



## 2014-2015 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 2014–15 academic year are Adriana Carreon and Dana Chalupa.



**Adriana Carreon** was born and raised in Sinaloa, Mexico, where she earned a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work at the Autonomous University of Sinaloa. After working five years at the Institute of Social Readaptation for Minors (Juvenile) in Culiacan, Sinaloa, she moved to Tijuana, Mexico, where she married and had a son. In September of 2003, she moved with her family to Lansing, Michigan in pursuit of a better life. After waiting five years for her legal residency and struggling with language barriers, in 2008, she became a student at Lansing Community College (LCC) studying English as a second language and taking the required courses to transfer to a four-year institution. At LCC she earned three Associate Degrees: General Associate, Arts in Spanish, and Foreign Languages. In 2013, she transferred to Michigan State University where she is currently a senior at the School of Social Work. She works on campus in the Office of Supportive Services (OSS) as a Peer Teaching Fellow, and also as an Undergraduate Student Researcher in the College of Social Sciences. In the future, she plans to earn a Master's degree in Social Work and a Ph.D. in education. Her goal is to become an Academic Advisor.

**Dana Chalupa** was born in Tucson, Arizona and raised in Bowling Green, Ohio. She is currently a Ph.D. student in the Department of Sociology at Michigan State University after attending Bowling Green State University, where she earned her bachelor's degree with honors in sociology and a minor in Spanish. Her research interests are Latina/o studies, migration, gender, and racial and ethnic identities. In particular, she is interested in how Latino immigrants and their descendants identify racially and ethnically as proxies of integration into racial and ethnic groups in U.S. society, as well as how gender and intersectionality impact these processes. During the summer following her first year at MSU she worked at JSRI. The experience greatly improved her research skills, including quantitative data skills. She is thankful for the support and assistance from JSRI. She is currently working on her dissertation project on the experiences of South Americans and their integration and identities in the Midwest.

