Fifty years ago, San Francisco State University students enrolled in the first ever Raza Journalism class and 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
Director of the Department of Estudios Latinas/Latinos

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**Latina/Latino Studies Majors**

### Alejandro 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 the 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 offering community a space for healing through plants, food and movement. Thucaromát!”

### 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.

### Guadalupe Díaz

As a first generation student, graduating college symbolizes a huge accomplishment for me. I plan 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 Gallício

Estoy muy agradecida por el conocimiento que me a dado estar en este camino. Como siempre, para ayudar y crecer juntos.

### María 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 resistance and radicalization.

### Malia Gonzalez Rivas

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

### Carolina González

I hope to use my LTNS major to become more culturally competent and aware as I want to help the Latino community de-stigmatize mental health and create an environment that values mental health care.

### Amanda Navarrete

With this achievement of my B.A. in Latinx 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. “No se estafa para saber más, sino para ignorar menos” - Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz.

### 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 las que se sienten que no tienen voz. Este título es para mi. El poder Latino para siempre.

### 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 transcends their survival of social & political barriers, allowing them to thrive.

### Amanda Navarrete

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### Mayra Ortiz

I plan to use my Bachelor’s Degree in Latina/o Studies & Psychology to be a learning bridge between the general folks & Latinx. 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 y mi cultura.

### Lilibeth Panagua

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 ethno-studies to my community.

### Diana Argueta

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 Ethnographic 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.

### Julia Luna

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### Angelica Mendez

I am a Latina/o Studies Major and a Race & Ethnic Studies Minor. I want to teach my respective communities the importance of knowing our past, present, and our triumphs. All Power To The People.

### Donna Cruz

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

### Andrés Molano

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.

### Elyssia Arreguin

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

### 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. Los doy gracias a mis padres por todo su apoyo.

### Carolina González

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### Gabriela Gómez

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¡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.

Kayla Rodríguez
I will take my LTNS major into the community by making sure that when I am a teacher to include Latinx 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.

Jessica Sandoval-Silva
I plan to use the knowledge I’ve gained in Latino/a 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
Cómo latina del Valle de San Fernando, a través de la educación superior encontré mi propósito. Mi lucha no termina aquí, apenas comienza. Ahora es mi responsabilidad enendar, capacitar a mi comunidad para que se encuentre su propia voz y se solidarice. Exija una vida mejor ! Si se Puede!

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

Cindy Bejarano
Gracias a mi mamá, aprendí a luchar. As a first-generation student I thank my mom for teaching me to be resilient in furthering my education. With this Minor I hope to get accepted into the Migration Grad Program at USF. My goal is to have an impact on immigration legislation.

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 that those who do not have a voice in order to uplift the community as a whole.

Johanna Espinosa
I want to be able to guide people, to give them a helping hand as best as I can.

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

Ashley Navidad
In conjunction with my degree in marketing, I plan to use my minor in Latino 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 legal issues and social services in the Latinx community. Places that help undocumented people find places to work and to feel safe in the community. I want to be able to help 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.

Maria Alex Ruiz García
Latinx Studies has prepared me to help advocate for parents and students who often do not have a voice in the specialized 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.

Diana Rodríguez Calderon
I plan to use my LTNS major to service 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 Rejas
I plan to go to law school and become an immigration attorney. I hope to use my LTNS degree and education in helping the immigrant community. Thanks mom and dad!

Latina/Latino Studies Minors

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