes more than \$1.6 million annually to the youth of Texas with the help of over 2,000 volunteers, donors and sponsors. Through its acclaimed Livestock Show, Fair, Rodeo and other fundraisers, the Star of Texas Fair and Rodeo continues to work towards the advancement of its mission, Promoting Youth Education - Preserving Western Heritage. While delivering superior entertainment and boasting an economic impact that exceeds \$54 million annually, the Star of Texas Fair and Rodeo is an established community tradition founded in 1938. Staying true to the official sport of Texas, Austin is home to the world's 6th largest indoor, regular season ProRodeo known as Rodeo Austin.