

Personal Application

Curiosity has always driven my adventures. When I was little, I was constantly climbing into barn attics, crossing beaver dams, climbing trees, and following deer trails because I wanted to see what I couldn't from where I was originally standing. As I grew up, my adventures grew up too. Rather than exploring the wetlands behind my house, I started going on 20-mile hikes along ridge lines. Instead of camping in the backyard, I backpacked a stretch of trail between my house to Yellowstone every weekend for an entire summer. I didn't just ski at Bridger Bowl on Saturday evenings, I went on three-day ski trips in the middle of June.

But when my adventures are large, curiosity requires me to be responsible. Not only for myself but also my partners. By choosing to live a life filled with big adventures, I've agreed to keep myself and my adventure partners mentally happy and physically safe. I need to be able to crack a joke after crying on the skin track. But more importantly, I need to know when we should take the skin track back down, rather than being seduced by the face of a powder covered peak.

In order to make sure that I can continue to make the right calls, I'm taking my Avy 2 this January with my good friend, Carter Snow. Getting my Avy two will be one more thing I can do to make sure I have the proper knowledge when going on the big backcountry adventures that I'm so curious about. However, avalanche classes are very expensive. And as a University student studying Environmental Economics, it's hard to finance such classes.

A Flyin Ryan scholarship would allow me to get the education needed to responsibly go into the backcountry so that I can keep myself and friends safe during our winter adventures. Additionally, it would take a huge financial weight off my shoulders so that I don't have to take time away from my studies in order to fund my pursuit of skiing.

I want to be able to continue to see things that I can't see from where I was originally standing. But I want to do it safely, and a Flyin Ryan Scholarship would allow me to do just that.

Bio for the Webpage

I'm a young 21-year-old based out of Bozeman, Montana. I spent my entire life in Bozeman, but when my time to go to college came around I still hadn't gotten enough of it. I went straight from Bozeman High School to Montana State University and simply moved down the hill. This fall, I temporarily uprooted myself from Bozeman to study a semester of Environmental Economics in Sheffield, England. But as the fall fades to winter and the snow begins to fall back home I find myself dreaming of Bozeman's surrounding mountains more and more. I cannot wait to be skiing at my home mountain, Bridger Bowl. And I'm even more excited to explore the backcountry surrounding Bozeman further than I have in the past. That's why I'll be using a Flyin Ryan Scholarship to pay for my Avalanche Two class.