

## College Expert Students' Passion Projects

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Colleges are looking for students who take their hobbies and interests to the next level. We refer to this as a passion project. When you initiate a passion project, it's important to be authentic and focus on what *you* love to do, not what you think colleges are looking for.

There are more than 26,000 high schools in the US, so there are more than 26,000 yearbook editors, soccer captains and homecoming queens. A passion project can help you stand out among these other accomplishments. What else can you do to stand out? Keep shining in your school activities, classes and testing! Then take on a cause, challenge or activity that truly excites you by starting a passion project.

**Here are some examples of passion projects initiated by former students:**

- ❖ Beekeeping
- ❖ Birdwatching
- ❖ Conducting Alzheimer's research with U of MN professor
- ❖ Creating a haunted house
- ❖ Creating a virtual reality app for MRI's
- ❖ Creating and showing art at state fair
- ❖ Designing a drone to deliver medical supplies to national parks, rural areas and busy cities like NYC
- ❖ Filming a documentary
- ❖ Initiating summer tennis and theater camps for neighborhood kids
- ❖ Inventing a cell phone pocket protector for wake boarding
- ❖ Inventing a new font – from a lost Indian language
- ❖ Making craft kits for Children's Hospital
- ❖ Making shirts that accommodate a port for children in hospital
- ❖ Playing in a jazz quartet at Dakota Jazz Club
- ❖ Running a clamming business
- ❖ Starting a club (Candy of the Month, Kindness, Fishing, Mountain Bike)
- ❖ Starting a cupcake business
- ❖ Starting a literary arts magazine

- ❖ Starting Club of Charitable Acts
- ❖ Teaching piano
- ❖ Volunteering in political campaigns
- ❖ Writing blogs on topics like movies, celiac disease

There are probably over 26,000 other ideas yet to be created by students like you!