

Flyin Ryan Personal Essay

My name is Reese Laliberte. I am a 17 year old competitive free skier from Mad River Glen Vermont. I have been skiing ever since I could walk, I am so grateful to have spent so much time on the mountain ever since then! Skiing has taught me so much about myself and about how important it is to treat others with kindness and compassion. I carry the lessons I have learned from the mountain with me everywhere I go. I have had so many amazing opportunities and experiences throughout my life because of skiing. An example of this is traveling across the country five times, going to national competitions at Grand Targhee and Big Sky NorAms in 2022, always carrying my core values with me there and back. My greatest accomplishment is getting invited to NorAms. I love competing. I have been on the Mad River Free Ski team since I was 12, so moving forward and going to the next level up and competing in Norams made me excited for the future.

I have had 2 jobs since I was 13 and save my money, but I need this adventure scholarship to help with the financial demands that competing in the free ski competitions bring. This scholarship will be used to help me travel to and from competitions and the cost to compete. This scholarship would also help my parents tremendously with the expense of competitive skiing as they have been my sole sponsors since the age of 11. My parents are my biggest supporters and I am vastly grateful to have them by my side. One of my favorite adventures is driving to NorAms from Vermont to Montana with my mom and free ski coach. Seeing different corners of the country was eye opening. At NorAms I met so many lifelong friends and had so many connections I will never forget. Having my core values at my side at NorAms made me a stronger competitor.