



Clackamas High School – Metro East

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How Are You Focusing on Fun in 2023?

In 2023, I'll focus on fun by expanding upon my passions. I have an immense passion for acting. I love having the chance to build a character, and through it, honor an extension of myself. I cherish how much acting has changed my perspective. As an actor, you must embody a character to fully delve into a scene. Each character's world is different. As an actor I see myself differently after performing. Whether it's an audition, a full-length production or doing multiple takes in a film, my perspective has been enhanced. I've spent five minutes, an hour, or a week in a world unlike my own. My passion, acting, is constantly reshaping and enriching my world and I love it.

It wasn't always like that; as a child I never spoke in front of the class, I didn't feel comfortable. I was as shy as shy can be. But I always had a passion, a passion for storytelling, performing and literature interpretation. So, what stopped me from starting acting then? What's stopping me from focusing on fun now? It's the same obstacle. A lingering, subconscious fear, a fear of judgment, a fear of criticism, a fear of uncertainty. I am more often than not caught in the comfort of familiarity. I would never have discovered my love for acting if I did not expand upon my passion, my passion for storytelling, performing and artistic imagination.

This is true going forward. This year I'd love to expand upon my passion for music. Music has always been an expressional outlet for me, especially singing. Music is not just fun, it's neurologically stimulating and therapeutic for me. To focus on fun in 2023, I will expand upon my love for music and try songwriting. My head is full of wonderful ideas and wistful melodies, I just need to connect them. Songwriting for me is another form of storytelling, only with notes.

But what do songs even *do*, why is songwriting fun? Well songs are not just a *personal* form of expression, lyrics stick to the audience too. Songwriting is a valuable form of communication that I want to use.

But to pursue songwriting, this year, I need to overcome that same obstacle. That lingering, subconscious fear of judgment, criticism, and uncertainty. And I am more than ready to expand upon my passions and branch from the comfort of familiarity. This year I want to push the limits of my creativity. I want to experiment with songwriting. I want to sing with words of my own. I'd love for the world to hear what I have to say, or should I say sing?