Fifty years ago, San Francisco State University students enrolled in the first ever Raíz Journalism class created this newspaper. El Tecolote started as a class project and soon became much more than that. The students who created the newspaper were moved by the spirit of the late 1960s and had no idea that El Tecolote would become the longest running Spanish/English bilingual newspaper in California. As you read the following statements from today’s graduates, you’ll see that they continue to be committed to the struggle for social justice. We are incredibly proud of the Latina/Latino Studies Class of 2020 as we forge into this new decade and as they lead us into the next 50 years. ¡Felicidades y adelante!

--- Dr. Katynka Martinez
Latina/Latino Studies Department Chair

Latina/Latino Studies Majors

Alexandro Aguilar
I plan on educating the youth and empowering Spanish-speaking communities to destroy the “white-supremacist, imperialist, capitalist, patriarchy” (bell hooks) and create a new world. This civilization has been built on stolen land, by stolen labor, with stolen resources. It’s time to reclaim it all. LAND BACK!

Elyssia Arreguin
I hope to work in a university setting increasing college retention within the Latinx community.

Cecilia Baeza
Majoring in Latina/o Studies will be the guiding force of my work. Using my academic experience, I will work toward serving my community that raised me through the diligence to create change in the public sector of San Francisco.

Grethel Bermúdez
My time at SFSU has led me to explore the world of herbalism and ancestral medicine. I look forward to opening my community a space for healing through plants, food and movement. Tlahuacomi!

Adriana Castillo
I will use the LTNS major to foster and reintroduce Latinx immigrant communities in the outdoor spaces, by providing inclusive multilingual programming that share the stories of Latinx folks.

Donna Cruz
I will use my major to support queer, trans, gender queer Latinx students as a future educator.

Guadalupe Diaz
As a first generation student, graduating college symbolizes a huge accomplishment for me. I hope to utilize my knowledge of Latina/o Studies to serve the community as a future healthcare provider. My goal is to utilize all of my skills to strengthen and empower the community that has always supported me.

Jacqueline Gallegos
I hope to be an advocate for my undocumented peers and facilitating the healing and power in community-based practices.

Maria Gavaldón Rojas
I will commit my time to going back to my community in the East Bay and fighting for the resources we deserve. My focus will be to advocate for my undocumented peers and facilitating students’ pathway to college.

Andrea Gil
I hope one day I could make an impact on the minds of the future critical thinkers. Cultivating a space that draws from our roots in Latin America and how we engage with these injustices that currently exist in my community. Using my multidisciplinary education, I will work on creating policies that are inclusive, equitable, and forward-thinking. Les doy gracias a mis padres por todo su apoyo.

Belén López
I plan on being an advocate for my community by using my LTNS major to address systemic injustices that currently exist in my community. Using my multidisciplinary education, I will work on creating policies that are inclusive, equitable, and forward-thinking. Les doy gracias a mis padres por todo su apoyo.

Amanda Navarrete
With this achievement of my B.A. in Latina/o Studies, I hope to be involved in the healing of the community. I want to do this by helping Latinx youth who are victims of domestic abuse and/or violence. They will continue my education in life. “Yo no estudio para saber más, sino para ignorar menos” - Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz.

Mayra Ortiz
I plan to use my Bachelor’s Degree in Latina/o Studies & Psychology to be a learning bridge between the general folks & Latinxs. Also, to expand my repertoire of skills to create a positive change in my community and be a great support in serving a mi gente and my cultura.

Diana Argüeta
Earning my BA in LTNS, Race and Resistance Studies, and minor in Education, I look forward to serving the youth in my community. During my time at SFSU I gained Ethnic Studies experience that was missing in my previous education. With my degree I will go into the educational field where I can teach youth histories that are rarely represented in textbooks.

Juliana Gomez
Desde pequeña mis padres me enseñaron que con ganas todo se puede. Gracias a los certificados de mi familia hice mi propia maestría y seré la próxima Latina trabajando en el sector público.

Guadalupe Vivas
The political climate motivates me to give back to the East Bay Latinx community.

Malía González Rivas
As a Latina/o Studies major, graduating college symbolizes a huge accomplishment for me. I hope to utilize my knowledge of Latina/o Studies to serve the community as a future healthcare provider. My goal is to utilize all of my skills to strengthen and empower the community that has always supported me.

Malia González
Empowering our communities!

 уверенно, позволяя им развиваться в качестве средств трансформации того, что они будут использовать жизненно важные и политические барьеры, чтобы привести к успеху.

Ray Molano
As a Latina/o Studies major my commitment to the community will come from my actions as a resourceful advocate for underserved youth. My goal is to guide them into seeing themselves as tools of transformation that transcend their survival of social & political barriers, allowing them to thrive.

Leonel Mercado
Change starts within our community. Education is used as a stepping stone to further allow our communities to thrive towards success. My primer título es para mi familia, mi comunidad, y para los que se sienten que no tienen voz. Este título es para tu. El poder Latino para siempre.

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Angelica Mendez
I am a Latina/o Studies Major and a Race & Resistance Minor. I want to teach my respective communities the importance of knowing our roots and our origins, and our triumphs. All Power To The People.

Leonel Mercado
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Lilibeth Panagia
I am grateful for my family friends and SF State for all they have given me, allowing me to get one step closer to reaching my ultimate goal. I plan on getting a Master’s in Education with the aim of bringing ethnic studies to my community.
El Tecolote

¡FELICIDADES SENIORS!

Latina/Latino Studies Majors

Karla Pérez-García

I will begin working as a bilingual Spanish/English teacher in the fall!

Ada Reyes

I plan to use my major, to support and build relationships with Black and POC youth in my community.

A dream to create a space that ensures the preservation of their culture through the arts and supports them in becoming leaders of their community - La Cultura Cara.

Kayla Rodríguez

I will take my LTNS major into the community by making sure that when I am a teacher to include Latino/a people in the curriculum. I will include people that look like students and that have gone through the same experiences. I want to impact them to see themselves worthy of celebration.

Diana Rodríguez Calderon

I plan to use my LTNS major to serve the community through social work. I want to be able to provide my help and resources for people who need it. I also plan to work with non-profit organizations and do some community organizing.

Monique Reyes

I plan to go to law school and become an immigration attorney. I hope to use my LTNS degree and education to help the immigrant community. Thanks mom and dad!

Jessica Sandoval-Silva

I plan to use the knowledge I’ve gained in Latina/o Studies to contribute to the education of children and their families in schools. Quiero apoyar a mi comunidad participando en la educación de estudiantes menores y sus familias dentro de las escuelas.

Karina Saucedo

Como latina del Valle de San Fernando, a través de la educación superior encontré mi propósito. Mi lucha no termina aquí, apenas comienzo. Ahora es mi responsabilidad educar, capacitar a mi comunidad para que se escuche su propia voz y se solidarice. Exija una vida mejor. ¡Si se Puede!

Jasmin Vargas

I plan to use my education to service the Latino/a community in San Francisco by working with nonprofit organizations that focus on youth and immigrants. My greater goal is to attend law school and become an immigration lawyer to help immigrant families assert their rights and fight against unjust policies.

Gioelle Aguayo

I plan on using my minor to get involved with local Latinx organizations as well as to share everything I’ve learned with friends and family.

Adriana Alvearenga-Hernandez

Me voy sabiendo que el aprendizaje continúa y que sirve como instrumento para mejorar las vidas y oportunidades de mis padres, de mi misma, de los que me rodean—de manera en que muchos lo han hecho por mi. Si se puede, se puda, y seguirá siendo posible. Pa’lante!

Jasmin Calvillo-Ojeda

With my LTNS Minor I am able to understand the complexities that minorities experience not only in my community, but around the world. As a future nurse I will try my best to be considerate under the U.S. health system.

Latina/Latino Studies Minors

Leslie De Leon

As a Broadcast and Electronic Communication Arts Major with a Latinx Minor, I plan to work towards the proper representation of the Latinx community in the media. I think it is important to do that which do not have a voice in order to uplift the community as a whole.

Johana Espinosa Fuentes

I plan on implementing the tools I’ve learned through shared knowledge gifted by my professors, to serve my community positively. Understanding them & working with them to grow as individuals & a collective. To permit trust in our community, rather than relying on institutions that don’t serve them highly.

Allison Gomez

I hope to use my Minor to advocate for social justice in underserved communities of color.

Yoenia Gomez

With my degree in Social Work and Latina/o Studies I plan to service the Latino community by providing essential social services. Con mi licenciatura de trabajadora social y estudios latinos, planear poder seguir trabajando con la comunidad latina proporcionándolos servicios esenciales.

Elva Jimenez

Being that it’s a predominately working-class and Spanish-speaking neighborhood, I will use my LTNS minor to give back to my community in Boyle Heights, Los Angeles, by becoming involved in community work that allows me to assist the families and youth around me.

Ashley Navidad

In conjunction with my degree in marketing, I plan to use my minor in Latina Studies to provide knowledge and resources in consumer-media literacy to help our community make informed decisions about the products and services we are supporting.

Carolina Palacio

I would like to use my LTNS minor to mainly work in non-profit organizations that help with the Latino/a community. Places that help undocumented people find places to work and to feel safe in the community. I want to be able to guide people, to give them a helping hand as best as I can.

Chris Ramirez

I plan to use my minor to enable me to give greater context to populations that normally couldn’t know about Latinx people, history, and their legacy within the U.S. Pair this with my pursuit of a medical degree and I become a walking, talking advocate for Latinx gente, wherever I go.

Mario Alexis Ruiz Garcia

Latinx Studies has prepared me to help advocate for parents and students who often do not have a voice in the special education programs within public education. I will do so by becoming a Doctor in Occupational Therapy with a focus on changing policies. For you brother, my inspiration.

Thank you Gabriela Segovia-McGahan, Breena Nuñez, and Stacey Chavez!

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