



National Postal Mail Handlers Union

THE BREAKDOWN



ONLY THE STRONG SURVIVE!
NPMHU LOCAL 308
STRENGTH & HONOR
A DIVISION OF THE LABORERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION OF NORTH AMERICA, AFL-CIO 1308

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Vol. XXXII
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Lengua de Signos: Cuestión de derechos
Human Rights through Sign Languages

The last full week in September is the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) International Week of the Deaf. At the July 2007 World Congress of the WFD in Madrid, Spain, delegates overwhelmingly supported the creation of an International Day of Sign Languages, as a celebratory event to be observed annually during the last full week of September (International Week of the Deaf, a WFD-sanctioned annual activity, is observed during this same time period). The year 2007 marks the initial observance of this annual celebration of sign languages.

Union Plus Scholarship Program

Since 1992, the Union Plus Scholarship Program has awarded more than \$2.4 million to students of working families who want to begin or continue their secondary education. Over 1,700 families have benefited from our commitment to higher education. The Union Plus Scholarship Program is offered through the Union Plus Education Foundation.

Eligibility for Scholarships: Current and retired members of unions participating in any Union Plus program, their spouses and their dependent children (including foster children, step children, and any other child for whom the individual member provides greater than 50% of his or her support) can apply for a Union Plus Scholarship. (Participating union members from the U.S., Puerto Rico, Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands and Canada are eligible.) Members do not have to purchase any Union Plus program product or participate in any Union Plus programs to apply for the scholarships and scholarship awards are not based upon participation in a Union Plus program. The individual must be accepted into an accredited college or university, community college or recognized technical or trade school at the time the award is issued. Note: Graduate students are now eligible.

Evaluation criteria: The scholarship program is open to students attending or planning to attend a college or university, a community college, or a technical college or trade school. Applicants for scholarships are evaluated according to academic ability, social awareness, financial need and appreciation of labor. Scholarship applications are judged by a committee of impartial post secondary educators. Applications are first reviewed by a panel of independent career professionals. Semi-finalists are chosen based on a point scale, and their applications are then provided to judges for further review and selection of finalists and awards. Program judges include representatives from the American Association of Community Colleges, the United Negro College Fund, the American Association of State Colleges and Universities and the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities.

Scholarship award amounts: The amount of the award ranges from \$500 - \$4,000. This is a one-time cash award sent to individual winners for study beginning in the fall of the same year.

Deadline: All applications must be postmarked by January 31, 2008.