2013 Al Rojas Scholarship
Labor Council for Latin American Advancement AFL-CIO

Dear Scholarship Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in Sacramento’s Labor Council for Latin American Advancement (LCLAA) Al Rojas Scholarship.

Please read the application materials carefully. Remember to include a completed application form, a copy of your high school transcript or Proof of enrollment, two letters of recommendation, your essay, and completed LCLAA membership admission form.

If you have questions regarding any of the enclosed materials, please call me at (916) 202-6496 or e-mail me at sjessgirl@aol.com.

Eligibility:

Open to all high school students or college students who continue their education or plan to continue their education in either a two-year or four-year accredited college or university for any area of study.

AB540 students please do apply.

Must be a LCLAA member. If you are not, please complete membership form and include dues (if can not pay dues it is encouraged to still apply).

Winners must be present during the Marcha and Dinner Dance on April 6, 2013 to receive scholarship.

Award Amount:

Four $250.00 scholarships for tuition and books will be awarded. Application Deadline: Post stamp date must be marked by March 28, 2013
Materials to be returned:
Completed application form, proof of current enrollment, a letter of recommendation from a community leader, school counselor or teacher, and a personal statement.

Rojas Leadership Scholarship Application
(Applications must be received no later than March 28th 2013 for consideration)

NAME:_________________________________________________
ADDRESS:____________________________________________________________________
CITY:____________________ STATE:________ ZIP:______________
PHONE NUMBER:________________
E-MAIL: __________________   Birthday:__________________

(On a Separate page Answer the Following Questions In Paragraph Format)

List the activities in which you have been most involved, in order of importance to you. Include community and school service activities.
1._________________________________________________
2._________________________________________________
3._________________________________________________

List the most important honors, awards or commendations you have received.
1._________________________________________________
2._________________________________________________
3._________________________________________________

Current Class Status
_ Undergraduate _Graduate _ Fr. _ Soph. _ Jr. _ Sr.

School Planning on Attending:
_________________________________________________
Essay
Please answer two of the four questions. Maximum 500 words please.

1. Describe what makes someone a good leader and what principles would you apply in your daily routine in life?

2. What role do you play in immigration reform and how does the immigration reform affect you?

3. What leadership roles did you demonstrate during high school or college?

4. What kind of organizing have you done or are you interested in doing?

Additionally, please submit a letter of support concerning your leadership capabilities from a member of your high school, college, or community.
Supplemental information describing or exhibiting your leadership potential is strongly encouraged. All information should be directed to: Sacramento LCLAA

Attn: Jessica Nieves and the Scholarship Committee
P.O. Box 245913
Sacramento, CA 95824

If you have questions please call (916) 202-6496 or e-mail sjessgirl@aol.com

Decisions will be rendered on or around April 3rd. The decisions are final and not subject to review. Winners will be notified by e-mail or phone call of the decision. Recipients must be present to receive scholarship during the César E. Chávez March & Dinner/Dance on April 6th.

If I am selected for consideration for a scholarship, I authorize the Scholarship Officer to access and release to the selection committee all information concerning my application. I understand that all academic record information is, and shall remain, confidential.
Signature Date

I certify that the information I have supplied on this application is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge, and I understand that knowingly submitting inaccurate or false information will result in the denial or loss of any scholarship offers or awards.

Signature Date
The Man That Made Your Scholarship Possible:

Al Rojas was born in Tulare, California, to Rafael and Gabriela Rojas, migrant farm workers, who migrated from Michoacan, Mexico, in 1934 to work the agricultural fields of the San Joaquin Valley. He was raised on the then famous Tagus Ranch near Tulare, the world's largest peach ranch. His parents lived in one of the farm labor camps and worked for many years. Al Rojas worked as a farm worker all his life. He went to schools in Visalia, California. After having graduated from high school, he began to work as a farm worker. He migrated to the coastal Oxnard area, and it was there that he became involved in organizing farm workers, and by accident met Cesar Chavez in Oxnard in 1961. Cesar was the director of the Community Service Organization (CSO). It was in 1965 that Al and other workers from the coastal area founded the United Farm Workers Independent Union and Al became heavily involved in organizing a farm workers' union. It was in 1965, when Al reconnected with Cesar Chavez in the Delano grape strike that they united the three organizations, the Farm Workers Union, the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee (AWOC) and the National Farm Workers Association (NFWA) into the Independent United Farm Workers Union (UFW). Al Rojas went on to become a tireless leader in the now United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO, and led strikes and was the Western Pennsylvania Grape Boycott director in 1968-1970. Al went on, after the grape boycott was won with the signing of 150 union contracts with some of the largest agricultural corporations in the country, to become the UFW Field Office director in the Terra Bella/Porterville area in Tulare County, where he administered thirty union contracts. He was Cesar Chavez' administrative assistant for almost a year at the UFW headquarters in Keene, California. Al Rojas left the United Farm Workers Union, and went to work for the State of California Conservation Corps, and later transferred to work with the California State Department of Industrial Relations as a hearing officer. He was a deputy Labor Commissioner for fourteen years, and an Apprenticeship Consultant for fourteen years with the same State Department. After twenty-something years of organizing workers, Al went on to work with Mexican unions in Mexico, and is involved to this day in the democratic bi-national movements in Mexico. He formed the North Americans for Democracy in Mexico (NADM), a non-profit corporation, and led numerous delegations of election observers in Mexico at the behest of Mexican presidential candidates Cuauhtemoc Cardenas Solarazano and Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador. Al and others were instrumental in demanding the right of Mexicans living abroad to have the right to vote by absentee ballot, a historic achievement. Al continues to play an influential role in the organizing community.