

Growing Louis Levine Scholarship Supports Empire State College Students



Louis L. Levine, the President and CEO of NYCPM since 1991, established The Louis Levine Scholarship Fund within the Empire State College Foundation in 1975. Mr. Levine worked with SUNY to create The Harry Van Arsdale Jr. Center for Labor Studies (<https://www.esc.edu/labor-studies-center/>) at Empire State; the Center offers specialized programs leading to college degrees. His funds are earmarked for working adults seeking personal development and growth; students study collective bargaining, how to handle grievances and how to lead an organization. A majority of the applicants for the scholarship are women of color who have faced difficulties moving up within their unions because they lack needed skills. These students receive life-experience credit when they apply to SUNY Empire State College.

According to the Foundation, almost \$186,000 in Louis Levine Scholarships have been distributed and the value of the fund has grown to over half a million dollars. Mr. Levine served in the Labor Department of the State of New York from 1966 to 1976. In 1975, Mr. Levine was Industrial Commissioner, appointed by Governor Nelson Rockefeller and then reappointed by Governors Malcolm Wilson and Hugh Carey. He was acknowledged by all constituencies as the architect of a period of unparalleled labor peace and fruitful mutually responsive cooperation between labor and management in New York State. At NYCPM, Mr. Levine funds a named scholarship that currently totals \$400,000.