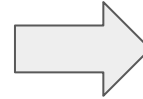
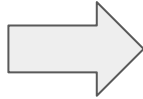


Flyin Ryan Adventure Scholarship

Personal Presentation – Parker Metcalfe



Who I Am

I am Parker Metcalfe, 20 years old, and I am currently a student at Kettering University studying Mechanical Engineering.



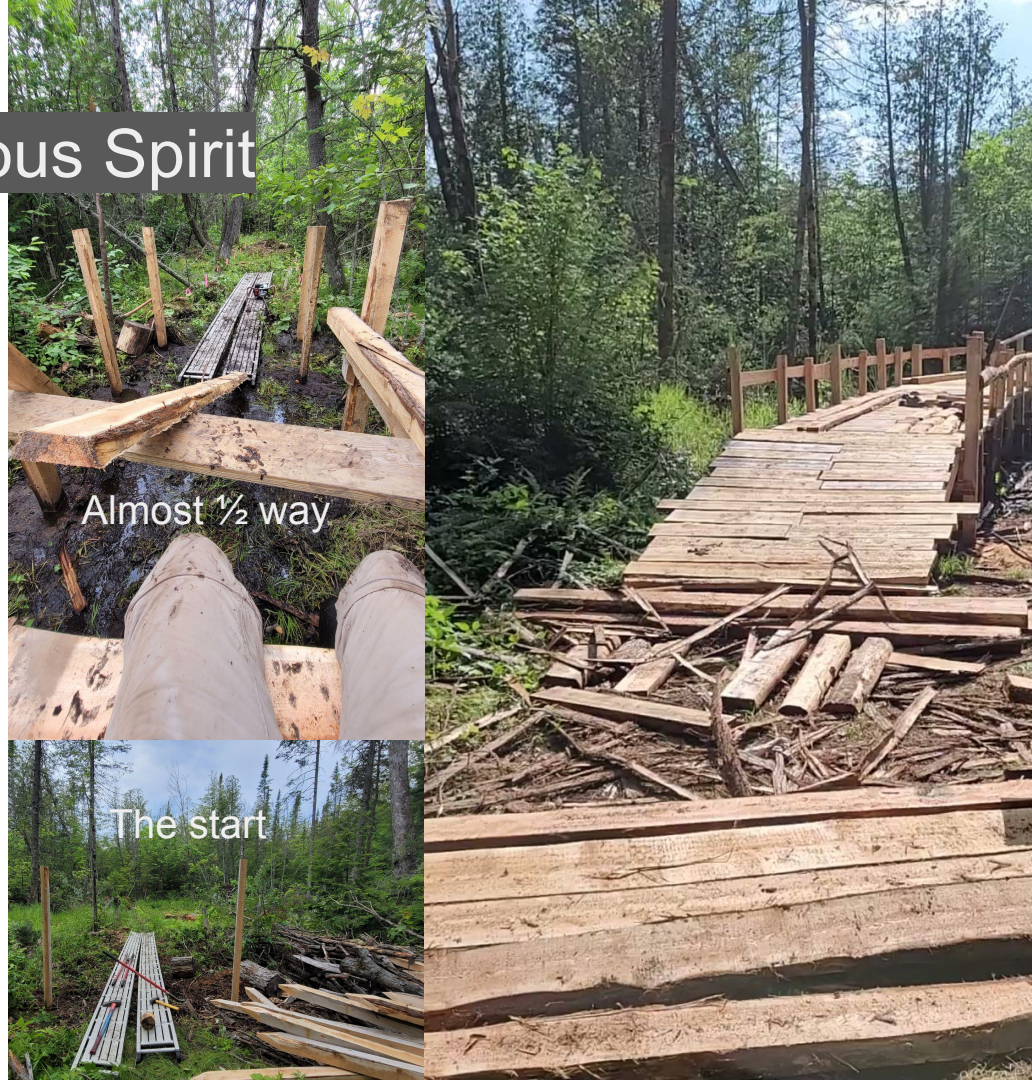
Core Values

- **Speak Truthfully** – I am truthful, letting integrity guide my actions.
- **Embrace Hard Work** – I fight every challenge with my drive, my mind, and my strength.
- **Be Happy** – I actively seek joy and find positivity in every experience.
- **Take Responsibility** – I take responsibility for my choices and their effects.
- **Apply Logic** – I use reason and common sense to navigate life with clarity of mind and sound judgment.



What Drives My Adventurous Spirit

My drive is something that I have a lot of... And I am unsure where it comes from, but rain or shine, good or bad, it has always been there. Sometimes, it takes a hit, like when I have to re-do 5+ days of work, but it always comes back when I wake up the next day. I feel ready to go and am willing to do whatever it takes.



My History as an Adventurer

I grew up in Northern Michigan and rampaged about the woods. My father would take us (my family) on camping trips, skiing, canoeing, and other such activities. Around 8 I started joining my father, a forester by trade in his work, and a few years later I found myself working for the family business on summers and weekends.



Scotland Highlands Trip -(2015)

A large family trip to the Highlands of Scotland started my love of adventure. My father and I climbed a “small” mountain, which was still the largest mountain around but small by mountain standards. On it, I found a red deer antler, which I then proceeded to act out heroic poses in and carry to the bottom of the mountain.



Lake Champlain Kayak Expedition (2019)

In 2019, Covid peak season I joined a youth expedition that went from one end of Lake Champlain to the other. For COVID reasons, we didn't get to build our kayaks; instead, we had to use previously built ones, but in exchange, we also got to camp for an extra 5 days! I kayaked 115 miles over 15 days with no resupplies and loved every minute.



↓ 1:42 I slept there with my teddy bears

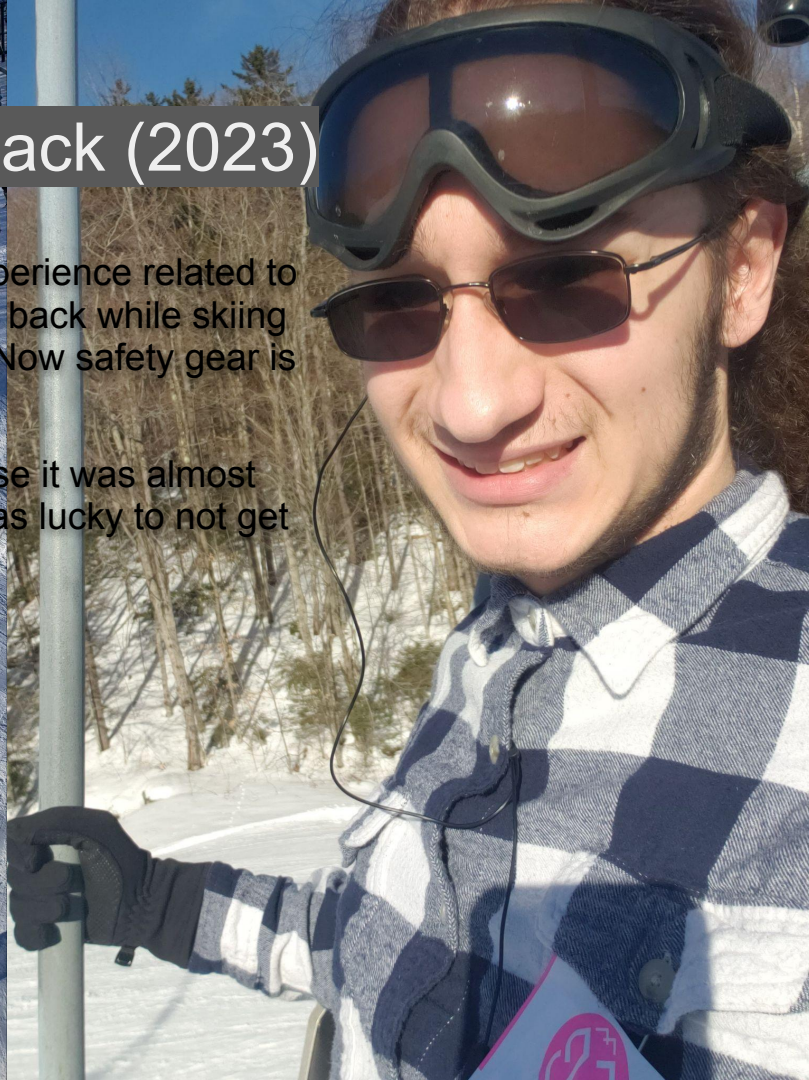


Breaking My Back (2023)

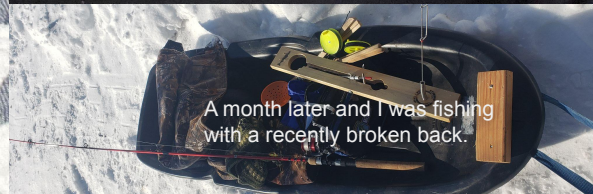
My most recent learning experience related to adventure was breaking my back while skiing in Vermont. I was so lucky. Now safety gear is super important to me.

I didn't rent a helmet because it was almost half the cost of the skis. I was lucky to not get a concussion.

Hours before disaster



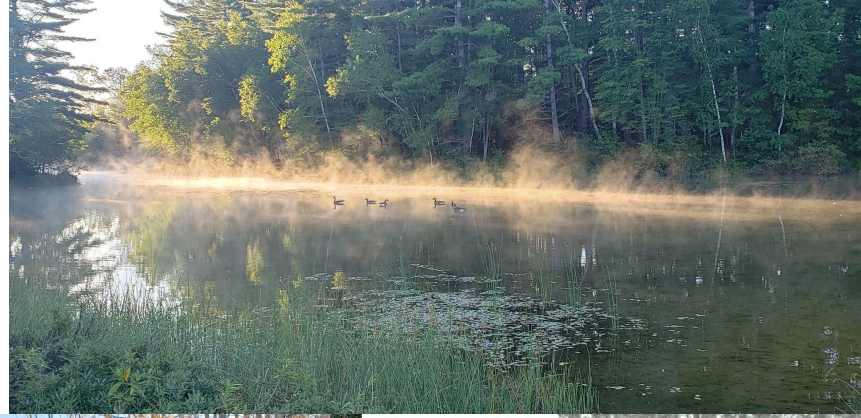
In ER, I couldn't find the pic of me with the neck brace -it looked worse.



A month later and I was fishing with a recently broken back.

My Passion of Adventure

What fuels my sense of adventure is the love of exploring and the continual realization of how awesome the world is. Seeing landscapes or the realization of just how incredibly complex something we take for granted is. I love that feeling, being able to experience something and feel the wonder of the world.



Passions: Now vs Then

My ability to enjoy the outdoors and the world around me has grown significantly over my life. When I was younger, the awe of the world around me did not quite sink in as well. I loved being outside but only for the exciting things like water, tree forts, and catching fish. Now, I have gained further appreciation for the finer things in life, such as epic landscapes or waterfalls that I can't play in.



FLY-TIERS HONE THEIR SKILLS AT THE OLD AUSABLE FLY SHOP



Photo by Eric Santorelli
The Old Ausable Fly Shop began its free weekly fly-tying classes for beginning tiers to those who have advanced skills in the fly shop's classroom and conference room on Saturday. Above, Parker Metcalfe, age 11, of Grayling, who has been tying for three years, made flies.

Passion and Career

My passions and long-term aspirations are different ones. I aspire to become a successful engineer and start my own business. But that said, I also have a passion for engineering and creating and designing new things. So, I will have to balance it out, being busy with work (I am a workaholic) and enjoying the raw experience of nature and physics.



Michigan, UP, and (hopefully) Beyond

Start Date: June 23rd (2 days after final exam)

Duration: Until July 10th or possibly all summer, exploring the Northern U.S. and Canada

The Journey:

- Ride through the forests, coastlines, and rugged terrain of Northern Michigan and the UP
- Camping in remote locations, embracing the wild and the unexpected
- If the journey extends, venture into Canada and the Northern U.S. for a true long-haul adventure
 - a. The extension of my journey depends on my personal finances. I cannot afford

Why This Adventure?

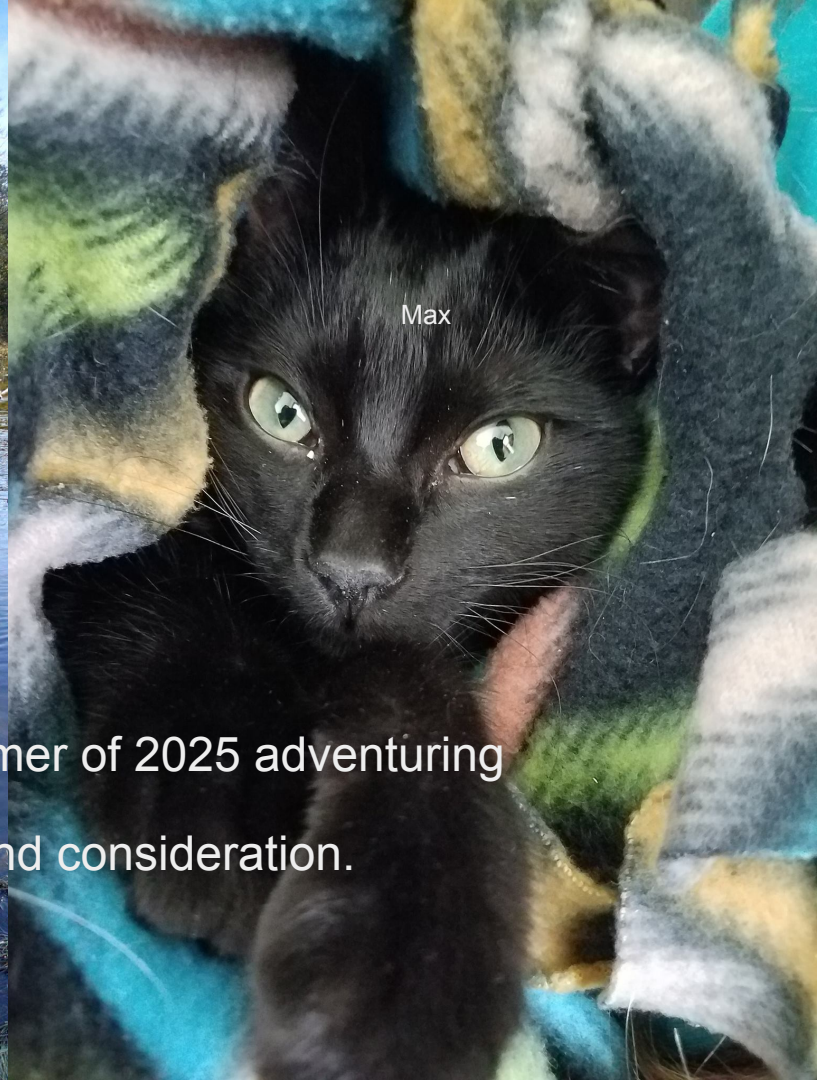
- Push my limits with self-sufficient, off-grid camping
- Experience the thrill of exploration, discovering new landscapes and cultures
- Embrace the unknown, adapting to challenges on the road

My Goals:

This journey is about freedom, adventure, and discovery—challenging myself in new environments and creating stories.



Why I Want This Scholarship



To either support my summer of 2025 adventuring
Thank you for your time and consideration.