

Most Meaningful Activity

For me, indoor color guard has had the most meaning throughout high school. It has given and taught me so much in the past four years. It has given me the exercise which I undoubtedly would not have gotten otherwise, since I am not a very sports-oriented person (except for color guard, of course). I guess the best way to describe it would be to call it "the sport of the arts." In only a single second you have to be able to think, dance, breathe, spin and perform, and there are many, many seconds in a show. That is the arts part of it; the sports part comes from the exercise, the drilling, the sweat, the pain, the bruises, from doing a four and a half minute show with only about twenty-five seconds of actual stop-doing-something-and-catch-your-breath time, and from the discipline to toss a saber up in the air, watch it rotate five times, stand still as it comes racing down at you and still put your hands out to catch it. Indoor color guard has taught me self-discipline, time management and how to get along with people. It has helped me in learning how to perform, how not to show it when I make a mistake and how to recover from that mistake. Even though I may be doing a different action, these lessons correspond to my singing, which is a huge part of my life. By learning how to play off a rifle drop, I have also learned how to play off a voice crack or a sour note. Besides teaching me all these things, indoor color guard also led me to learn about my school's jazz band, to audition for the vocalist position and to end up singing with the band, thereby discovering my passion for jazz singing.