

big picture

"I agree with Pat Conroy that 'without music, life is a journey through a desert.'"
—**JOSEPH NAEEM '11**
Boonton, New Jersey
Philosophy

"I've learned to enjoy my own company. I'm a lot more independent than when I first came to Dartmouth."
—**JAMES KHUN '11**
Lynn, Massachusetts
Government & Religion

"I live by the saying, 'If it's good it's fantastic. If it's bad it's experience.'"
—**IFY ACHEBE '13**
Evanston, Illinois
Mathematical Social Science

"I've discovered that being true to myself is something others appreciate and encourage."
—**MOIRA SCANLON '12**
Chicago
Economics

"I've learned that curiosity is among the most important traits a person can have."
—**JASON GOODMAN '12**
Scarsdale, New York
Economics

"Happiness is eating a good meal after a hard workout—possibly the best feeling ever."
—**ZHIQIAN "CHEN" LI '14**
Birmingham, Alabama
Economics & Psychology

"I try not to get too attached to things."
—**MICHAEL CHEN '11**
San Diego, California
Ancient Cultures & Civilizations

"I hope to work in film and theater with people who inspire, teach and excite me."
—**GENEVIEVE ADAMS '11**
New York City
English & Theater

"I'm intrigued by Napoleon Bonaparte and his belief in a guiding star."
—**TREVELYAN WING '13**
Falmouth, Massachusetts
History

"I come from the second poorest county in my state. If I had a million dollars to donate, I'd give it to my hometown school system."
—**CHRISTOPHER CHAVIS '12**
Rowland, North Carolina
Native American Studies

"I see myself back in Texas, eventually starting my own business and involved with early-stage investing."
—**MADOLYN MERTZ '11**
San Angelo, Texas
History

"I hope to host a TV nature program while working as a stuntman for a Hollywood studio. More realistically, I want to be a doctor."
—**JOHN ORTIZ '14**
Corvallis, Oregon
Undecided

"It saddens me to see students pursuing a field for money or prestige instead of something they're passionate about. I want to shake them and say, 'Just do what you love!'"
—**ERIN JAEGER '11**
Keene, New Hampshire
English

"I embrace empathy as the answer to most of life's social woes. I always try to understand why other people believe as they do."
—**MANDY BOWERS '14**
Williamsburg, Virginia
Government

"I'm optimistic that people are beginning to conduct themselves in better ways by consciously making decisions with consideration of natural resources, human rights and their personal health."
—**SAM SEEHOF '13**
Minnetonka, Minnesota
Economics & Math

"I'm always ready for a deep conversation. I often think about whether I will accomplish something meaningful."
—**ROHAIL PREMJEET '14**
Fort Worth, Texas
Government & English

"Where I am in 10 years mostly depends on which states will let me marry my future husband."
—**ADRIAN FERRARI '14**
Saratoga, California
Government

"Bad grammar is a pet peeve. It drives my friends crazy when I wince listening to them."
—**CHRIS BILGER '11**
Los Altos Hills, California
Engineering

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"Everyone can be hardworking but also enjoy life. For me that includes snowboarding and playing my cello."

—**SUK JOON LEE '11**
Seoul, Korea
Engineering

"As a leftist at a somewhat conservative institution, I haven't allowed myself to become complacent."

—**JORDAN OSSERMAN '11**
Portland, Oregon
Women's & Gender Studies

"I am resilient—fiercely resilient."

—**ADEDIPO ADEGUNLE '11**
Atlanta
Philosophy

"I get frustrated or angry only when I fail at something I know I can do better."

—**KELLY FOLEY '12**
Boston
History

"I've found that the most mundane activity can be fun if you're with the right people."

—**CATIE O'SULLIVAN '14**
Needham, Massachusetts
Undecided

"I'm proud of doing everything I could with the opportunities given to me as a first-generation American."

—**CYRUS JON AKRAMI '11**
Salt Lake City
Economics & Government

"I see myself managing a private space company that flies everyday people to low earth orbit and back—and preparing for my own trip to Mars."

—**JULIANNA SCHEIMAN '11**
Ann Arbor, Michigan
Engineering Physics

"Playing the guitar, writing songs, hiking, cooking food from home, exploring new places and being around my friends—all these make me happy."

—**RENÉ ZELAYA '11**
Mexico City, Mexico
Global Health

"My father came to Dartmouth from a poor family in Ghana and completed his degree in three years without ever going home. For me, coming to New Hampshire from Oklahoma has been a big transition!"

—**RACHEL OFORI '14**
Lawton, Oklahoma
Government

"Apathy drives me crazy. Nothing frustrates me more than seeing people not taking full advantage of opportunities given them."

—**DEVON ZIMMERLING '11**
Lakewood, Colorado
Economics & Environmental Studies

"I get great satisfaction from accomplishing small goals in a variety of activities each day."

—**A. TARA BASU '14**
Scarsdale, New York
Undecided

"If I had to change anything about myself, I would try to be less of a perfectionist."

—**LILIANA MA '14**
Princeton Junction, New Jersey
Undecided

"At 14 I founded the Mugadi Foundation to help children suffering from HIV/AIDS in Nigeria. I had no idea what I was getting myself into. Now we're expanding into India."

—**MICHAEL ODOKARA-OKIGBO '12**
Portland, Maine
History & Global Health

"I worry that I won't do something to make the world a better place."

—**SARAH FROSTENSON '11**
Monroe, Louisiana
History

"I like heavy food with good company. Quite simply, I'm a Southern boy."

—**ANDREW NEWCOMB '11**
Helena, Alabama
Math & Economics

"Rowing as a member of my country's national junior team meant a lot to me. I value the suit I wore because it represents the work I've put into my sport for a long time."

—**DUNCAN HALL '13**
Hamilton, New Zealand
Geography

"I'm fun in very cheesy ways. I've learned to be in social settings outside my comfort zone."

—**JINGNA ZHAO '12**
Manhasset, New York
Biology

"I'd love people to see me as a math guy, but I'm afraid I look like a stoner."

—**GABE DORFSMAN-HOPKINS '13**
Durham, New Hampshire
Math & Comparative Literature

big picture

"I love being part of something greater than myself, whether a team, a club or a Greek organization."

—**TYLER BRACE '11**
Westwood, Massachusetts
Government & History

"I hope to become a neurosurgeon and develop clinics on every continent to provide affordable healthcare for people with neurodegenerative diseases."

—**PERRY BRADFORD '12**
Elgin, Illinois
Biology

"I like to act like a kid but that doesn't mean I can't be focused and somber when I need to be."

—**WEI WU '14**
Columbia, Missouri
Undecided

"I love it when I can be completely open and honest with people instead of skirting around issues we pretend don't exist."

—**KAREN ORRICK '11**
Bethesda, Maryland
Religion

"My favorite word is onomatopoeia because it sounds like what it means."

—**MICHAEL PERLSTEIN '14**
Corte Madera, California
Undecided

"I wish I could simultaneously be a professional hip-hop dancer and work for a fashion magazine."

—**CLAIRE BYRNE '11**
Rye, New York
History

"I'd like to be more daring and not so afraid of the unfamiliar—or the dark."

—**CURIE KIM '13**
Seoul, Korea
Philosophy

"My time management has improved. I've learned not to pull all-nighters."

—**RICHARD ASALA '13**
Accra, Ghana
Engineering Sciences

"It makes me happy knowing God has a plan for me—and trusting in it."

—**CHRIS O'DOWD '13**
Denver
Psychology & Economics

"I've learned to break out of the mold and do the unexpected."

—**NICK JUDSON '14**
Suffield, Connecticut
Economics

"I want to shape agricultural policy in Africa."

—**DANIEL BORNSTEIN '14**
Merrick, New York
Undecided

"I love playing the piano, singing, anything related to Harry Potter—and chocolate chips."

—**MEGAN JOHNSON '12**
Buffalo, New York
Biology

"I grew sick of piano because my parents were pushing me. Since teaching myself clarinet, I've found spreading the joy of music is a privilege."

—**KATHERINE KOO '13**
Old Tappan, New Jersey
Biology

"My heroes are Jim Dickinson for his pursuit of World Boogie, Frank Zappa for his brilliance and poise, Richard Feynman for his jocular and inquisitive nature, most scientists—and my father, for being an example of how to live."

—**EMERY COXE '12**
Houston, Texas
Computer Science

"I hope to pursue a career that I truly love. I want to do something that makes me excited to wake up in the morning."

—**MEDHA RAJ '13**
Austin, Texas
Economics

"I want to be a trauma surgeon. There's nothing routine about an emergency."

—**MATT SATTLER '14**
Cazenovia, New York
Biology

"I hope to become a physician's assistant, somewhere where there is rock climbing and snowboarding."

—**ERICA DOBOS '12**
Bethel Park, Pennsylvania
Biology

"Rationalized bigotry makes my blood boil. What makes me happy? The New York Giants. Seriously, I love them."

—**ANISE VANCE '11**
San Diego, California
Senior Fellow