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## Full of Life Scholarship Award and Honoree

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Rosanna Y. de la Cruz was a passionate woman, fun, and empowering. She was outspoken, hardworking and always on the lookout for those she could inspire. Raised between the Dominican Republic and Lawrence, Massachusetts, she set out on a fierce path in life at a young age. She graduated from Simmons College in 1998, worked in social services and eventually became a heavy hitter in the recruiting world, working out of Boston, MA and Bozeman, MT.

She was known to be a strong advocate for women in the professional world, pushing her candidates to strive for the best positions and negotiate for fair pay. She empowered women and gave them a voice in the male-dominated Boston business world. Most importantly, she was the link that held together the chain of her diverse professional and personal network. Rosanna was a passionate reader and writer and believed that writing is a critical skill all people should practice.

A dedicated animal lover, Rosanna was Mom to her beloved Vizslas, Coco and Luna. She became a runner in the last years of her life, reaching her ultimate goal of running several half marathons.

We continue to spread her legacy through this scholarship, which is to be awarded to young women, who like Rosanna, are passionate about their own pursuits to happiness, while also inspiring and empowering others along the way.

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## Meet the Full of Life Scholarship 2018 Recipients

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**Megan Florestal**  
*Cathedral High School - Empowerment  
Institute Alumna 2017-18*

**Freshman, Stonehill College,  
Criminology**

**Favorite Quote:**

*"Replacing 'Why is this happening to me?'  
with 'What is this trying to tell me?'" -  
Anonymous*



**Medelys Marte**  
*Lawrence High School - Empowerment  
Institute Alumna 2017-2018*

**Freshman, Salem State University,  
Political Science**

**Favorite Quote:**

*"It always seems impossible until it's  
done." -Nelson Mandela*



**Isis Rivera**  
*Community Based Alumna 2012*

**Junior, Simmons College,  
Biochemistry Pre-Vet Track**

**Favorite Quote:**

*"I don't know where I'm going from here,  
but I promise it won't be boring." -David  
Bowie*



**Chelsea Marrero**  
*Community Based Alumna 2011*

**Sophomore, Hunter College, Studio  
Art and Africana/Latino Studies**

**Favorite Quote:**

*"Our deepest fear is not that we are  
inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are  
powerful beyond measure. It is our light,  
not our darkness that most frightens us.  
We ask ourselves, Who am I to be brilliant,  
gorgeous, talented, fabulous? Actually,  
who are you not to be? You are a child of  
God." -Marianne Williamson*



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