

## **Bio for Brittany Walker**

Brittany Walker grew up in Lakewood, Ohio, a suburb of Cleveland. At an early age, her father provided her opportunities to travel to remote areas in the US and to far-reaching foreign countries. As a result of her travels, Brittany gained cultural awareness at an early age, and also gained a passion for the outdoors. Brittany attended the University of Colorado at Boulder, pursuing a degree in Chemistry, while also competing in Freestyle Skiing. Upon graduating with her BA in 1998, Brittany worked as a technician at a lab located in Boulder, while continuing to compete in Freestyle Skiing. While working in this lab, Brittany gained clarity as to what she wanted to do for a profession. She decided she wanted to be a teacher. Brittany then left the chemistry lab, spent the summer traveling around the world with her father, and then returned to the University of Colorado to pursue her licensure in Education. Due to the changes in her life, Brittany was no longer able to compete in Freestyle Skiing, but became an avid mountain bike racer in it's place racing expert level on the Mountain States Cup. In 2002, Brittany finished the work needed to complete her license in Education and began working at Standley Lake High School in Westminster, Colorado. There she taught science, including physics and a wide range of chemistry classes. While teaching at SLHS Brittany changed her focus away from mountain bike racing back to skiing, working as a Freestyle coach for the Winter Park Competition Center. She also began to dabble in the area of ski mountaineering. In the quest to set high goals for herself, she decided to set her sights on becoming the first woman to ski all of Colorado's 14,000-foot peaks. Brittany moved to Crested Butte in July 2008, fulfilling her life-long dream of living in a small mountain town. She is happy to have joined this fantastic community which is part of the greatest treasures Crested Butte has to offer. Brittany has continued her joy of working with youth by working as both a tutor and substitute teacher. Brittany continues to train for her ski mountaineering goals, working toward her goal of skiing all of Colorado's 14,000-ft peaks. Currently, she only has 8 peaks left to ski out of the 54 official fourteeners.