



February 10, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is to recommend Betsy Manero for a Flyin Ryan Adventure Scholarship.

I first met Betsy when she became a Saint Michael's College student. She quickly became involved in the school's Wilderness Program, which works closely with Petra Cliffs. Through her drive to become a more capable and knowledgeable instructor, Betsy began working for Petra Cliffs and became tied tightly to the larger community.

In a professional setting, Betsy worked for Petra Cliffs in many different capacities from leading an adventure summer camp for six to 16 year olds to teaching adults how to rock and ice climb. No matter what population she worked with, her demeanor across every age level and ability is professional, patient, entertaining, dependable, safety-conscious and respectful.

Betsy especially found a niche in working with other females, which I know she found incredibly rewarding. In addition to instructing technical skills, Betsy is great at teaching the "soft skills" for someone completely out of their element to enjoy their day- whether through jokes, silly warming up activities, stories, and just being a friend. Her laughter and spirit are contagious out in the mountains!

Betsy also became a climbing partner and friend outside of work. When I think of Betsy, I think of her saying "Yes." Throughout her college career, she took every opportunity she got to further her skills, link up with mentors, go skiing or climbing, or just pick people's brains about techniques, ethics, inspirations, etc.- while managing a full course load and part-time job. After college, Betsy had her sights set on moving to Jackson Hole, WY, and said "Yes," – taking a new job in a new place, without knowing anyone. Now, she's fully integrated into the community and thriving.

Betsy has taken an excellent path and it has been a pleasure watching her grow from student into teacher, mentor and guide, and she has solid plans to continue learning- to never stop exploring. I believe that she embodies Ryan's Core Principles for Living, and would make the Foundation proud with her hard work, determination, and enthusiasm for getting others involved in outdoor adventures. I fully support her pursuit in continuing education through the American Mountain Guides Association, and I know that Betsy would be honored to have the Flyin Ryan Foundation help her achieve this goal.

Please feel free to contact me with any further questions!

Andrea Charest

Owner, Instructor & Guide
Petra Cliffs Climbing Center & Mountaineering School

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