The Rappahannock Scholars Program at the University of Mary Washington invites ALL STUDENTS from Central, Essex, Lancaster, Northumberland, Rappahannock, and Washington & Lee High Schools to enter the Rappahannock Scholars 2016 Essay Contest. The TOP 3 entries will be awarded prizes.

The questions come from the 2016 Common Application. Choose one of the essay topics below.

• Some students have a background or story that is so central to their identity that they believe their life story would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, please share your story.

• Recount an incident or time when you experienced failure. How did it affect you, and what lessons did you learn?

• Reflect on a time when you challenged a belief or idea. What prompted you to act? Would you make the same decision again?

• Describe a problem you’ve solved or a problem you’d like to solve. Anything that is of personal importance, no matter the scale. Explain its significance to you and what steps you took or could be taken to identify a solution.

• Discuss an accomplishment or event, formal or informal, that marked your transition from childhood to adulthood within your culture, community, or family.