

Angelo Del Toro

# PR/HYLI

PUERTO RICAN/HISPANIC YOUTH LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

## 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 decent.
- The mission: Involvement of Hispanic/Latino youth in the political process.
- 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 El Futuro 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 26 years.

### Goals of the Institute:

- Develop leadership skills.
- Gain an understanding of the NYS legislative process by participation in research and the development of legislative proposals.
- 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 5,300 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 \$313,960 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.

### PR/HYLI transcends from College into our Communities

### Reflections:

#### **1999-2003 Student Delegate – Santiago Vallinas**

“As a former PR/HYLI student, I am writing this letter to thank you for all of your years of service. The work you do is fundamental and life-changing for many of the students with whom you work with – I know this because that was the case for me. It is evident that you truly believe in our cause of Latino empowerment... Before the PR/HYLI program, some of the participants in my delegation had never even considered going to college. However, after the program, it was clear, to me and the group, that there was so much work left to be done, and that attending college was just a beginning if we wanted to even start making a difference.”

QUESTAR III