**Estrella Mountain Community College**

**ALL-USA Scholarship**

 **Essay Rubric** (based upon the 6-trait Writing Rubric)

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|  | **3****Exemplary** | **2****Strong** | **1****Proficient** | **0****Not Evident**  |
| **Ideas & Content--Endeavors****Conveys significant experience that shows application of academic & leadership skills.** Can encompass wide range and depth of experiences such as:* Personal lives
* Engagement in student organizations
* Activities that exemplify initiative & leadership
* Research projects
* Creative performance art
* Community and/or Service Learning
 | * **Exceptionally clear, focused, engaging with relevant, strong supporting detail**
 | * **Clear, focused, interesting ideas with appropriate detail**
 | * **Evident main idea with some support which may be general or limited**
 |  |
| **Ideas & Content—Effects****Demonstrates benefit to self and others** **such as:*** Life skills development
* Life changes
* Epiphanies
* Challenges met
* Re-purposing of lives
 | * **Exceptionally clear, focused, engaging with relevant, strong supporting detail**
 | * **Clear, focused, interesting ideas with appropriate detail**
 | * **Evident main idea with some support which may be general or limited**
 |  |
|  | **3****Exemplary** | **2****Strong** | **1****Proficient** | **0****Not Evident** |
| **Organization*** Structure
* Introduction
* Conclusion
 | * **Effectively organized in logical and creative manner**
* **Creative and engaging intro and conclusion**
 | * **Strong order and structure**
* **Inviting intro and satisfying closure**
 | * **Organization is apparent but conventional**
* **Attempt at introduction and conclusion**
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| **Voice*** Personality
* Sense of audience
 | * **Expressive, engaging, sincere**
* **Strong sense of audience**
* **Shows emotion: appropriate humor, honest, suspense, or life connections**
 | * **Appropriate to audience and purpose**
* **Writer behind the words comes through**
 | * **Evident commitment to topic**
* **Inconsistent or dull personality**
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| **Word Choice*** Precision
* Effectiveness
* Imagery
 | * **Precise, carefully chosen**
* **Strong, fresh, vivid images**
 | * **Descriptive, broad range of words**
* **Word choice energizes writing**
 | * **Language is functional and appropriate**
* **Descriptions may be overdone at times**
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| **Sentence Fluency*** Rhythm, flow
* Variety
 | * **High degree of craftsmanship**
* **Effective variation in sentence patterns**
 | * **Easy flow and rhythm**
* **Good variety in length and structure**
 | * **Generally in control**
* **Lack variety in length and structure**
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| **Conventions*** Appropriate spelling, caps, punctuation, grammar
 | * **Exceptionally strong control of standard conventions of writing**
 | * **Strong control of conventions; errors are few and minor**
 | * **Control of most writing conventions; occasional errors**
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