Hello, my name is...

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Associate Director of Admissions  
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What is the Essay?

A Personal Statement

Goals
- Demonstrate written expression / composition skills
- Allow the reader to get to know you!

Resources
- Review & use resources!
- VSAC.org: Simply search “essay.”
  (vsac.org/plan/applying-to-college/college-application-essay)
Topics & Length

Examples are available!
- Review Common App & School Apps
  - Topics, topic of your choice
  - commonapp.org/apply/essay-prompts
  - 250 word minimum
- Select a Topic & Plan
  - Outline your thoughts
  - Plan timeline, requirements
  - Trusted reader

Develop Your Content

Express Yourself!
- Demonstrate Your Readiness
  - Life experience / skills accumulated
  - Characteristics for success
- Tie to Academic Interest
  - Path to interest
  - Fit for program

Writing

Let's do this!
1. Draft
   - Outline your thoughts
   - Tie your skills & interests in
2. Proofread
   - Spelling & grammar
   - Reader feedback
3. Edit, Revise
   - Revisit your essay goals
4. Submit!
Admissions Reader Review

Get to know you!

Stand Out
• Did we learn something new about you
• What makes you, you!
• Was your essay/personal statement memorable

Writing Abilities
• Can you support your ideas with evidence
• Are you prepared for college level coursework/writing

Questions?

Thank you for coming — Enjoy the day!

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