

“RICHIE VIVE, LA LUCHA SIGUE”

PURPOSE

In 2004, the Puerto Rican community lost an ally, advocate, community leader and urban warrior. Richie Pérez was a beloved activist and leader in the fight for social justice and human rights. He brought integrity, zeal and unity to many causes to which he was committed. These included the struggle for racial justice and against police brutality, Puerto Rican independence and universal human rights. As a former Young Lord and founding member of the National Congress for Puerto Rican Rights, Richie was our inspiration and conscience. Richie wrote and lectured extensively on the Puerto Rican urban experience and as a professor in the CUNY system taught classes in mass media, US social policy and the history of the labor and civil rights movements. Richie believed greatly in the power and potential of young people to create social change. He personally mentored many youth and believed that the torch of the movement for justice had to be passed on to the next generation.

In his memory, Comité Noviembre has established the Richie Pérez Scholarship Award. The award will recognize a Puerto Rican young person for their commitment, activism and achievements in any of the areas of human rights and social justice that Richie held so dear. This annual award will both promote the advancement of new leaders in the movement for peace and justice, and also invest in their continued growth by providing support for their ongoing education and political development. The scholarship winner will receive a \$1,000 scholarship.

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must:

- Be of Puerto Rican descent
- Document a minimum of one-year active participation and organizing work in a social justice or human rights issue.
- Be enrolled in an accredited college or university by the fall of each year or at the time of the scholarship award
- Be between the ages of 19 and 25.

GUIDELINES

- A completed application package must include an application form, essay, two letters of recommendation and a short biographical sketch. All items must be submitted in one package.
- Letters of recommendation must be from community members who personally know their work, leadership and commitment to social justice and human rights causes.
- Application package must be received or post marked by **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2011**
- Application package received or post marked after **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2011** will be disqualified.
- Finalist will be notified by **MONDAY SEPTEMBER 12, 2011**
- A mandatory personal interview will be conducted by the scholarship committee on **MONDAY SEPTEMBER 19, 2011**. Finalist will not be considered if he/she does not show-up for interview. Other arrangements will be made for finalist away at college.
- Recipients of the Richie Perez Scholarship will be notified by **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2011**.
- Recipients of the Richie Perez Scholarship Award will be disqualified should any of the following conditions occur: (1) recipient provides false information on application (2) recipients is not enrolled in an accredited college or university by the fall or at the time if the award (3) recipient is not of Puerto Rican descent.
- Scholarship payment will be made by Comité Noviembre upon recipient of official college registration or Bursar's Office documentation.

PLEASE SEND COMPLETED SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM BY:

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2011

**TO THE RICHIE PEREZ SCHOLARSHIP AWARD
A PROGRAM OF COMITÉ NOVIEMBRE**

C/O El Puente, 211 South 4th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11211, (718) 387-0404, x. 27

ATTN: Martha Laureano, mlaureano@elpuente.us

THE RICHIE PEREZ SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

“RICHIE VIVE, LA LUCHA SIGUE”

APPLICATION FORM

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP _____ CODE: _____
PHONE: _____ CELL# _____
E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

HIGH SCHOOL: _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY: STATE: ZIP CODE: _____
PHONE: _____ FAX# _____
GUIDANCE COUNSELOR: _____
E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____
GRADE POINT AVERAGE: _____
LIST AWARDS: _____
LIST SOCIAL JUSTICE/HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS INVOLVED IN: _____

DO YOU GET PAID BY ANY OF THESE ORGANIZATIONS? _____ YES _____ NO

FOR COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY: _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY: STATE: ZIP CODE: _____
PHONE: _____ FAX# _____
ADVISOR: _____
E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____
GRADE POINT AVERAGE: _____
LIST AWARDS: _____
ANTICIPATED DATE OF GRADUATION: _____
LIST SOCIAL JUSTICE/HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS INVOLVED IN: _____

DO YOU GET PAID BY ANY OF THESE ORGANIZATIONS? _____ YES _____ NO

THE RICHIE PEREZ SCHOLARSHIP AWARD
“RICHIE VIVE, LA LUCHA SIGUE”
APPLICATION FORM

ESSAY

DESCRIBE A SOCIAL JUSTICE OR HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES IN WHICH YOU ARE CURRENTLY ACTIVE. GIVE DETAILS OF YOUR ROLE IN ORGANIZING SUPPORT FOR THIS ISSUE? WHAT WORK DO YOU DO ON THIS ISSUE? WHY HAVE YOU CHOSEN THIS ISSUE TO WORK ON? DESCRIBE THE SITUATION WHICH LED YOU TO ACT. WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO BECOME INVOLVED? HAS YOUR WORK CONTRIBUTED TO CHANGING THE SITUATION? DESCRIBE WHAT CHANGES. HOW HAS YOUR LIFE CHANGED? TALK ABOUT THE CHALLENGES YOU HAVE ENCOUNTERED, IF ANY.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

IN 500 WORDS TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF.

LETTERS OF RECFOMMENDATION (NOTE: *Letters of recommendation must be from community members who personally know their work, leadership and commitment to social justice and human rights causes*).

SUPPORTER # 1

TITLE: _____

NAME OF ORGANIZATION: _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS: _____

CITY: STATE: ZIP CODE: _____

PHONE (WORK): _____

PHONE (FAX): _____

HOME ADDRESS: _____

CITY: STATE: ZIP CODE: _____

PHONE (HOME) _____

CELL PHONE _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

RELATIONSHIP TO CANDIDATE? (CHECK ONE)

FAMILY FRIEND BUSINESS/ WORK ASSOCIATE OTHER _____

SUPPORTER # 2

TITLE: _____

NAME OF ORGANIZATION: _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS: _____

CITY: STATE: ZIP CODE: _____

PHONE (WORK): _____

PHONE (FAX): _____

HOME ADDRESS: _____

CITY: STATE: ZIP CODE: _____

PHONE (HOME) _____

CELL PHONE _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

RELATIONSHIP TO CANDIDATE? (CHECK ONE)

FAMILY FRIEND BUSINESS/ WORK ASSOCIATE OTHER _____

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2010 SEND TO: THE RICHIE PEREZ SCHOLARSHIP AWARD, C/O El Puente
211 South 4th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11211, (718) 387-0404, x. 27, ATTN: Martha Laureano, mlaureano@elpuente.us**