**Amanda Boxtel**

**Accomplishments**

* Australian born, she has a Degree in Primary Education with a specialization in Early Childhood
* On February 27th, 1992 a freak skiing accident rendered her a paraplegic. While her spinal cord injury took away her ability to walk, it didn’t take away her ability to dream.
* She was an elementary school teacher and an aerobic dance instructor
* 1995 Co-founder, Challenge Aspen ([www.ChallengeAspen.org](http://www.ChallengeAspen.org)), a non-profit that enables individuals with disabilities to realize their potential through recreation.
* 1996 PSIA (Professional Ski Instructor of America) Adaptive Ski Instructor Certification –

First disabled person to be hired by Aspen Skiing Company to teach skiing to the disabled from a mono-ski

* 1999 Colorado Ski Country USA Adaptive Athlete of the Year
* 1999 Orchestrated the first disability whitewater rafting trip down the Grand Canyon
* 2002 Olympic Torch Bearer (from my mono-ski)
* 2002-2005 - Helped establish international adaptive ski programs in Iceland, Chile and Argentina
* 2005 Spearheaded bringing 200 wheelchairs to the poorest of the poor in Argentina
* 2007 Colorado Rockies Leadership Award on Coors Field, Denver, CO
* 2008 Aspen Sojourner Magazine - Sojourner Salutes Award
* 2007-June, 2010 - Stem Cell Treatments in New Delhi, India
* July, 2010-Present – First paraplegic woman in the world to walk in EksoTM - a bionic exoskeleton - with Ekso Bionics (formerly Berkeley Bionics) in California, USA
* May, 2013 – Second wheelchair distribution project in Argentina with Aspen Sister Cities Medical Exchange
* July, 2013 – First person in the US to personally own EksoTM, a bionic exoskeleton suit from Ekso Bionics. This version features a variable assist modality.
* Amanda has been featured as a speaker at numerous conferences and venues around the world including TED and Singularity University’s European Summit where she presented the first hybrid 3D printed exoskeleton in the world.
* January 2013-Present—Executive Director, Bridging Bionics Foundation <http://bridgingbionics.org>. Amanda currently serves as Founder and Executive Director for [Bridging Bionics Foundation](http://bridgingbionics.org/), which aims to bridge human mobility with exoskeletons and bionic technology by giving the gift of mobility to those in need.
* Amanda was recently honored as one of CNN Heroes Top 10 finalists for 2018. CNN Heroes honors everyday people changing the world. **Watch: CNN Heroes Tribute: Amanda Boxtel:**<https://www.cnn.com/videos/tv/2018/12/12/cnnheroes-tribute-amanda-boxtel.cnn>