**2020 Writing Entry Prompts**

**In 500 words or fewer, please respond to one of the prompts below. The primary goal of the writing entry is to allow the committee to learn more about you as a person—what matters to you, what makes you interesting, and/or what makes you stand out.  Whichever topic you choose, be sure that your writing entry gives the reader a chance to learn more about you.The diction and tone of your response should be appropriate for the topic you select. Your entry must be typed and double-spaced. Failure to follow directions will result in a loss of points. You may type and attach your writing entry as a separate document.**

**Please clearly designate on your writing entry page which prompt you have selected to answer. Place the prompt number, without the prompt question, at the top of your writing entry page.**

**Review our “Helpful Hints: Best Practices & Important Information” document to find scoring guidelines and a rubric for this section.**

**Writing Entry Prompt 1**  
What is one unique issue affecting your community that, if given the opportunity, **you would directly impact the future of that issue**? Describe not only how you would go about making a difference, but also why this issue is unique to your sense of community. Hint: Do not spend most of your essay explaining the history or background of the issue; what’s important is detailing the action steps you would take and your involvement.

**Writing Entry Prompt 2**  
Explain why a particular Protagonist, Hero - male or female - of a novel, film, poem, or other work of art, has been especially important to you. **Be sure to emphasize what the character reveals about you**. Hint: Do not spend most of your essay summarizing the novel, film, poem, or work of art; what’s most important to us is what the work reveals about you.

**Writing Entry Prompt 3**  
Suppose you had to choose one person - a modern person or person from another era - to travel with you on a cross-country road trip. **Who would you choose and why? What would make this person an ideal traveling companion? What insights will you gain?** Hint: Do not spend most of your essay describing the person and his or her history/accomplishments; what’s important to us is what your choice reveals about you.

**Writing Entry Prompt 4**  
**What question or quote changed how you understand the world?** Explain how this particular question (and its answer, answers, or lack of an answer) or quote (you read or heard) made a difference in your thinking. Hint: Do not spend most of your essay on providing an interpretation, summarizing the background, or establishing a historical context of the question or quote; what’s important is your understanding and how the question or quote affected your worldview.

**Writing Entry Prompt 5**  
Describe an experience that marked your transition from childhood to adulthood. This could involve your culture (“rite of passage”), an incident in your community or family, or even a revelation of skills, ideas, life lessons, etc. **What did you learn/gain from this transition?** Hint: Do not spend most of your essay on the details of your experience; what’s important to us is your insight into the lessons you learned and/or knowledge you gained.

**Writing Entry Prompt 6**  
At the bottom of the Governor’s Scholar Program logo, there is a tree root system. Write an essay discussing your **sense of roots, how those roots have cultivated your sense of self, and how they can develop who you will become.** Hint: Although “roots” are associated with family, you may consider other aspects as well such as emotional/physical, social/spiritual, and intellectual/vocational roots.

**WRITING ENTRY (Continued)**