

Youth Leadership Adventure Scholarship Information

Nazdar Haji is in 10th grade at Foster High School in Tukwila.

From our interview: She is outgoing and speaks perfect English (speaks 6 languages total). Before coming to the US four years ago, she lived in Iraq. Her and her family traveled to Iran and Syria on their way to the US. She describes Iraq and where he grew up as a "war zone, with bombs and everything going off." Nazdar loves to read. She is really into Anime and Manga. She applied last year but had to drop due to family problems. She seems incredibly resilient. She is moving to Pasco after school is out.

In her words: "I like to read any make songs and stories. I want to be a writer and a doctor as well. I am also a very cheerful person and I am very positive all the times."

Ryan Linman is a junior at Mt. Vernon High School in Mt. Vernon.

From his interview: He wants to develop a connection with the earth, and get more fit and active. He's part of the Theater Arts Guilde and very into the arts (he sings, and plays ukulele). He has never been backpacking though he has sailed twice with his father in the San Juan Islands. Ryan wants to connect with people and places and loves biology and the arts.

In his words: "I spend my free time mostly on homework and the theater department in my school an my community. I have a goal to make a difference with the time I have on the earth, but first I want to graduate high school and get a job that might just let me give back to the world. I want to be involved in this program because my favorite teacher, Mrs. Brooks, is involved with the national parks. I helped her create this year's activity packet and it sparked my interest in park. I decided eventually I want a teaching job for the parks and this program will bring me one step closer to it."

Arminda Diwantesa is a junior at Cascade High School in Everett.

From our interview: Arminda is just as positive as her sister Vanessa. She is positive, motivated, and is a very hard worker. Arminda moved to WA from Congo two years ago. She likes the US because education is free and it cost money back home. She wants to do this program because she likes science and wants to take advantage of the opportunity. She is nervous about sleeping outside, wild animals, and being away from home for 8 days but she knows it will be a good opportunity for her. Arminda likes kids and wants to become a pediatrician.