



SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

2014

\$3,000 President's Scholarship Award Recipient

(Thanks to a contribution from SkyOne Federal Credit Union, the President's Scholarship Award amount has been increased.)

Victoria Velasquez

Richard Velasquez (VNY)

As the daughter of a NATCA member who has been fully committed to preserving the values of unions for over 30 years, I have grown to understand the importance of fighting for the rights of groups and individuals. My father was a member of PATCO and was fired by President Ronald Reagan for going on strike in demand of better working conditions and higher wages. In his time during which he was banned from federal service, my dad held various jobs in the labor force and continued to strongly believe in his and every other laborer's rights to fair and decent working conditions and wages.

I have adopted these same values in my everyday life and in my visions for my future. Currently, I am a student studying business and political science at the University of Notre Dame. I hope to go on to law school so that I can eventually serve as a civil rights attorney. It is my hope that I can serve justice to the public by representing clients in civil rights lawsuits and setting precedents for future cases on the basis of equality and dignity for all human life regardless of race, gender, age, ability, sexual orientation, or economic background. I hope to specialize in law practice regarding women's rights as I would like to help the many women in our country who still to this day do not receive equal pay for equal work. I think it is a shame that women and other groups of individuals work just as hard as others, but do not receive adequate or justifiable compensation for their work.

Americans suffer from the greed and selfishness of certain corporations that pay their workers low wages, and as a result our entire society suffers too. I believe that I am deserving of a union scholarship because both my career goals and current involvement demonstrate my passion for protecting the rights of individuals and being a strong voice in the fight for justice. Currently I



am an intern for a congressional candidate in Indiana's second district who promises to support labor unions and the raising of the minimum wage to a livable wage. Although my immediate goals involve me practicing law, I would one day like to see myself serving in public office. I would like to be involved in crafting legislation that is beneficial to labor unions because it is apparent in our society that labor unions are becoming increasingly less powerful groups.

I, however, would like to ensure that their visions continue to thrive on for many years to come and are not shadowed by corporations that neglect the rights of their workers. I am a strong believer that only when everyone is treated equally and with dignity will we live in a respectable world. I believe that labor unions are key to preserving the dignity around the world, and I would forever like to be a part of their contribution to the betterment of society.

\$1,000 Scholarship Award Recipients

Kendra Chao

Daniel Skolnick (ZOA)

Maria Haugen

Alan Haugen (M98)

Chase Thomaston

Charlie Thomaston (A80)

Darlee Hart

Debra Hart (S46)

Cameron Degani

Mark Degani (ROW/ABQ, retired)

Ashley E. Hughes

Patrick Lee Hughes (ZTL)

Rachel Popp

Richard Popp (EEA)

Matthew Wollert

Michael Wollert (NCT)

Eric M. Bradt

Gary M. Bradt (ZOB)

Dana Varady

Mark Varady (SDF)

Isabella Shallenberger

Brian Shallenberger (ZDC)

Tomaso J. DiPaolo

Tomaso DiPaolo (EGL)

Caitlyn Ballard

Michael Ballard (ZAU)

Vinnie Gallo

Thomas Gallo (ZSE)

Edward C. Szczuka

Edward Szczuka (ECE)

Christopher Buckley

Brian Buckley (PHL)

Richard Keith

Lia M. Keith (ZDC)

Joseph Garofolo

Randall Lobaugh (FXE)

Olivia Bianchi

Kevin Bianchi (ZBW)

Mitchell Peterson

Jim Peterson (BOS)