

Teacher Directions for *This I Believe*

1. Make student copies of the essays by Tony Hawk and Ying Ying Yu, as well as the What is the American Dream? essay.
2. Begin with Tony Hawk's essay, *Do What You Love*. Listen to the sound bite on the NPR website, or read the essay aloud yourself.
3. Discuss how Tony Hawk feels about the importance of dreams.
4. Listen to the sound bite of Ying Ying Yu's essay, *A Duty to Family, Heritage, and Country* or read it aloud yourself.
5. Discuss how Ying Ying Yu feels about the importance of dreams.
6. Compare/contrast the two beliefs.
7. Read *What is the American Dream?*
8. Have the students write essays explaining their beliefs about dreams.
9. If students are stuck, have them begin with one of the following:
 - A. I believe dreams are/are not important because...
 - B. I believe I should/should not follow my dreams because...
 - C. My American Dream is