

The Julian Samora Research Institute

The Midwest's Premier Latino Research Center



2009-2010 Recipients of the Julian Samora Endowed Scholarship

Each year the Julian Samora Endowed Scholarship, founded by Julian Samora in 1993, provides support to one undergraduate and one graduate student engaged in scholarly activities focusing on Latinos in midwestern communities. The recipients for the 2009–10 academic year are

Maria Jacome and Paul Garza.



Maria Jacome is a first-generation college student working toward a masters degree in Social Work. As a 10 year old, Jacome and her mother moved from Ecuador to start a new life in America. The struggle with language and culture fueled a desire in her to help others overcome the same obstacles, and her plans include the quest for a Ph.D. and a career as a college professor.

Paul Garza is an undergraduate student aspiring to become a medical doctor. Garza was raised by his grandmother and supplemented her meager income by working in the fields and on the construction sites of southern Florida. He realizes his desire for a medical degree remains an ambitious goal, but also hopes that his efforts may inspire others.

