



Los Angeles County Commission on Disabilities



Ruben Anthony Rios Creative Arts & Design Memorial Scholarship Program

*For Individuals with Disabilities
Pursuing An Education in the Field of Art/Design*

WHO WAS RUBEN RIOS?

Commissioner Ruben Rios was a long-time member of Los Angeles County Commission on Disabilities and was appointed by Supervisor Don Knabe of the Fourth District. He was a devoted advocate for people with disabilities and a distinguished member and pioneer of Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center's Art of Rancho program.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

- ◆ Individuals with disabilities pursuing higher education;
- ◆ Individuals with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or better; and
- ◆ Applicants must reside in the County of Los Angeles at time of filing.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS SCHOLARSHIP GRANT?

- ◆ To provide supplemental financial assistance to community college, vocational/trade school, or four-year college students (traditional or non-traditional) who are pursuing a career in the field of art and/or design;
- ◆ To enlighten the public that individuals with disabilities can succeed in higher education and take advantage of expanded career opportunities;
- ◆ To educate the community about the artistic capabilities of individuals with disabilities.

WHAT IS THE CRITERIA?

Applicants must:

- ◆ Provide proof of enrollment in community college, vocational (trade) school or four-year college or provide an acceptance letter from the chosen institute;
- ◆ Provide proof of 2.0 GPA or better (transcripts);
- ◆ Provide two written recommendation letters from counselors, teachers, employers, coaches or rehabilitation counselors;
- ◆ Submit a thoroughly completed Scholarship Application;
- ◆ Attend the Board of Supervisors recipient presentation;
- ◆ Attend the 2016 Scholarship Reception to share their experience as a scholarship winner; and
- ◆ Complete and submit a final report (format will be included with your award letter) within 30 days following the end of formal school year.

HOW THE MONEY IS DISBURSED?

- ◆ Awards will be granted, one in each Supervisorial District of the County of Los Angeles;
- ◆ Awards will be disbursed in two parts – half upon submission of transcript grades from a community college, vocational (trade) school, or four-year college for the end of the first school semester or quarter;
- ◆ The second half will be disbursed upon the submission of transcript grades from the end of the second semester or quarter; transcripts must be submitted within 30 days following the end of each semester or quarter.

Part I – Applicant Information

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Telephone: _____ Cellular Telephone: _____

Work Telephone: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Date of Birth: Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

Social Security/ITIN Number (last four digits): _____

Name of Parent/Guardian

First Name _____ Last Name _____

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Address: _____

(If different from yours)

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Telephone: _____ Cellular Telephone: _____

Work Telephone: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Direct experience with disability: _____

Date your disability was diagnosed: _____

Functional limitations/characteristics of your disability: _____

Part II- Education

Name and address of high school or college you are currently attending:

School contact person (counselor, principal, etc.) _____

Telephone: _____ Date of anticipated graduation: _____

Name of community college, vocational (trade) school, or four-year college you plan to attend. _____

Number of semester units you plan to take _____

School and Community Involvement

Below, please briefly list your involvement with your school and community. This may include any offices you held, club memberships, after school activities or work experiences.

Name of Activity	Dates (from/to)	Grade level
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Part III – Knowledge of Commission on Disabilities and the County

Please attach your written response on a separate sheet to the completed application.

1. What can you tell us about the Los Angeles County Commission on Disabilities?
2. Which Supervisorial District do you reside in? Tell us something about your Supervisor.
3. The occupation of a Supervisor is a significant political position in the County of Los Angeles. Could you explain, in your own words, the importance of the position held by a County Supervisor?
4. What is the importance of receiving a higher education?

Part IV – Essay Questions

Please attach your written response on a separate sheet to the completed application.

1. **Qualifications** – Explain why you feel you are a qualified candidate for the scholarship.
2. **Educational Goal** – Explain how education will help you achieve self-sufficiency and independence.
3. **Career Goal** – If you receive the scholarship, explain how you plan to use it to attain your career and professional goals.
4. **Experience as a Person with a Disability** – Describe how your disability will affect your goals or career plans.

Part V – Recommendations

Please attach two letters of recommendation from counselors, teachers, coaches and/or employers.

Part VI – Artistic Sample

On an 8 ½ x 11 sheet of paper, please include two pictures of two artistic creations; these will represent your work to the judging panel. Be mindful of your selections (no digital files, video, or actual photos will be accepted); as this is your only chance for the judges to see your creative abilities.

The scholarship award winner will be chosen and notified on May 20, 2016. Details about the scholarship presentation will be given at that time.

PLEASE NOTE

Failure to present necessary documentation will preclude you from consideration.

Attendance at the Board of Supervisors Scholarship presentation to be held on June 28, 2016 is required prior to receiving any disbursement.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Parent: _____ Date: _____

If applicant is under the age of 18

Applications will NOT be considered unless thoroughly completed, submitted and received by May 9, 2016.

**Los Angeles County Commission on Disabilities
Ruben Anthony Rios Creative Arts & Design Memorial Scholarship Program
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