

ACT UP FIGHT BACK FIGHT EDUCATIONAL CUTS

We, the **Activistas Latinas/os Contra el SIDA of ACT UP/NY**, are in full support of the CUNY Student Strike protesting the radical budget cuts proposed by Governor Cuomo for the following fiscal year. We understand that the cuts in education parallel those in health care and constitute an open attack on the working class and the minorities of the United States and specifically of New York.

Statistics show that Latinas and Latinos, African Americans, Native Americans, and Asian and Pacific Islanders are being affected disproportionately by the AIDS epidemic. Still the funds needed to deal with this problem are not forthcoming due to Governor Cuomo's budget cuts on health care. The proposed reduction of the funds for education in the State of New York, if approved, will strike one more blow on the most disenfranchised of our society. **Governor Cuomo's budget cuts are blatantly racist, sexist, classist, and out-right criminal.**

Historically, our communities have been fighting to obtain access to adequate housing, employment, health care, education, among many other things. For 129 years the CUNY system was free. Presently, the students are struggling to make CUNY the Free Academy that was intended to be. It is impossible to overlook the fact that tuition in the CUNY system was imposed at the time when minority enrollment began to increase.

As AIDS activists we have taken our issues to the streets. We recognize that when basic rights are at stake radical responses are in order. The students' actions are the adequate response to the serious problems that face the educational system.

HEALTH CARE IS A RIGHT !

**EDUCATION IS A RIGHT, FIGHT, FIGHT,
FIGHT!**

