

ASHLEY KRISTINA ROLDAN
OVERCOMING HEALTH ISSUES IN PURSUIT OF DREAMS
PUERTO RICAN ASSOCIATION FOR HISPANIC AFFAIRS, INC.
SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

Just when you begin to feel disheartened with today's youth, someone like Ashley comes around and reminds you that there's hope for our future. Since the age of five, she has been diagnosed with Juvenile Diabetes. With this unpredicted struggle and pressure, she had decided to overcome this obstacle, and instead become focused and energized to be successful in life. It is the mission of the Puerto Rican Association for Hispanic Affairs, Inc. to further encourage inspiring students like her. With that goal in mind, Ashley Kristina Roldan has been awarded the P.R.A.F.H.A./Hilda Santiago Memorial Scholarship at Indian River Community College for the 2006-07 school years. This 19 year old vivacious and ambitious Puerto Rican student is pursuing her Associates of Arts. She hopes to continue on to Florida International University in Miami in Advertising. Then she plans to run her own advertising company. Knowing Ashley you don't doubt this will become a reality. But it is her determination in dealing with her diabetes that has motivated her and given her focus. She has also seen the dignity her father has shown in dealing with his diabetes condition. She began attending the Florida Diabetes Camp since the age of six. She is now a camp counselor there. This is her opportunity to give back the love and support she herself has received. She inspires these campers and shows them that 'they are no different from other kids'. Her example in overcoming health issues and pursuing her dreams is an encouragement to all young people in our community.

If you need more information regarding these scholarships, please contact
IRSC at 772-462-7249 or PRAFHA at 772-621-6841.