Cynthia's 10 Personal Statement Tips:

Writing a personal statement can be tricky! It must represent who YOU are. Make sure you find your WOW! Here are a few tips:

1. Don't say something that 7000 people have already said! If it's really important, then focus on what you did about it and why or why it is important.

2. Make sure it has a "Hook" at the beginning to keep the audience interested

3. Consider your audience! Primarily made up of admissions officers 35 and older (mostly women).

4. Take advantage of artistic style--for once it's probably better not to use a 5 paragraph essay. If that's the only way you can write, try taking off the first paragraph

5. It is NOT an autobiography! Focus on an important part of YOU!

6. End with a "Pop!" Something that will leave the judges thinking, wondering, shocked, etc.

7. Make sure at least a few people edit it for grammar and content

8. Make sure you answer the question

9. Be sure to highlight any leadership or community service. Admissions is competitive and they look at the whole picture.

10. Focus on Why, not what

GOOD LUCK!!