

Personal Essay

My name is Adeline Lazorchak and I'm 13 years old. I live in the amazing Green Mountain State of Vermont, in Waitsfield – the hometown of Mad River Glen. I've grown up in a family of 5 that ski's a ton. My twin brothers and I grew up at Mad River Glen, all of us on skis by the time we were two. It is where we spend most of the winter – exploring and challenging ourselves. As such, skiing has always been a big part of my life and I wouldn't want it any other way. A fun powder day with friends is the best but so is exploring the backcountry or even a classic icy day at Mad River Glen. When there's no snow, we get out in the woods on our mountain bikes. I love both sports and I have so many memories from over the years. Along with all the sports I do I also love traveling, reading, and writing. For the past 3 years my family has spent a little less than a month living out of our van in Colorado. While doing this we get to explore so many cool places whether it's while we're hiking, mountain biking, or just seeing it from our car window and I am extremely grateful I have gotten to experience that.

I am going into my 4th year being a part of the Mad River Glen Freestyle team. I have loved competing in Freestyle competitions these past few years, but this past season is when I started taking it more seriously. Although I knew the North American Junior Freeride Championships weren't an option for me last year, I still wanted to place my best in each competition I did. That season I worked on landing my 360, learning how to choose a good line at my comps, and then just my overall performance during competitions. I was really happy with how I did overall throughout the season. I placed top 5 at almost every competition and won my last comp that season.

I am going into this season with a bigger goal than last season which is to make it to the North American Junior Freeride Championships. It's been in my mind a lot the past few years and it would be a dream come true to finally get to go. Skiing is a very expensive sport and add in the cost of comps and travel and it is too much for our family. The trip to the North American Junior Freeride Championships is just too expensive and that's why this scholarship would help so much. In addition, I have seen that the kids who have participated in this program have benefited from planning and coaching to help them reach their goal. I am hopeful that I can too.