

# The Mount

## A C A D E M Y

October 1, 2024

To whom it may concern,

It is my pleasure to submit student athlete Rayann Bazeley as a candidate for the Inspiration in Volleyball Scholarship.

Through her four years of playing high school volleyball, Rayann has shown growth as a player and young woman. Coming on to the team Rayann was a quiet and reserved player. Additionally, she faced significant personal challenges which sometimes seemed insurmountable. Her determination to push through these despite the circumstances continues to be her strength. Overcoming the challenges has given her the heart and the confidence to take on leadership of the team and play with joy.

Rayann takes academics seriously and holds herself accountable for her work in the classroom and on the court. In addition, she makes efforts to tutor fellow students who are struggling with academics. Rayann's work ethics, self-discipline, and determination are impressive: she puts in her time as a matter of fact and is reliably self-motivated. She is proud that her 4.0 average has helped her team receive the AVCA Team Academic Award.

Rayann is a member of her school's FFA chapter and participated in research on how equine therapy benefits children with autism and devotes much of her time to this club and its outreach programs. This included spending time with different children as they worked with horses. Together with her team members, she has contributed in efforts to support a local Veterans Association. She will be attending the national FFA convention this October along with her team members.

Rayann has spent two summers volunteering in summer camp programs working with kindergarten and middle school age children. She enjoys working with children and relates well to them.

This past summer Rayann volunteered her time at Northern Dutchess Hospital, offering drinks and snacks to patients and spending time to talk with them. Rayann hopes to take a gap year in a third world country before pursuing studies towards becoming a registered nurse or nurse practitioner.

Rayann isn't sure that she will play volleyball at the college level, but she does hope to be able to play club for the benefits of the team atmosphere and the friendships that add to the joy of the game.

Reflecting on these qualities and accomplishments, although Rayann may not receive the spotlight for being a star athlete, I am proud that this young woman has the strength of character to do her best and to use the lessons from her personal trials to help others.

With this, I am happy to recommend Rayann as a candidate for the Inspiration in Volleyball Scholarship.

Sincerely,

Alison Dunn  
Mount Academy