



Daniels Core Values: Be positive, Respect, Protect the environment, Work hard/train hard, Honesty, Integrity, Perseverance, Thankfulness

My name is Daniel Hilleke. I am a 12-year-old outdoor adventurer from Glenwood Springs, CO. I am the 2nd of four boys and have grown up playing in the mountains - skiing, climbing, mountain biking, and paddling with my family. This past summer I climbed and skied Mt. Sopris in Carbondale, CO for the 5th time. I also paddled the entire 100 miles of Middle Fork of the Salmon River in Idaho. I feel very grateful for all of these opportunities.

My favorite sport of all is whitewater kayaking. Kayaking is quite an amazing sport! It gives you the feeling that you are floating on the water. When running a hard rapid, the risks are much higher. Where in an easy Class II rapid, there are much smaller consequences. Not only do I love running rivers, but I also love playboating in waves. In Glenwood Springs we have a whitewater park on the Colorado River that is so much fun! When the water gets high in the spring, the wave grows into a large fluffy wave. My brother, dad, and I can all surf on the same wave at the same time! In the fall, when the water is lower, the wave become stickier and better for doing loops and cartwheels. I have

been kayaking for 4 years and have paddled a number of rivers around the West. We have paddled Ruby Horsethief Canyons on the Colorado, the San Juan, Gates of Ladore, Cataract Canyon, Desolation and Gray on the Green River, Main Salmon River twice, Westwater Canyon, Nolichucky River, Upper Russell Fork, and hope to run the Grand Canyon and Gauley Rivers in 2021.

This summer I would like to go to the Keeners Kayak Camp on the Ottawa River in Canada. I have worked for and raised \$1,700 so far but that is only half of the cost of the camp. If I receive the Scholarship, I will put the money towards attending this camp for three weeks. The reason I am trying to get money for the Ottawa is because of how safe it is there. Every single rapid is pool drop. Which means that there is flatwater below the rapid and there is little chance of hitting rocks or trees because of how big the river is. In Keeners you could try anything until you succeed on the one move and once you succeed you try the next move. Like the Gauley and Grand Canyon, the Ottawa will be a great place to prepare for these larger rivers.

If selected. I will share Flyin Ryan's mission and core values at Keeners with my fellow campers. I will also share and post information on social media platforms.



This is a photo of me leading my younger brother Dax (10) down a rapid on the Middle Fork of the Salmon River in Idaho

⊛ letter of recommendation from kayak coach on the way!