Dartmouth Transfer Application Essays

Dartmouth’s transfer application includes two essays, as follows:

1. Please respond in up to 500 words:

   While arguing a Dartmouth-related case before the U.S. Supreme Court in 1818, Daniel Webster, Class of 1801, delivered this memorable line: “It is, Sir…a small college. And yet, there are those who love it!” As you seek admission to Dartmouth, what prompted your decision to transfer institutions and what aspects of the College’s program, community, or campus environment attract your interest?

2. Please choose one of the following options and respond in up to 300 words:

   A. The Hawaiian word *mo’olelo* is often translated as “story” but it can also refer to history, legend, genealogy, and tradition. Use one of these translations to introduce yourself.

   B. What excites you?

   C. In *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind*, William Kamkwamba, Class of 2014, reflects on constructing a windmill from recycled materials to power the electrical appliances in his family’s Malawian house: "If you want to make it, all you have to do is try." What drives you to create and what do you hope to make or have you already made?

   D. Curiosity is a guiding element of Toni Morrison’s talent as a writer. "I feel totally curious and alive and in control. And almost...magnificent, when I write," she says. Celebrate your curiosity.

   E. "Everything changes, everything moves, everything revolves, everything flies and goes away," observed Frida Kahlo. Apply Kahlo’s perspective to your own life.

   F. In the aftermath of World War II, Dartmouth President John Sloane Dickey, Class of 1929, proclaimed, "The world's troubles are your troubles...and there is nothing wrong with the world that better human beings cannot fix." Which of the world’s “troubles” inspires you to act? How might your course of study at Dartmouth prepare you to address it?

Optional:

In a year like no other, some have experienced disruptions and other impacts on their well-being, family circumstances, and more. This is not an additional essay, and you are not required to share anything on this topic, but if you would like to tell us how events of 2020 impacted you, please use this space to do so.