

Curiositas: Curiosity

- French novelist Marcel Proust explores a powerful reaction to the taste of a madeleine (a small cake) that called forth a rush of memories from his childhood. Is there a food in your life or in the lives of those around you that carries important cultural meaning? What is involved in this connection? What meaning could you attribute to it that reaches beyond your individual experience? Be bold and speculative in thinking about what that food connection might embody. In the body of your essay, please include a photo of you or another person you know with the food item. *Use this prompt to help us understand your potential as a person with curiosity.*

Cognito: Thoughtfulness

- Poet Walt Whitman once wrote “Do I contradict myself? Very well, then, I contradict myself. (I am large, I contain multitudes).” What contradictions do you contain? Be specific and ensure you draw from your personal experiences. In the body of your essay, please include a photo of you that embodies this contradiction. *Use this prompt to help us understand your potential as a person who embraces flexible and expansive thinking.*

Diligentia: Effort

- Amelia Earhart, the first woman to fly over the Atlantic, said: “Some of us have great runways already built for us. If you have one, take off. But if you don't have one, realize it is your responsibility to grab a shovel and build one for yourself and for those who will follow after you.” What are your plans for building a runway for yourself and others, and where are you headed once the path has been paved? In the body of your essay, please include a photo of you that shows where you might be headed with this imagined runway. *Use this prompt to help us understand your potential to make an impact through the hard work of change-making.*