



The NOODLE

Open up and say AHHHH!!!



Volume 15, Issue 12

December 2022

Welcome to the December 2022 edition of *The Noodle*, written and published by members of The Florida Youth Council. For this issue of *The Noodle*, members of the FYC wrote about the topic of their favorite winter vacation. This allowed members to share, express and explore their personal insights, experiences and memories. We hope you enjoy learning about our experiences and our thoughts and opinions in this edition of *The Noodle*!

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My Favorite Winter Vacation

For my favorite winter vacation, I would go to Disney World. Disney World has my favorite theme park, Magic Kingdom, and in Magic Kingdom there are five different places to ride rides. The Adventureland rides that I like the best are Jungle Cruises, the tour guide has the best jokes; Aladdin's Magic Carpet, but be careful because you just might get wet, and pirates of the Caribbean, I got wet when a cannon ball landed in the water.

In Frontierland the rides are Splash Mountain, make sure you keep your eyes open on the big drop and Big Thunder Mountain. Fantasyland has the Barnstormer, It's a Small World, make sure the song doesn't get stuck in your head, because it will! The Little Mermaid, The Mad Tea Party, try not to get too dizzy, Peter Pan's Flight, The Seven Dwarfs Mine Train, and Winnie the Pooh.

In Liberty square the rides are The Haunted Mansion, try to make the ghost laugh, and The Hall of Presidents.

Tomorrowland rides are Buzz Lightyear Spin, Carousel of Progress, Space Mountain, and Tomorrowland Speedway.

I like staying in the hotel because after we get done with the park, I get to spend the rest of the time in the swimming pool. When I swim I usually wear a swimming mask so that I can see underwater. Also, I love to stop at the game room to play some games!

There are three reasons you should go to Disney during winter. The rides are so much fun, the food is the absolute best and the hotel beds are super comfortable!

By Michelle Sandiford



If I could go anywhere for a winter vacation

The place I would go if I could go anywhere for my winter vacation is Buffalo New York and go play in the snow and see family. My favorite person in Buffalo is my grandmother. My Favorite thing to do when I am there for my winter vacation is to play in the snow is to make snow angels and snowmen!

One place I really love is to go to Niagara Falls. In the winter you can often see where the water has frozen over and turned to ice. I love visiting all the different shops near the falls. Something I find interesting is that there are different types of squirrels near the falls, you can distinguish them by their brown or black fur. The different trails at the falls are also amazing and beautiful, all of the different beautiful colors start in November and continue until all the leaves have fallen as it turns to winter. The snow covered trees may not be as colorful but they still look beautiful.

Another place I like going to see is New York City, especially to visit my favorite candy shop and do all the fun different activities available there. I can't wait to see my family on my next winter vacation and to see you all, my other family at The Family Cafe and the Florida Youth Summit next year!

By Leah Gorman



My Perfect Winter Vacation

If I could go anywhere for a winter vacation, I would go to Big White where I have been going for the past 21 winters. located in British Columbia, Canada. It is the perfect spot for my winter vacation because I love snow, I enjoy skiing, and I have a lot of fun with my Canadian friends.

The snow at Big White is called “champagne powder.” It is the best snow in the world! Perfect for



skiing, it provides a soft and cushiony surface for my skis and snowshoes. It is also good for making snowballs to throw at the walls outside of my condo and snow angels in my yard.

I ski every day when I am at Big White. I ski with my family, my ski instructors, and my ski buddies Rick and Len. I even go night skiing on Fridays. My favorite places to ski are wide open runs like Sun Run and Highway 33 and areas that have trees like the Black Forest Glades and the Enchanted Forest. I love it all – from the easy green runs to the difficult black diamond chutes.

I have a lot of friends at Big White, old and young. They come to my condo for dinner and have snacks and apples with us. I hang out with them and talk on the back porch by the ski run. I love sitting there and seeing the view of the village and the gondola. Friends are the best part of Big White and the best part of my winter vacation.

By John Howard Baldino



The Perfect Winter Vacation

I have always dreamed of going up to the mountains to enjoy the scenery and look down at the beautiful trees below. I have traveled through these areas previously but unfortunately was not able to stay as long as I would have liked.

I especially love hiking and seeing the mountains, it is one of my favorite activities to do any time of the year. One thing I would really like to go back and do is to stay in a cozy cabin during winter while it's snowing. I would love to see the snowfall and do all the fun things related to snow like skiing, making snowmen, having snow fights, and making snow angels!

I would especially love walking over a frozen river or the lake, maybe skating on it just to experience it and see what it is like!

By Catalina Andonie



My Dream Winter Vacation in London

If I could choose my destination this holiday season, I would choose London. In 2018, my parents took me and a friend to London for a graduation gift. We went in the summer, so it was hot, hot, hot. Not quite as hot as Florida, which was about 98 degrees, but it was very warm that summer in England. I think it would be fun to see it in the winter and see the decorations and activities that would happen in December. It would also be awesome to see snow again since we don't exactly see any in Florida.



Since we were there in summer, all the parks were green and full of flowers, I think that it would be beautiful to see them covered with snow and ice rinks and decorations. Hyde Park is one that has a winter wonderland, with an ice rink, lots of food, and a carnival atmosphere including rollercoasters. Other places have ice sculptures and, of course, amazing light displays. And naturally, there are Christmas trees everywhere you go.

I went to New York City one year in December, and the stores there had beautiful window displays, but I can only imagine what that might be like in London. We shopped in Selfridges and Harrods when we visited years ago, and they were fantastic stores just on a regular day. Harrods had an amazing tearoom where we picked desserts galore from fancy platters and displays. And I remember Harrods downstairs had a huge food hall where you could shop for almost any kind of food: pastries, breads, cheese, meats, and beverages. That alone would be worth the trip, but I can't help wondering what incredible treats I would find during this magical time of year.

By Serena Wetmore

My Winter Vacation Destination

I honestly couldn't think of anywhere too grandiose, but a place did hit me that might be nice to visit – Atlanta. Sure, I could probably go anytime of the year, but I think the wintertime would be nice, if it didn't get too frigid cold. I've only been up there once to go to the Georgia Aquarium with a group I used to be a part of, and I've heard of at least two more places up there I'd love to visit one day and I'm sure there are more.

The two I specifically mentioned though being the Coke Museum and the College Football Hall of Fame that recently opened there a couple years ago. As a college football fan, I think that would be a cool place to check out. Another thing I just thought of is going there in the wintertime, I could probably catch some good Christmas light displays which are always fun to look at. These are just a few reasons a little winter vacation to Atlanta might be nice someday.

By Derek Carraway



My Dream Winter Vacation

If I could go anywhere during the winter vacation, I would either want to go somewhere very cold or somewhere tropical.

I would love to go ice fishing on vacation. I have never walked on ice, so that would be a first. My grandpa goes ice fishing every winter because he lives near lakes that freeze. I would also like to see snow again. I have only seen snow once in my lifetime. Having a snowball fight sounds like fun and would be even better with my cousins. If travel weather could cooperate that would be even better!

My brother and his wife go on a lot of cruises. It would also be a dream to go on a cruise with them. Probably somewhere tropical, without icebergs, lol.

In either scenario, it looks like my dream vacation would be spent with family.

By J.J. Humphrey





How Do I Become Part of The Florida Youth Council?

The Florida Youth Council is a group of youth (between the ages of 15 and 17) and emerging leaders (between the ages of 18 and 30) with disabilities or special health care needs that live in Florida.

The Florida Youth Council is all about getting youth and emerging leaders involved in self-advocacy, peer mentoring and other activities that will improve the quality of life for youth and emerging leaders with disabilities in Florida. The program empowers youth and emerging leaders to decide what issues are important to their generation, to discuss those issues in their state and local communities, and to develop strategies to address them.

We are seeking a group of enthusiastic, motivated youth and emerging leaders to participate. If you would like to take a leadership role in advocating for youth and emerging leaders in Florida, please visit The Florida Youth Council website at www.floridayouthcouncil.com. The program is open to application year round.

We hope to hear from you soon!



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