Minneapolis, Minnesota – The Minnesota Architectural Foundation is pleased to announce that Josh Ong and Rosaura Ramos are the 2014 Clarence Wigington Minority Scholarship recipients.

Josh Ong, beginning his second year in the University of Minnesota M. Arch. program, said in his scholarship application, “This growing passion towards public interest architecture and my experiences in the built environments of Manila and Chicago provided the foundation for my career goal, which is to design affordable and sustainable housing for the urban poor. With the help of the Wigington Scholarship, I can better fund my education and accomplish this goal.”

Rosaura Ramos, starting her first year in the University of Minnesota M. Arch. program, stated in her application, “Since a very young age I knew that I wanted to have a career in design. I remember getting lost in the details of a building and finding a type of tranquility. There are strong dreams throughout an individual’s lifetime that cannot be passed up … I know design to be one of mine … that I would regret if I let this dream go…”

Advancing diversity in the architectural profession, the Clarence Wigington Minority Scholarship aims to firmly launch the careers of promising minority students by providing focused and sustained financial support through scholarships during a six-year professional education at the University of Minnesota College of Design.

Created in 1992 as the Minority Architectural Scholarship, the fund was renamed in 2007 to recognize the extraordinary professional and civic accomplishments of Clarence Wigington — the first African American municipal architect in the United States and the first licensed African-American architect in Minnesota. The scholarship provides tuition support of up to $6,000 per year for minority students who wish to pursue a professional education in architecture at the University of Minnesota, and who hold promise for succeeding in an architectural career. Financial support is provided through fundraising at the annual AIA Minnesota Convention and ongoing donations.
Past Clarence Wigington Minority Scholars include:

- **Namdi Alexander**: M. Arch. degree 2014. Currently employed at BKV Group.
- **Vanessa Abin-Fuentes**: M. Arch. degree 2014. Currently employed at LMN Architects in Seattle.
- **Jonathon Jacobs**: M. Arch. degree 2013. Currently employed at Wold Architects.
- **Keon Blasingame**: M. Arch. degree 2005. Currently employed at LSE Architects.
- **Pauv Thouk**: M. Arch degree 2005. Currently employed at Snow Kreilich Architects.

*The Minnesota Architectural Foundation provides scholarships, fellowships, and grants to students, faculty, and organizations that seek to promote public awareness of architecture and the built environment.*

To make a donation or learn more, visit [www.MinnesotaArchitecturalFoundation.org](http://www.MinnesotaArchitecturalFoundation.org).