

Julia Marchioretto - Trout Valley Scholarship Essay

1). Tell us something we should know about you.

On October 29, 2014 my life changed forever. That evening, I attended dance class as I did every week. Everything was going as normal until I fell. I fell and severely fractured both my knee and my ankle. I ended up having surgery on halloween. The injury and recovery was rough, but I came out of this tragedy as a better person. After several days in the hospital and months of physical therapy and homeschooling, I was able to take away several lessons. I had a newfound appreciation for life and a drive to help and support other people like my family did for me. I was able to return to dance and school once I recovered from my injuries and surgery. Because of this tragedy I have learned not to take anything for granted, even the little things like walking without a walker or wheelchair and showering by myself. Even though this horrible event happened to me, I am a better person because of it.

2). What is a favorite memory from Trout Valley?

I have lived in Trout Valley all my life, and I have many great memories come to my mind when I think of the wonderful neighborhood I am lucky to call my home. From selling lemonade in my front yard with my sister, to all the amazing holiday parties hosted at the barn or the lodge, I only have had positive memories in Trout Valley; however, my most fond memories come from the Trout Valley pool. The Trout Valley pool was, and still is, my happy place. The pool was the place where I first learned how to swim, where I had many birthday parties, and where I could escape all of my worries and just have fun. My favorite memory has to be whenever I played games in the pool with other kids who lived in Trout Valley. All in all, Trout Valley is not just a neighborhood, it is a family and I am so lucky to be a part of it.

3). How has your individual work benefited the greater community?

Throughout my whole life my passion has been helping people. I always knew I wanted my future career to have something to do with helping people and bettering society. During my time at Cary-Grove High School, I had many opportunities to do just that. One of these opportunities introduced me to what will be my future career. During my first and last semester of my senior year of high school I was presented the opportunity to help out in a special needs math class and gym class. I was excited to help out, but little did I know, I would fall in love with special education and have a new passion to pursue. From doing math problems with the kids in math class or dancing with them in gym class, I always made sure to make them laugh and to have fun with them. I really made a special connection with all of those children and I will never forget those bonds. In my future career as a special education teacher, I not only want to help the kids but make an impact on their lives and their families' lives. From the outside it may seem like I am only helping them, but in reality, they were helping me a hundred times more.