Dynamic Horizons Scholarship
Essay Prompts and Guidelines

Essays should be submitted following these guidelines:

- 1-3 pages
- Single Space
- Times New Roman
- 12-point font
- 1-inch margins
- Include unique title at the top of your essay
  - Centered
  - 14-point font
  - Times New Roman
- Submission File Name- First initial. Last name – DH Scholarship
  - Ex: D. Washington- DH Scholarship
  - Must match the information provided in the application

Applicants who respond to prompts from the Afro-futurism or Transformational Learning sections will receive two extra points on their application rubric.

Scholarship Essay Prompts

Afro-Futurism

1. What does Afro-futurism mean to you, and how do you imagine society running if we prioritized the principles and practices.

2. Write a speculative fiction that underscores the principles and themes of Afro-futurism.

...

Use these resources to understand the meaning and uses of Afro-futurism.

- Youtube Video: Clarified: What is Afrofuturism?
- The Gold Horizon regards Afro-futurism as a conceptual method that is possible when we merge the ideals of a fantasy world with the structures of the natural world to create a utopian reality.
- "At the core of Afro-futurism is an emphasis on trying to create a system that's more equitable with a core goal of collective care for everyone." – Dr. Julian Chambliss
- "A lot of times Afro-futurism is really asking us to think about how the system we know can be made safe for everyone… offering alternative pathways and different ways of thinking about individual, community, and society structures." – Dr. Julian Chambliss

Scholarship Essay Prompts

Important Afro-Futurism themes:

- Magical Realism
- Time: Past, Present, and Future
- Community
- Liberation
- Equity

Transformational Learning

1. How does Transformational Learning compare to the styles of learning you are use to and why is transformational learning important to understanding the needs of our neighboring communities?

2. What does transformational learning mean to you and how would this learning style benefit your success in college?

...

Use these resources to understand the meaning and uses of Transformational Learning

- Youtube Video: <u>What is Transformational Learning</u>

- The Gold Horizon refers to Transformative Learning as a method of educating learners through significant shifts in their perspectives and understandings of the world around them. Transformative Learning is essential to creating positive change in our society by recognizing and acknowledging the different realities many of us face.

- Transformative learning is about becoming more aware, more empathetic, and more adaptable. It's about embracing the journey of self-discovery and growth, and being open to the power of new ideas and perspectives.

- Transformative learning encourages one to consider how social challenges are connected to our individual challenges and how our individual challenges are shared by others. (Fleming, 2018)

Important Transformational Learning themes:

- Various Point of Views
- Critical Reflection
- Making sense of happenings
- Communicating
- Social Change

Scholarship Essay Prompts

General Essay Prompts

1. Aside from your college degree, what do you hope to gain from your college experience? Please share your personal and professional aspirations, any skills and experiences as well.

2. What book, class, teacher, or experience has advanced the way think? Please detail how this shift happened and why is it significant in your personal life and upcoming collegiate journey.

Note: These essay prompts are meant to gauge how well you make sense of thought-provoking concepts as diverse learners. Remember, diversity is not only about race and ethnicity. Diversity also includes physical abilities, cognitive capabilities, national citizenship, religions, and so much more. Be creative and authentic with your responses!

Essay prompts will be scored on the following categories (on a 10-point scale):

- Content and Relevance
- Organization & Structure
- Depth of Analysis & Insight
- Mechanics & Grammar