

Rose Festival Princess Bio

Name: Julia Alvarez-Garza (Pronounced "Hoo-lee-ah **Al**-vah-rez-**Gar**-zah")

School: St. Mary's Academy

Birthplace: The Dalles, Oregon

Parents/Guardians: Javier & Francisca Alvarez

Siblings: Brother, Javier Alvarez-Garza, Jr.

Year in school: Senior

Age: 17

Future education & career plans:

Attend a 4-year liberal arts college

A career in the medical field - possibly as a Nurse Practitioner

High School Activities & Honors:

Dragon Boat races, Model United Nations, Concert Choir, "Teaching, Integrating & Exploring Science" (mentoring 5th-graders in science), National Honor Society, Adeline Estes Patrick Memorial Scholarship recipient, 2008 Student Speaker for Food for Thought Luncheon

Hobbies and special interests:

Spending time with family (including numerous aunts, uncles and cousins), going to movies with friends, attending youth group and serving as lector at Holy Redeemer Catholic Church

Person you admire most:

My mother: "She was born in a small village in Guerrero, Mexico and received a 6th-grade education. However, when she immigrated to the United States with my father she strove for a better life. She worked hard, learned English, received her GED, and later enrolled at the University of Portland. She is currently a second grade teacher in the Portland Public School District and will receive her masters in education this May."

What have you discovered about yourself during high school?

"I've discovered my talent for communicating effectively with others. As a freshman I was introverted, shy, and scared to talk. I have become more independent, proactive and resourceful throughout high school. I am capable of holding leadership positions and enjoy them immensely. I have stamina and motivation to work hard and pursue my dreams."

Pacific Power Mentor: Tashiana Wangler, Government Affairs Representative