

Dear Scholarship Committee,

I am writing to recommend Summer Hargrave as a recipient of the Flyin Ryan Adventure Scholarship. Having now worked with Summer across two seasons at Dartmouth's Moosilauke Ravine Lodge, I can speak to her growth not only as a crew member but as someone who consistently acts on her values: looking out for others, staying curious, and working hard while living with genuine enthusiasm.

I would specifically like to highlight Summer's organizational skills, her professional stamina, and her openness to feedback, as I believe each of those will serve her well in pursuing her adventure goals with the support of the Flyin Ryan Hawks Foundation.

Over our first season together, I supervised Summer as she went out of her way to connect with others on our crew through several stressful moments. Throughout her time at the Lodge, I could rely on Summer to be eager and inviting when pulling others into both work and play. Summer clearly cared about connecting with others and learning about the differences that made each of us unique, something I saw in small moments, like when our crew went blueberry picking together on a mountain I often visit with my family, and Summer, more than anyone else, appreciated the meaning of that shared experience.

I also witnessed Summer's incredible personal and professional stamina. One night, we hosted a wedding at the Lodge, and Summer stepped up well beyond what was asked of her to help make the event a success, supporting the kitchen, keeping a cheerful attitude toward the team and guests, and even staying to dance with the wedding party until the end of the night. On another occasion, Summer spent one of her days off hiking 19 miles with one of the younger members of our crew. When she returned after 12 hours of physical activity, she was thoroughly exhausted but emotionally buoyed, a reminder of how readily she puts her all into challenges and maintains a positive mindset throughout.

Summer also demonstrated exceptional organizational skills. From early in our first season, she tackled supply organization projects that left others feeling overwhelmed, running each idea through to its logical completion with calm and care. In the kitchen, she cooked full meals for guests without a sous chef or dedicated support, thoughtfully managing her time to produce delicious breads, soups, and main dishes that received great reviews.

In our second season together, Summer's initiative has grown even further. She took it upon herself to develop a new brochure to inform hikers passing through the Lodge about our services, a project that required both creative thinking and follow-through, and that has genuinely improved how we connect with guests. She also stepped naturally into a mentorship role, seamlessly teaching new crew members the upkeep and cleaning routines that keep the Lodge running smoothly. Summer leads by bringing others along with her.

One final quality that I especially value in Summer is her ability to reflect. In her exit interview at the end of our first season, she gave me genuinely useful suggestions for improving our crew

trainings, and she reflected on her own experiences in ways that showed a real ability to find meaning across all kinds of challenges.

I recommend Summer wholeheartedly. She is an adventurer who works hard, looks out for others, and approaches every new experience with openness and energy. I have no doubt she will carry those values forward into whatever comes next.

Sincerely,

Alex Wells