

Letter of Recommendation:

Taylor Merritt

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To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Taylor Merritt, I am the Head Coach and Program Coordinator of the Winter Park Big Mountain Ski Team. I would highly recommend Ellie Huff for the Flyin' Ryan Hawkes Foundation Adventure Scholarship to achieve her goals of creating her senior capstone film and inspiring young women in the skiing community.

I have had the pleasure of coaching Ellie as an athlete on the Big Mountain team for the last 3 seasons and have witnessed her blossom and excel both as an athlete and a young individual finding her drive and passions. Over the years, Ellie has grown into a talented skier and a great role model for our younger and other female athletes. Being a woman in a male dominated sport can present many challenges but this season Ellie found a calling to change this. Along with the Rocky Mountain Freeride Series and other female big mountain competitors, she is committed to filming an all-female cast of big mountain skiers to inspire other women, young athletes, and aspiring lady-rippers that they can ski, compete and find their place in this amazing community of talented individuals.

Both on and off the slopes Ellie lives true to her core values which also closely reflect that of Flyin' Ryan's principles. She is adventurous and creative beyond all measures; whether it's on the slopes skiing a line or painting murals and filming edits. She is passionate and driven to accomplish her goals and all that she sets out to achieve. She has a heart of gold and embraces those around her with her smile, energy, compassion and enthusiasm. I know this film project will be beautifully created with so much heart and soul and this scholarship will aid in the ability to use high-end editing software and offset additional costs of making this aspiration a reality.

Thank you for your time in considering Ellie Huff for the Flyin' Ryan Hawkes Foundation Adventure Scholarship. I would be happy to answer any additional questions you may have. Feel free to contact me by phone or email. Thank you so much.

Sincerely,

Taylor Merritt, MS, ATC, CES