



The NOODLE

Open up and say AHHHH!!!



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Welcome to the January 2017 edition of *The Noodle*, written and published by the Florida Youth Council!!! For this issue of *The Noodle*, members of the FYC were asked to write about their Hopes, Dreams, and Fears. This topic allowed

members to share their thoughts about their Hopes, Dreams, and Fears. We hope you will take a few minutes out of your busy schedule to learn about our experiences and enjoy our thoughts and opinions in this January 2017 edition of *The Noodle!*

Current Members:

Shevie Barnes
Derek Carraway
Rocky Castro
Megan Germain
Ian Horowitz
Josh Tapia
Christopher Regan
Dakota Smoot
Christina Waldron
Serena Wetmore

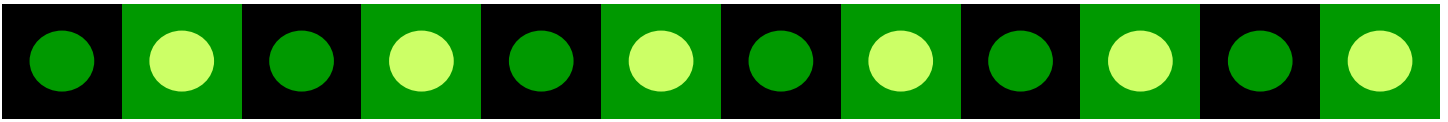


When the world says
Give up.
Hope whispers...
Try it one more time

"All our dreams can come true, if we have the courage to pursue them."

-Walt Disney

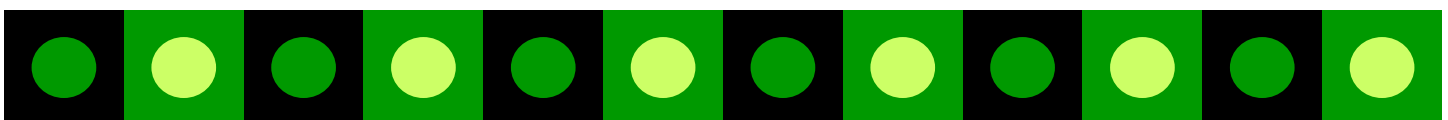




What if it's possible?

Its a great thing to see Yourself achieve goals that you once were impossible. To finish school or to learn to take care of some of your everyday chores alone or to do something as little as paying your first bill by yourself. Achievements help you strive to go and achieve others but some start as dreams. Just ideas you hope come true. Here are some if mine. When I was younger I dreamed to be able to see a live wrestling event. I was blind you see and I only was able to watch it at home and listen to my favorite wrestling announcer Jim Ross narrate the events if the show. I use to imagine where giant men achieve crazy stunts and hear the bumps when they landed and heat the crowd react to the excitement if seeing it live. They're was even a time period I wished I was a wrestler! But mom wasn't having that. Hahaha. Fast forward a few years and through treatment I was able to get my vision back and I attended my first wrestling event. It was the most breath taking and just amazing. I wished and hoped for that and never forgot. It happened i achieved it later better than never. Hopes and dreams come and go but at times they never really go. Always remember that time can grow your dreams and you can achieve them. Its just go to you to never forgot what you've always strived and what you've always hoped to happened! Dream on!

By Josh Tapia





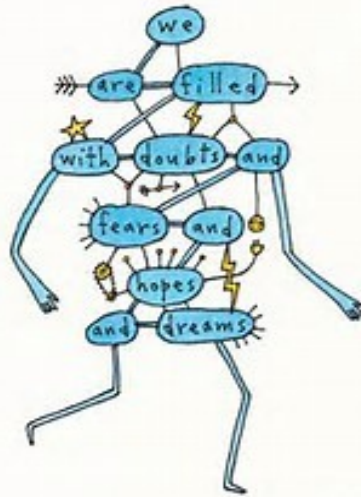
“Hopes, Dreams, and Fears: The Crossroads”

As I approach the two-year anniversary of my Undergraduate graduation from the University of North Florida, I find myself asking the exact same question that I am very sure many other people are asking themselves: “What is next?” All of us have spent our entire lives in school up until this point, being told exactly what to do and when to do it by. There was very little uncertainty or ambiguity that we had to worry about. Now, everything has changed. The question “What is next?” is perhaps the most difficult question of all to answer. Do we go back to college and try to obtain a graduate degree? Do we go out and actually start looking for a job? Do we finally decide to get married? What is the most beneficial route for me to take?

For me, in an effort to decrease the stress and pressure that can come with these questions, I have decided to combine some of these paths into portions that I can more easily manage. For instance, I am helping my parents start up a laser engraving business that can be used to bring in some additional revenue as more partners and organizations become interested in it. I am also pursuing a part-time Master of Science in Communication Management graduate degree. Finally, I am conducting job hunts in the hopes of securing a “real job” that will allow me to quit my part-time weekend job at Publix Supermarkets, where I have been since the start of my Undergraduate college career.

When you are at the Crossroads of your life, it does not have to be the end of the world. Everything does not have to feel so incredibly overwhelming. All you have to do it just take a step back, breathe calmly, and look at yourself. The most amazing and empowering thing is that only you have the power to decide where your life will take you, not anyone else. Just think about your talents, goals, and passions, and how you want to best take advantage of them. After all, the sky is the limit.

By Christopher Regan



Hopes, Dreams and Fears

Hopes dreams and fears. Everyone has them at some point during their life. I had to think about this one for a minute but then it hit me. So let's take them one at a time. My hopes had always been I would be able to successfully finish school and get a good education despite the obstacles I have had to overcome. This I have managed to achieve. I finished grade school and college, all with just a little extra assistance along the way.

My dreams are now that I have got that accomplished I can successfully look at and land a good job. I'm on my way to doing that. The last year and a half or so that I was in school I had an internship so I could gain valuable experience in the field that I wanted to go in. I'm on my way to doing that. The last couple months I landed an part-time OPS job with the state. My dream is that that would help bland to me getting a full-time job with benefits. My dream is that as we start this New Year that this will be my year that this will be achieved.

Lastly, my fears. This was difficult to pinpoint. I guess it would be something happening that would delay or prevent me from being able to achieve my hopes and dreams. I don't even think about this because I know everything is going to work out and be fine because God is in control. This is my thoughts on my hopes, dreams and fears.

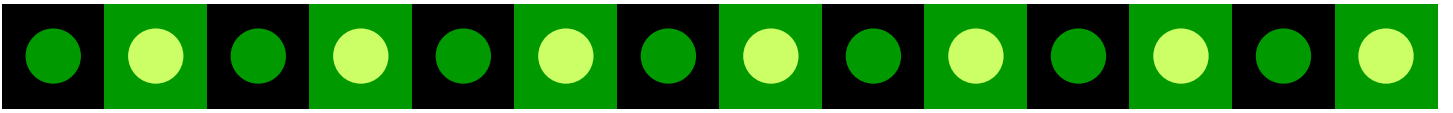
By Derek Caraway



Hopes, Dreams, and Fears

More often than not, I think about my hopes, dreams and fears at three in the morning when I can't sleep. I'm pretty sure I'm not the only person in the world that has a brain that says "let's stay in think about your entire life." This article may be a little more serious than my previous articles because of asking someone to write down your hopes, dreams and fears for the world to see is very serious subject matter especially for the noodle. So here it goes, my hope is that one day we will have world peace that will end all the wars and chaos going on right now and for years to come. I hope that all of this political controversy will end and we can all just live with equal rights, pay and benefits. My dreams are that one day in the near future I can be a productive member of society by landing a well-paying and emotionally rewarding job. It is also my dream to live on lots of land, in a big house with a large family. In addition to that, I would like to become a foster parent and run an animal rescue on that land. With that being said, my fear is that none of these things will actually happen.

By, Megan Germain



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!



820 East Park Avenue, Suite F-100

Tallahassee, FL 32301

