



University of Chicago students join a community that's all about ideas.

No matter who you are or where you're from, you'll find a place that allows you to take chances, express your thoughts, and discover your passions.

UChicago and the award-winning Newberger Hillel Center support a diverse array of Jewish communities that allow students to explore being Jewish in social, ethnic, cultural, artistic, intellectual, spiritual, and myriad other ways.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Annual Latke-Hamantash Debate
- Chicago Center for Jewish Studies
- Full kosher meal plan
- International Alternative Spring Break trips
- Jewish fraternity life
- UChicago Birthright Trips

For more information, visit the Newberger Hillel Center at uchicagohillel.org, or the Chicago Center for Jewish Studies at jewishstudies.uchicago.edu.

 THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO | collegeadmissions.uchicago.edu

What's the best way to stand out on my college admissions essay?

Wendy Kahn: A college application is crammed with your grades, test scores, activities, teacher and counselor recommendations—information that tells colleges how *others* see you. The college essay is the only part of your application that tells colleges how you see *yourself*.

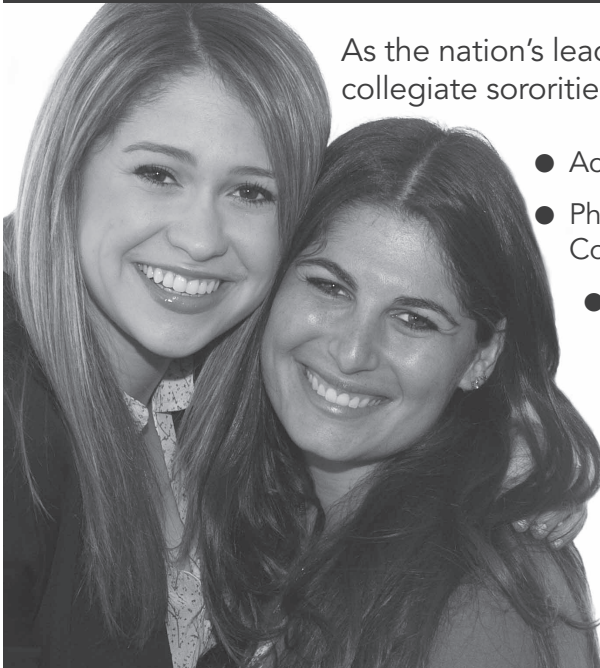
The best college essay gives a group of strangers a small “snapshot” of who you are and how you became that person. To stand out, your essay should tell a story *only you* could tell. Write about a transformative experience that changed your beliefs or gave you a new insight. As one admissions director has put it, “colleges look within students’ essays for evidence of growth and resolution.”

In most academic writing, the focus is on keeping the “I” word out of the equation. In contrast, in a good college essay the “I” word should be front and center. Be sure, though, to write about other significant people as well. We are defined as individuals largely in terms of our experiences with other people, and acknowledging this reality in your essay will keep you from appearing self-absorbed.

Here’s an example: Last year one of the students I counsel wrote a successful essay about her week-long Israeli military experience as part of the URJ’s Eisendrath International Exchange. She described in vivid detail how much she had dreaded the military portion of the program, and then showcased her own grit and transformation from frightened novice to confident group leader during the course of the week, as well as her unanticipated insights about Israeli patriotism. She was admitted to every school on her list, including her highest reach.

Gael Casner, College Find, Greenbrae, California (HECA, NACAC, WACAC*): Having read thousands of applications for UC Berkeley, a school that requires two essays from each student, as well as thousands of essays from my own clients, I know the positive impact a well-written essay can have on a college’s decision. The following tips can help you

Alpha Epsilon Phi / Sigma Delta Tau



As the nation’s leading Jewish collegiate sororities, we encourage:

- Academic Excellence
- Philanthropic Commitment
- Campus and Community Involvement
- Dedication to Jewish Values

For more information please visit our websites.

Building young Jewish women

www.aephi.org / www.sigmadeltatau.com