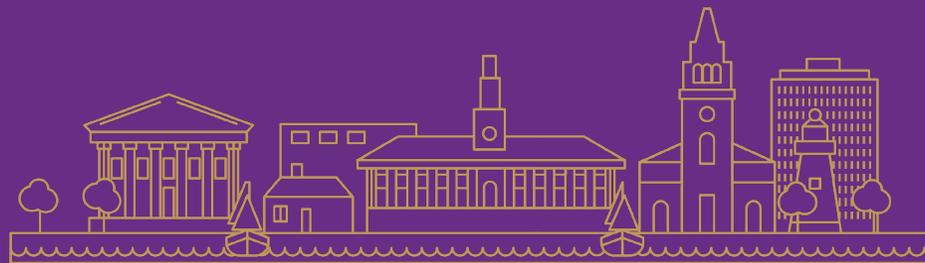




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College Essay Workshop: Tell your story

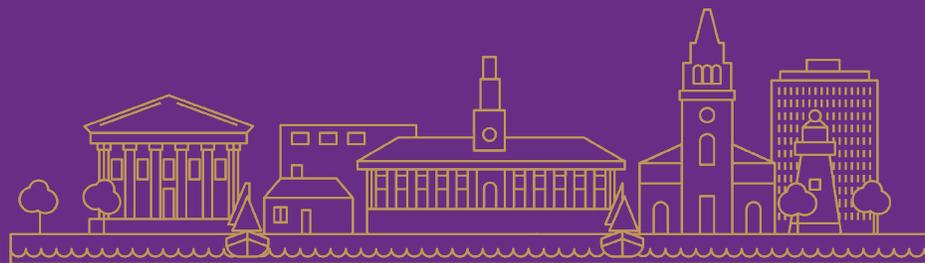




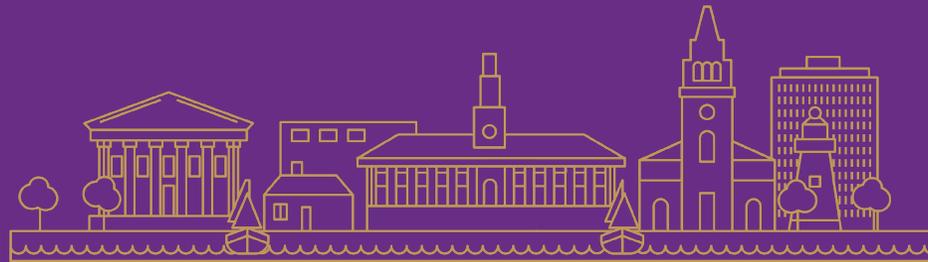
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Presented By:

The Office of Admission at
Saint Michael's College



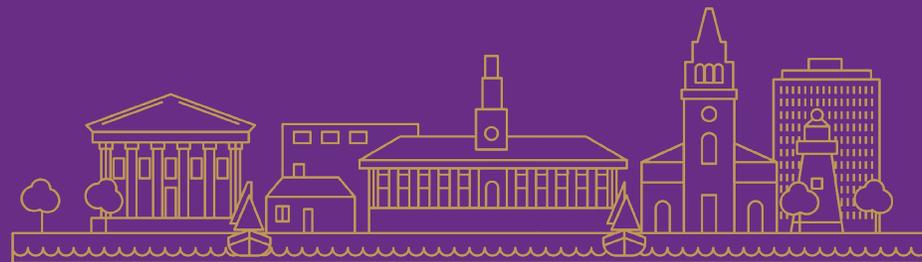
Why do you need a College Essay?



Your story



is your unique perspective.



What Makes a Story Great?

- Make me care
- All main characters have an inner motor – what drives you?
- Change is fundamental to a story
- All stories have a theme
- Infuse wonder
- Use what you know



What is the Goal of Your College Essay?

- Put yourself in the narrative
- What will you contribute to our community?
- Tell us something we don't know





Writing Prompt:

What captivates you to the point of losing all track of time? Tell us about it.





Writing Prompt:

What is something you have contributed to your high school community over the last few years?





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College Essay Tips and Tricks





I. Be Proactive and Plan

Make sure that you start writing early and have an idea of what you are trying to say. Last minute, rambling first drafts read much worse than a polished piece written over the course of several weeks.





II. Understand the Prompt or Directions

Some colleges will request a personal answer to a specific question, or may ask why you are interested in their institution. Do your research and make sure you are answering the prompt directly.





III. Capture Your Audience's Attention

Remember that the person reading this does not know you beyond your application materials, so capture their interest and make it clear who you are, what is important to you, and how you learn.





IV. Be Focused and Clear

Avoid tangents or unnecessary phrases. Make sure you are staying on topic and writing towards a clear goal in your writing. Make sure you are specific, factual, and honest.





V. Be True and Authentic

While you do not want to be too casual or conversational in your writing, make sure you are writing how you normally would sound. Do not try to use fancier words or phrases to impress people and instead try to be your best self.





VI. Proofread and Edit

Through using spell-checks, having a friend or family member help, or letting your work sit for a few days, make sure you do not have any typos or mistakes. You want this to be polished and complete.





5 keys components to your College Essay

**Use
Your
Voice**

**Make
Them
Care**

**Have an
Underlying
Theme**

**Tell Us
Something
We Do Not
Know**

**Use Clear
Sentences
and
Paragraphs**





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Thanks for joining us!

Office of Admission
admission@smcvt.edu
www.smcvt.edu