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What Drives Me?

The word “drive” can be used as a verb or a noun. It can mean to operate a vehicle or go for a cruise. One could drive a golf ball or insert a disk into a drive. But, to “have drive” is a phrase that brings to mind an individual who is able to propel themselves against outside forces that may be working against them. I was born with a disability called “Radial Ulnar Synostosis”. This means the radius and ulna bones are fused together in my elbows. My family and I were told by doctors that I would have difficulty and/or possibly be unable to perform gross motor tasks such as writing, drawing, playing sports etc. This diagnosis has proven to be mere friction attempting to slow my life in motion, it has not in the least slowed my drive.

I am graduating high school this spring and attending Boise State in the fall. My major is in the STEM field, specifically Games, Interactive Media and Mobile Design. My drive has taken me on a path to this major and future career in animation and APP development. This is because I love to draw, paint, create comic books, write and play music, design clay and 3D models and more. These are all things that my family was told I would struggle with, or even be unable to do. I am driven by my desire to be an artist and by my talent! I am good at these things. No, not just good, I am amazing at them! My family never went to my school or coaches and requested special treatment. They never let me feel sorry for myself, quit a team or not apply myself in every situation. That has taught me having a physical disability does not define me, it is just resistance which requires more power to overcome.

Inertia is when an object in motion, remains in motion unless acted upon by an outside force. Although I do not have the benefit of inertia, I have something better than that, drive! The outside force, my disability, which has caused some friction for me is no match for the power that propels me towards my goals. With my degree I would love to not only design games and interactive media, but APP’s, software, or 3D models that can help others. Whether it’s an easier way for those with limb disabilities to write, take change (a task which is extremely difficult for me) or communicate. I want to develop APP’s that can help in healthcare, law enforcement, transportation and public education.

So, what drives me? I do. My mental strength is that of a powerful truck or sports car. I drive myself over bumps and hills. There is not a chance that any friction or outside force will be able to slow my drive, because I need it. For me, “drive” is not a noun or a verb, it is a requirement.

