

Hey, I'm Mac. I'm 13 years old and I love to be outside. You would find me playing any sport and being in nature. I love to hike, play soccer and play lacrosse. But my passion is skiing! I ski for Smugglers Notch Ski and Snowboard Club and have been skiing with them since I was 8. My first memory of skiing with my club was my first competition at 9 years old. I crashed. At first I hated competitions but I wanted to do better, so I did another and got my first podium, 2nd place! I love competing in IFSA and the environment of the ski community.

Over the summer I picked up Skateboarding again. I started skating when I was about 7 but stopped over covid. When I started skating again I noticed my improvement because of my dedication. I wanted to return to the park to work on tricks that I didn't know at the age of 7. I take a lot of dedication from skiing and apply it to skating. Using my balance and coordination from skiing has also helped a lot in skating.

Last year was my first year in the 12-14 age group. This meant I had the chance to accumulate points and make it to the IFSA Junior National competition, in British Columbia. I had set a goal in the beginning of the year to do that and was so hyped to achieve it. It was so fun skiing in another country because of all the new and big terrain. Bonus, it was also amazing to be with my friends! One of the best parts of this trip was that it was the week of my birthday. Competition day was on my birthday, it was so surreal to be in the middle of the Canadian Rockies skiing on my birthday. Let alone this was one of the biggest competitions I had ever been in. I stomped my line and was so pumped to have done that on some of the biggest terrain I've skied. Sadly I was just shy of the cut and didn't make it to the second day. Still, I was so grateful to be out there with my family, team and friends. It was also awesome that the coach who coached me on that day was my mom. It was cool to have her up on the mountain, especially helping me with the mental part of competition. I'm so lucky to have the parents I have who support me in my passion. It's great because I can relate to them in a way where we all want to go out and adventure the mountains.

Like anyone who was at NorAms, I want to experience that again. It's my goal to return to NorAms this upcoming season. Funds from the adventure scholarship would support me in reaching this goal by going towards my IFSA registration, competition and travel expenses.

I hope I have demonstrated the adventure in me and would love to be considered for the scholarship.

Shred on,
Mac Phelan