

Angelo Del Toro
PR/HYLI
PUERTO RICAN/HISPANIC YOUTH LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

The mission: Involvement of Hispanic/Latino youth in the political process

FACT SHEET

- Late Assemblyman Angelo Del Toro in collaboration with the Office of Bilingual Education created the Institute for high school students of Hispanic/Latino descent.
- The Angelo Del Toro Puerto Rican/Hispanic Youth Leadership Institute is an innovative collaboration with the NYS Assembly/Senate Puerto Rican/Hispanic Task Force in conjunction with the annual SOMOS conference, Office of Bilingual Education and World Languages, and the New York State City Board of Education.
- The Angelo Del Toro takes place every year during the SOMOS conference in Albany.
- The program has been in existence for 29 years.

Goals of the Institute:

- Gain an understanding of the NYS legislative process by participation in research and the development of legislative proposals.
- Develop leadership skills.
- Gain an understanding of responsible citizenship.
- Create opportunities for interaction with positive role models such as elected officials and other adult professionals.
- Promote a dialogue between youth and community leaders concerning issues that affect Hispanic/Latino Youth and their communities.

Phases of The Angelo Del Toro Puerto Rican Hispanic Youth Leadership Institute:

1. Training in regional delegations
2. Participation in the 3-day PR/HYLI
 - Team-building activities – Saturday
 - Mock Assembly – Sunday
 - Student Delegate Recognition Dinner (scholarship awards provided by SOMOS)
 - Workshops – College, Career Development and other themes as appropriate – Monday
3. Extension and refinement of leadership skills – at home base

Since the inception of the Institute:

- Approximately 6,200 students of Hispanic/Latino descent have participated in the Institute – additional students participated in the local delegation trainings.
- In partnership with SOMOS, seniors entering colleges/universities have received \$473,860 in scholarships.
 - 1991-2012 SOMOS awarded 20 scholarships of \$500 each, totaling \$220,000
 - 2013 SOMOS awarded 30 scholarships ranging from \$500 – \$1,000 each, totaling \$20,000.
 - 2014 SOMOS awarded 38 scholarships ranging from \$750 – \$1,500 each, totaling \$36,000.
 - 2015 SOMOS awarded 37 scholarships ranging from \$640 – \$2,500 each, totaling \$37,960.
 - 2016 SOMOS awarded 33 scholarships ranging from \$720 – \$3,000 each, totaling \$40,000.
 - 2017 SOMOS awarded 31 scholarships ranging from \$1,000 – \$3,000 each, totaling \$40,000.
 - 2018 SOMOS awarded 39 scholarships of \$550 - \$3,000 each, totaling \$40,000.

PR/HYLI transcends from College into our Communities

Reflections:

Alex Gomez, a 2018 graduate of Ichabod Crane High School and a recipient of the SOMOS, Inc. Scholarship Award stated: "PRHYLI was a life changing experience for me. I wanted to connect with my fellow Latinos and embrace my culture; PRHYLI gave me just that. PRHYLI and its trainers gave me the opportunity to fulfill my dream of being a first generation to go on to college. They educated me about laws and my rights and how to be an advocate like Angelo Del Toro. I don't know where I would be without PRHYLI."

For additional information regarding the Angelo Del Toro Puerto Rican/Hispanic Youth Leadership Institute, please contact PR/HYLI State Coordinator, Diana Vazquez at 518-479-6806 or diana.vazquez@questar.org or Dr. Gladys I. Cruz, District Superintendent, Questar III BOCES at gcruz@questar.org.