

My Story

Becoming a Writer

By Scott Masson

It all started while I was a student at East Granby High School. Going to English class – that was what got me thinking about being a writer. That thought became a reality while I attended the Farmington Valley Transition Academy at the University of Hartford. Now, I write for both the Special Olympics of Connecticut and for Favarh. My dream of becoming a real, published writer is coming true.

While in high school I took classes like French and other classes but really connected with my English teacher Mrs. Ott. She was a great teacher. Despite how great she and other teachers like Mr. Curtis, Mr. and Mrs. Mullane were, however i never really felt I had the help to guide me or push me in the right direction.

Regardless, I've always enjoyed watching sports and the local news like on Fox 61. Those resources have helped me stay up-to-date with the latest news every day. During my free time in high school i would read sports biographies about players on my favorite teams such as UConn basketball, the Boston Red Sox, Celtics. New England Patriots and the Boston Bruins.

After I school I attended the Transition Academy at the University of Hartford and that is where my writing journey really started to take shape. The teachers there really helped me get on the right foot by having us write current events. The teachers who influenced me there were Mrs. Nelson, who also was a professor on campus, and John Pribila, who worked with me the most on my writing. Another one was a student teacher named Jackie Smith, who also played on the women's basketball team there.

One day John Pribila let me write my own current events story and so that's when i started writing. My first one was about the history of my West Hartford Special Olympics Basketball team. I started to do more and more writing during my time at the University of Hartford and that's when I started to realize that writing was my dream.

So now i am pursuing it more and more at Favarh and for Special Olympics Connecticut

With help from Special Olympics Communications Director Debbie Horne, I became the first athletic writer for them. I write articles for them about everything like competitions and the Dream Ride to the Connecticut media softball tournament in Wethersfield. The Media softball tournament in fact helped me get more connections and friendships, from Fox 61 News such as Jenn Bernstein who i am really good buddies with and Erika Arias.

To get the feel for being in that business, Jenn is currently working on allowing me to shadow someone from the news station in either March or April

Thank You and look for more articles from me to come, as the late Stuart Scott from ESPN would say "booyah."

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Scott Masson is a Favarh participant. He has recently begun writing a column about his interests, including Favarh. Please be on the lookout for future articles by Scott.)