



# THE ANGELO DEL TORO PUERTO RICAN / HISPANIC YOUTH LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE 2024 SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY

## APPLICATION INFORMATION

### SCHOLARSHIP DESCRIPTION:

The New York State Assembly-Senate Puerto-Rican/ Hispanic Task Force and SOMOS, Inc. has sponsored postsecondary scholarships for high school seniors participating in *The Angelo Del Toro Puerto Rican / Hispanic Youth Leadership Institute* to be held in Albany, New York: March 8 - 11, 2024.

### SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY:

1. **High School Senior in New York State:**

Candidates must be current seniors enrolled in a New York State public or non-public high school. Candidates must have applied to at least one college or university.

2. **Attendance at the Angelo Del Toro Puerto Rican / Hispanic Youth Leadership Institute:**

Candidates must have successfully participated in PR/HYLI's Regional Delegation training sessions and **must attend** the 2024 Leadership Institute in Albany, NY.

3. **Satisfactory Academic Standing:**

Candidates must have a minimum 3.00 cumulative GPA. Candidates should request and submit 11<sup>th</sup> grade academic transcript(s). These transcripts may include information from their senior year, if available.

4. **Hispanic Heritage:**

Candidates must have heritage ties to a formally recognized Spanish-speaking country:

- |                                      |   |                                    |                                    |
|--------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Puerto Rico | <input type="checkbox"/> Costa Rica         | <input type="checkbox"/> Guatemala | <input type="checkbox"/> Paraguay  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Argentina   | <input type="checkbox"/> Cuba               | <input type="checkbox"/> Honduras  | <input type="checkbox"/> Peru      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bolivia     | <input type="checkbox"/> Dominican Republic | <input type="checkbox"/> Mexico    | <input type="checkbox"/> Spain     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chile       | <input type="checkbox"/> Ecuador            | <input type="checkbox"/> Nicaragua | <input type="checkbox"/> Uruguay   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Colombia    | <input type="checkbox"/> El Salvador        | <input type="checkbox"/> Panama    | <input type="checkbox"/> Venezuela |

### SELECTION CRITERIA:

1. **Letters of Recommendation:**

Candidates must submit **at least two letters of recommendation** describing their academic achievement, outstanding personal characteristics, and involvement in community services such as: volunteerism or paid work at senior citizen centers, youth programs, school-related activities, church outreach programs, etc. Letters should be in a sealed envelope, submitted with the application\*.

These should preferably be from:

- The Angelo Del Toro Puerto Rican / Hispanic Youth Leadership Institute trainer
- A teacher
- A counselor
- The high school principal or a department chairperson
- A community leader

\*Note: Candidates may resubmit the original recommendation letters used to apply to PR/HYLI, if they meet the above stated requirements. See the student checklist for details.

2. **Written Essay:**

The topic of this year's scholarship essay is: The Art of Democracy. Candidates must submit a typed, 12-point font (Arial or New Times Roman) essay written in English or Spanish, between 525 - 750 words.

Angelo Del Toro was a Puerto Rican political leader who firmly believed in the importance of an informed and motivated citizenry for a viable democratic society. His political life and actions embodied The Art of Democracy. He is an example of what is possible for those who believe in themselves and their own potential. He helped to develop and launch PR/HYLI because he wanted to ensure that Puerto Rican / Hispanic youth understood the importance of being educated and engaged citizens of a democratic society. In 1991, Assemblyman Del Toro articulated how Hispanic Youth can actualize this ideal when he said: "*The point of this conference is to say that you can do it too... you can influence public policies and state policies. You can influence how the government and how society goes on. And that's very important.*"

**The Art of Democracy can have various meanings. In an essay of 525-750 words, explain the importance of the Art of Democracy. In your essay, be sure to:**

- explain what the Art of Democracy means to you
- explain why The Art of Democracy is important
- support your essay with 3 examples that portray the Art of Democracy as you understand it
- explain how you, as an Hispanic Leader, will safeguard our democracy for future generations. Be specific in this response.
- organize your essay logically, using the conventions of standard written English or Spanish

**COMPLETED APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2024**



# THE ANGELO DEL TORO PUERTO RICAN / HISPANIC YOUTH LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE 2024 SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY

## APPLICATION FORM

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex:  M  F  Other  
Last First Middle Initial

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Apt: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Number and Street)

(City/Town/Village) State Zip Code Assembly District Number

Student's school ID number: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone # ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Cellular # ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

School District: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Principal's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Number and Street) State Zip Code Assembly District Number

School Telephone Number: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax Number: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

GPA in high school \_\_\_\_\_ (If you are not sure, ask your guidance counselor)

Did you participate in *The Angelo Del Toro Puerto Rican / Hispanic Youth Leadership Institute* delegation trainings?  
 Yes  No

Identify your home delegation:

- |   |                                   |                                     |
|---|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Capital District | <input type="checkbox"/> Monroe   | <input type="checkbox"/> Western NY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hudson Valley    | <input type="checkbox"/> NYC      |                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Long Island      | <input type="checkbox"/> Syracuse |                                     |

List college(s) and/or universities you have applied to:

Name of College and/or University	Accepted	Awaiting Response

List the names of the individuals who are submitting letters of recommendation with this application:

Name	Position	Address	Telephone
			( )
			( )
			( )

Principal's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Student's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

COMPLETED APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2024.  
 APPLICATIONS MAY BE DISQUALIFIED IF ANY INFORMATION IS MISSING



**THE ANGELO DEL TORO PUERTO RICAN / HISPANIC YOUTH LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE**

## 2024 SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY

### STUDENT CHECKLIST

I have included the following: *(Please check ✓, sign below and return with the scholarship application.)*

- PR/HYLI Scholarship Essay Application Form**
- PR/HYLI Student Application Checklist**
- Cover Page for Written Essay:**
  - Description:
    - Essay Cover Page, which clearly identifies:
    - Student Name
    - Name and Address of High School
    - High School Principal's Name
    - PR/HYLI Delegation of Student
- Two (2) Copies of the Written Portion of Essay:**
  - Description:
    - This essay should be original student work, answering all parts of the prompt, written in English or Spanish
    - It must be between 525-750 words, double-spaced with 1" margins, 12-point font (*Arial or Times New Roman*)
    - Essay should have a title, but NO personal-identifying information on the essay itself (e.g., first and/or last name, initials, social security number, etc.)
    - Pages must be numbered, and a written word count must be included. The word count is for the written essay only – it does not include cover page, title, and/or works cited page
    - There should be a *Works Cited or Reference Page*, if applicable.
      - Students should follow MLA or APA format. See links below:
        - MLA link- <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>
        - APA link- <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>
- All Scholarship Elements** (i.e., essay transcripts, letters, etc.) must be submitted together. If a component is missing in the application the essay will be disqualified.

Original Work Acknowledgement: *(Please check ✓, and sign below and return with the scholarship application.)*

- I certify that all parts of my essay are my own original work. If any part of it has been plagiarized, it will be automatically disqualified.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Mail all documents to:

Dr. Gladys I. Cruz  
2024 PR/HYLI Scholarship Essay Application  
Questar III BOCES  
10 Empire State Blvd  
Castleton, NY 12033

**COMPLETED APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2024.  
FAXED AND/OR EMAILED DOCUMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**