



## **Franklin High School**

### **Abi Crowe**

#### **How Are You Focusing on Fun in 2023?**

I have always been an audacious competitor striving to succeed in academics and athletics. Although my drive is one of my greatest assets it has also hindered me from having fun. For many years, I would turn down invitations to social events to study or workout.

But after being submerged into isolation during the pandemic I learned that the most important part of life is what you achieve but who you spend your time with, the people you connect with and the relationships you build.

You have to make your own fun. For example, this past Valentine's day I hosted a Valentines dinner for my close friends and bought a heart cake for us all to share. Fun isn't a feeling you chase, it is a feeling you create. For me real fun is so much more than lighthearted amusement, it is living in the present moment, pursuing your passions, and building meaningful relationships.

As my senior year comes to a close, I want to find a healthy balance between fulfilling my academic responsibilities and making fun memories with my friends. For example, I recently planned and attended our school's winter formal, the Snowball. I spent half the time volunteering at the coat check and the other half busting moves on the dance floor with my buddies.

I want to get involved in things that I am passionate about, so this summer I plan to participate in an engineering internship. Already I have been having so much fun exploring the world of STEM during the Architecture Construction Engineering (A.C.E.) program in Portland. During weekly Thursday evening meetings, we explore the process of collaborative innovation under the guidance of mentors currently in an ACE field as we visit various ACE firms around Portland.

Lastly, I want to focus on fostering relationships beyond my high school community which is why I hope to become a 2023 Rose Princess. I want to listen to the passionate ideas of my peers, learn from the wisdom of the program mentors, and build a new Rose Festival community.