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## What Gets Me Cooking

Everyone in this life seems to have something that they are passionate about. For me, that passion is cooking. I love to follow recipes and serve my family and friends something I know they will love. It's just fun! The kitchen is a calming area that makes me feel like I have full creative control. My current favorite dish to make is homemade pastas of all kinds. My personal favorite, fettuccine. With or without sauce. Making homemade pasta is so much easier than most people think. The main ingredients you need to make pasta are just flour and eggs. Which are quite common in every household kitchen.

I started making homemade pasta two years ago when I attended a pasta cooking class. I found the class so interesting and loved all the dishes we made. Since then, I have made it a goal of mine to create a homemade pasta dish at least once a week. Completely for fun, I taught my family members how to make a simple homemade pasta. It took some time to help them get it right. Now that they know how to make it, they have also found a love for homemade pasta. This is satisfying for me because I know that they will always love and support what I do.

The career that I am pursuing is teaching. Throughout my life I have loved school and truthfully wanted to learn more. When I was younger, in elementary school, I would cry on the last day of school. Just because I would not be able to go every day. It made me feel sad that I would not be able to see my teachers and friends. As I have grown up, I have had some teachers that have shaped my life for the better. In junior high, I hated school. Then, in eighth grade, I met a teacher that changed my outlook on school for the better. I learned how to study in a way that was helpful and learned how to balance my personal life with school.

When I graduated ninth grade, I thought about what had made my eighth and ninth grade years so much better. And the answer was the teachers I had. They made school so much more fun, and I really want to make school fun for students. Now I have an idea of what I want to do when I graduate high school in two years. As a junior, I will apply to Utah State University. I am going into the Food and Nutrition program at USU. After earning my minor, I will complete the Secondary Teacher Education Program. This will allow me to teach middle school or high school. I expect to combine the two things that I love to do in this way. My goal is to teach culinary arts at a middle or high school. I know that it would be a job that I would love going to every day. I took these classes in junior high and loved the fact it was a fun hands-on class. It really resonated with me. I hope to take more of these classes as I go through high school.

Thank you so much for this wonderful opportunity!