*When Elda Yleana Arce came to the United States in 1975, she was told that she should reconsider her dream of being a doctor. As a Latina immigrant, she listened to people tell her that no white patients would want her, so no hospitals would either. She proved them wrong by becoming the head of the Adolescent Medicine Clinic at Children's National Medical Center. It is in her memory that her son, Daniel Hammond, founded the Yleana Leadership Academy.*

In an essay of no more than 650 words, describe a time when you refused to give up and achieved something you never thought you could. Did you fail along the way? How did it affect you, and what lessons did you learn? What prompted you to act? Would you make the same decision again? Did it mark a transition from childhood to adulthood in any way? How has it changed the way you approach challenges today?