

Essay / Reason for Scholarship:

I spend my entire winter skiing, every chance I get-I'm skiing! I spend week nights skinning in the Bolton backcountry, or skinning other local mountains after school and sometimes I get up early for sunrise skins before school as well! The sunrise is always worth it. I train on weekends with the Smugglers Notch Freeski Team. I've been training with the team since I was 8 years old. Some of my favorite parts of skiing are exploring new things, finding new lines, and trying new tricks. I am very fortunate to have such a great team and amazing coaches that encourage and share my same passions. We spend a large amount of time exploring the Smugglers Notch backcountry while pushing our limits on natural features.

My most important goal when skiing is to have fun. I always try to make the most out of the worst conditions, even when it's 30 degrees with freezing rain! My goal when competing is to put down a run that I am proud of. When I compete I try to represent my skiing style. I like to think that people watching my competition run will see solid, fluid turns. I try to do the same when I'm skiing under the lift when I'm with my team or friends. I always aim to find the most creative line while also keeping my technical skiing clean.

This past year I had a strong competition season with some great results. As an outcome from those results I qualified to compete at the Junior World Champs at Kappl in Austria. People have said this is an opportunity of a lifetime and I agree! I would love to ski on different terrain, and push myself to take opportunities that come from results of steady progress.

I would be honored to receive the adventure scholarship so I can represent Vermont, Smugglers Notch, my Team-SNSC, and the spirit and positive attitude that Ryan Hawks would want to see while skiing.