

Flyin Ryan Scholarship

Personal Essay

Growing up in Sun Valley Idaho has allowed me to be a part of so many amazing communities. I attend a school where it's main priority is to build and sustain a healthy community, where grades and test scores don't define its students, and the teachers allow us to connect what we are taught to our interests, giving us the opportunity to be innovative and creative with our work. My school has taught me to value the communities I am so fortunate to be a part of. Along with my school, I am also apart of a big mountain ski team and compete within IFSA. The Sun Valley Ski Education Foundation and IFSA have been huge parts of my life for over 3 years. I have met some of my most influential role models and best friends through the team and organization. My mentors are my coaches. They have taught and pushed me to grow as a skier and athlete in order to reach my full potential and to value everything the sport has to offer. The friends I have made on my team are the ones who seem to know me best. They push me when I need it and support me when I'm giving it my all. All of these people have taught me what means to be apart of a team. Being apart of a team means that you look out for your teammates, listen to advice from your mentors, and simply play an active role. Along with my school and skiing, I am also on a soccer team, a part of a dance company, and a member of a Jewish community. I believe that being a part of all of these communities has taught me how to insert myself into new environments which would be an amazing skill to use in my, hopefully, trip to Japan.

If I were to receive the Flyin Ryan scholarship I would participate in a SASS Global Travel trip to Japan. Going to Japan to ski would be an amazing life experience. Being able to experience a passion of mine like skiing in a whole new environment could open up a whole new world of opportunities. I've only heard stories of the experiences people have had skiing in Japan but from what I understand it's an experience that can broaden my mind around skiing and culture. Spending 10 days there inserting myself into a whole new culture while pursuing my biggest passion would be an experience like none other. I think that being able to experience something like going to ski in Japan during my adolescence would help me see more of the world and understand what's happening in places other than just where I live. Along with the experiences, I would have it would also give me an opportunity to create a profile for myself by getting amazing footage and photos. This opportunity would help me tremendously in reaching my future skiing goals. In order to prepare myself physically for this trip, I have been working out, skiing, and dryland training in order to build strength and truly be able to get the most out of the skiing. Financially I have been working a summer job at a local bike shop in order to save money for the trip along with raising money through a Go Fund me reaching out to friends and family.

I believe that Ryan's core principles coincide with principles that my parents have taught me growing up. To simply live your best most energetic life. If you're not having fun doing what you are doing than what's the point? Of course, there will be challenges and obstacles but these times teach you to persevere to reach your goals. When it comes to skiing the sport itself would not be possible without maintaining our natural surrounding. Another one of Ryans and my parent's principles; "lookout for our surroundings." I recently made a film about taking care of mother earth. The film talked about how precious our natural surroundings are and how as communities we should come together to protect our world. I believe that the principles my parents taught me and the ones Ryan believed in are principles that should be spread! They simply reflect a happy foundation of living.