

5-25-1997

## 27th Chicano Commencement, 1997

San Jose State University, Associated Students

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27<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL

# Chicano Commencement



# Graduación Xicana

SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY

SUNDAY, MAY 25, 1997  
SANTA CLARA CONVENTION CENTER



*Class of 1997*



## *Congratulations*

*Commencement is not only the culmination of your college career, it is also the beginning of your life as alumni of San José State University. Today you join the ranks of leaders and professionals who have graduated from this institution. Your role, too, will be to help shape our society's development. You, as well as your family and friends, should be proud of the contributions you have already made as students at San José State. As you continue your intellectual accomplishments and personal growth, I hope you will find that education is a life-long process.*

*On behalf of the entire SJSU community, Felicidades!*

A handwritten signature in dark red ink, reading "Robert L. Caret". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Robert L. Caret  
*President*

1997 SJSU *Chicano Commencement*





Welcome **RAZA**, to the 27th Annual Chicano Commencement. Today we honor our graduates who are sharing this glorious day with our community. Our attempt is to be recognized through a Commencement which represents who we are. As graduates we have referred to ourselves as Chicanos, Xicanos, Latinos, Mexicanos, Mexican-Americans, Hispanics and others have chosen to use no specification. The way we refer to ourselves varies so much because as individuals we have different points-of-view, political stances and life experiences.

*Xicano* phonetically aligns itself with México and at the same time with political activism. This year we have chosen to use the word *Xicano*, because of the political consciousness that it connotes.

The focus of this year's commencement is centered around who we are. In the appropriation of the traditional Mexican card game *La Loteria*, we have attempted to build icons and symbols of who we aspire to be and what is important to us, like *El Futuro* and *La Familia*.

Our experience at San José State University has given us the opportunity to venture into new horizons. Through the years we have encountered many struggles and accomplishments which have developed us spiritually and scholastically. We honor those who have opened the doors for us as well as those who have invested their faith in our potential.

We have taken on the challenge to organize such an event because we believe that it is important to celebrate our accomplishments and our cultural heritage. We now strive to serve as inspiration for those who will follow in our paths. In honor of our beloved predecessors José Antonio Burciaga and Pedro Rafael Tapia we celebrate this Twenty-Seventh Annual Chicano Commencement.

We now take one step closer to achieving our goals and dreams. Our success is due to our own courage and strength, yet it is through the support of our families and friends that it has prospered and flourished.

Adrian Noe Rodriguez & Margarita Gómez  
*1997 Chicano Commencement co-chairs*



**Bienvenidos RAZA**, a la vigésima séptima celebración anual de la ceremonia de entrega de diploma. Hoy honoramos a nuestros graduados, quienes están compartiendo este día glorioso en nuestra comunidad. Quisiéramos ser reconocidos a través de esta graduación la cual representa lo que somos. Como graduados, nos hemos referido como Chicanos, Xicanos, Latinos, Mexicanos, Mexicano-Americanos, Hispánicos, mientras otros han decidido no usar un nombre específico. La manera en que nos referimos varía tanto porque como individuos, tenemos diferentes filosofías, opiniones políticas y experiencias de la vida.

La fonética Xicano se alinea solo con Mexicano y, a la misma vez, con el activismo político. Este año hemos decidido usar la palabra Xicano por la conciencia política que crea.

El enfoque de este año en esta celebración está centrada en base de quien somos. En la apropiación de la tradición del juego de cartas Mexicanas, llamado *La Lotería*, hemos intentado construir iconos y símbolos de lo que aspiramos hacer y lo que consideramos de importancia como es *El Futuro* y *La Familia*.

Nuestra experiencia en la Universidad Estatal de San José nos ha dado la oportunidad de descubrir nuevos horizontes. A través de los años hemos sobrepasado obstáculos y realizado metas que nos han desembuelto espiritualmente y académicamente. Honoramos aquellos que nos abrieron las puertas igual como los que invirtieron su fe en nuestra potencial.

Hemos tomado el reto de organizar este evento porque creemos que es importante celebrar nuestros logros y nuestra herencia cultural. Hemos enforzado nuestras inspiraciones para aquellos que siguerán nuestro camino. En honor de nuestros estimados antepasados José Antonio Burciaga y Pedro Rafael Tapia, celebramos nuestra 27<sup>ma</sup> ceremonia de entrega de diploma.

Ahora tomamos un paso adelante para lograr nuestras metas y sueños. Nuestro triunfo fue logrado por nuestro valor y fuerza, pero más bien es por el apoyo de nuestras familias y amigos por el cual hemos prosperado.

Adrian Noe Rodriguez & Margarita Gómez  
*presidentes de la Graduación Chicana 1997*

# LOS INVITADOS



MISTRESS OF CEREMONIES  
**Cindy Chavez**

Cindy is the Political Director for the South Bay AFL-CIO Labor Council. She is responsible for electing candidates and passing measures that will help improve the quality of life of working families in Santa Clara County. Cindy has traveled around the world to conduct training for political, non-profit and labor organizations. She has also been an active player on County's political stage for many years as Health Services policy aide for the then County Supervisor Ron Gonzales and on the Executive Board of the County Democratic Party. In addition to sitting on the boards of the Non-Profit Development Center, Mexican American Community Service Agency, and the YWCA, Cindy also helped found El Pueblo Contra SIDA. This organization provides culturally sensitive health care to victims of AIDS and their families. Cindy graduated from SJSU in 1987 with a BS in Political Science and is currently busy planning for her wedding this September.



MASTER OF CEREMONIES  
**Jorge Gonzalez**

Jorge has been a community and labor organizer for the past 20 years in San Jose. During the 60s and 70s Jorge participated in the Chicano Movement, being one of the founders of M.E.Ch.A., Chicano Studies and the Brown Berets in the San Diego area.

Recently Jorge helped found RAZA SI Community Organization, participated in the fight against Prop 187 and in the Justice for Janitors campaign, among many others.

Last July 31st, Jorge became a US citizen, registered to vote, and registered as a candidate for the SJ Unified School District Board; all on the same day. On December 12, he became the first Mexican immigrant to be seated on that board.

Jorge holds a B.A. in Psychology and a Masters in Social work. He works for the Social Services Agency and is a faculty member of the SJSU College of Social Work.



LA MADRINA  
**Linda Ortega**

Linda began her career in 1979 as an Outreach Counselor for SJSU where she formulated recruitment programs for disadvantaged students. Linda is currently the Assistant Director of Student Outreach and Recruitment and is responsible for the development and implementation of outreach programs and policies. Linda received her BA in Sociology in 1977 at SJSU and in 1996 participated in Chicano Commencement once again, receiving her M.A. in counselor education. As a under grad Linda helped organize three Chicano Commencements.

Linda is a member of Chicano/Latino Faculty and Staff, Chairperson for the Ernesto Galarza Scholarship Committee, a mentor for the Puente Program, and advisor of Sigma Lambda Beta Fraternity and Calmecca Project.

Linda's commitment to students is inspiring and commendable. She has dedicated her career to helping others; a priceless trait she possesses.



## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Registration  
12 P.M.

Lunch  
1:30 P.M.

*Grupo Intimo*

*El Mariachi San Juan*

*procession anthem sung by  
Ms. Angela Arana*



EL PADRINO

## Henry Joseph Gutierrez

Henry was raised in East Los Angeles where he graduated from Garfield High School in 1966. Henry received his BA. degree in Political Science from Occidental College in 1970. During the late 60s and 70s Henry was active in community organizations and focused on improving the conditions of public education for Chicano students. He was a member of the Educational Issues Coordinating Committee which supported the student walkouts in 1968. Henry was then appointed to the Mexican-American Education Commission and elected vice-chairperson. He also worked for the Hispanic Urban Center and in 1990 Henry received his Ph.D. from the Program in Comparative Culture at UC, Irvine. Since then Henry has taught at Occidental College, Stanford University, and in 1992 joined the Social Science Department at SJSU. He is the author of "Racial Politics in Los Angeles" and CO-editor of Latinos and Education an anthology forthcoming.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER  
**Rose Del Castillo  
Guilbault**



Rose was named KGO-TV's Editorial and Public Affairs Director in 1984 after serving as Community Affairs Director since 1978 when she joined Channel 7. Rose oversees the station's community relations commitments, coordinates public service announcements (PSA's) and supervises KGO-TV's contributions to community organizations.

Rose is the host of "Sunday on Seven," KGO-TV's weekend public affairs program. In 1984 the Public Affairs Department launched "Profiles of Excellence"; three programs produced annually to salute African-Americans, Asian-Americans and Hispanic-Americans.

In September of 1991, President George Bush appointed Rose to the President's Advisory Commission on Education Excellence for Hispanic Americans. The commission examines the critical issues facing Latino students in the United States. Rose is the only journalist on the 17 member national commission.

Actively involved in community organizations and activities, Rose was elected to the Board of Governors for the Commonwealth Club of California for 1991. She is also on the Board of Trustees for the College of Notre Dame, a board member of the World Centre, The Family Services Agency of San Mateo County and the Puente Project, an organization that helps Hispanic students graduate from college.

Rose has received numerous awards over the years for her leadership role. Her former monthly column on the Hispanic experience for "This World" in the San Francisco Chronicle won a Eugene Block Journalism Award for advancing social justice and human rights. Also in 1990, she received the Community service Award from La Raza Centro Legal. Rose Guilbault earned a B.A. in Broadcast Journalism from San José State University and an M.B.A at Pepperdine University.



Procession of Graduates  
2:30 P.M.

*Danzantes Tlaloc-Chalchihuitlique*



Dance  
6 P.M.

*D.J. Boy Wonder*



*Grupo Cubanacan*



# El Espiritu

La persona no ha de ser de dichos sino de hechos.  
*A person should not be made out of talk but of deeds.*

from *IN FEW WORDS~EN POCAS PALABRAS*,  
published post-humously by Mercury House, 1997



# del Chicano



## José Antonio Burciaga

*Chicano cultural activist, muralist, humorist*

1940  1996

José Antonio Burciaga is the Godfather of Chicano Poetry. His ability to express the Chicana/o experience was a gift he shared with many. He continues to be a role model in our community through his books and other writings which are used in classrooms to teach self-respect, pride, and love of our *cultura*. His influence continues to touch the hearts of many....

With no more and no less,      Sin más ni menos,  
I undo myself without pretension.      me desbarato sin pretensiones.  
We will glass each other.      Hay nos vidrios.  
*Llevetela suave y ve alrededor.*      *Take it easy and look around.*

from *Undocumented Love: A personal Anthology of Poetry*  
Chusma House Publications



31

*presentando la*

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GRADUACIÓN  
***XICANA***

DE LA  
UNIVERSIDAD ESTATAL DE SAN JOSÉ

~  
CLASE DE MIL NOVECIENTOS  
NOVENTA Y SIETE

---

LAS JARAS



**JULIE G. AGUILAR**

*B.A. Social Work Minor: Mexican-American & African-American Studies*

Papá y Mamá, en este día tan especial quiero darle las gracias por todo el apoyo que me han brindado durante los últimos 24 años. Todos mis logramientos no podrían suceder sin su amor y cariño. This diploma is dedicated to my little one, Papas, the one that keeps me going, you're my sunshine. Gerardo, Cheque and their families; Annabelle, Mona and Chava you're the best. J.T I love you! Evet thanx for being a friend and a greattt roommate. To my girls, always there for me. We've had the time of our lives together yeaaa!!! To the Tillmans and the Aragons, thanx for everything. Thanx everyone for all your encouragement, and for believing in me.

**MARISOL ALARCON**

*B.A. Child Development Minor: Spanish*

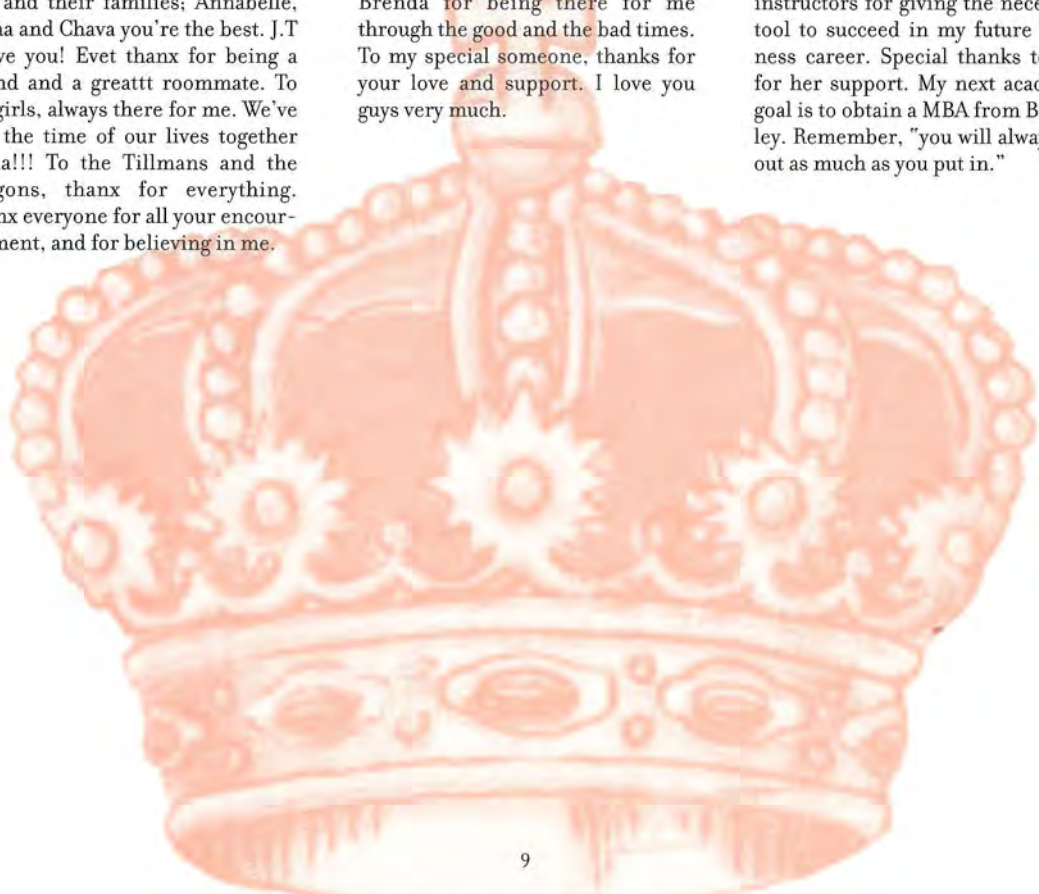
Primero quiero darle las gracias a Dios por haberme dado la fuerza de seguir adelante y por este día. Quiero darle las gracias a mis padres por su gran amor y por todo el apoyo que me han dado. Cynthia and Anabel thanks for being there for me.

Comadres we made it. Thanks for all the good times. Special thanks to Brenda for being there for me through the good and the bad times. To my special someone, thanks for your love and support. I love you guys very much.

**JOSE L. ALFARO**

*B.S. Business Administration*

Mis Padres, Francisco y Elvira Alfaro, han hecho grandes sacrificios para que mi hermano, mis hermanas y yo recibamos una educación en la universidad. Es por eso que en este día les dedico mi diploma como fruto de todos esos esfuerzos que incondicionalmente han hecho por mí. Thanks to all my instructors for giving the necessary tool to succeed in my future business career. Special thanks to MA for her support. My next academic goal is to obtain a MBA from Berkeley. Remember, "you will always get out as much as you put in."





To be or not to be....

**MARIA EUGENIA ALVARADO**  
*B.S. - Health Science/Community Health Edu.*

I thank you God for giving me the opportunity of finishing one of my goals. I have challenged my self and it wasn't easy. Mamá, espero que estes orgullosa de mí, agradezco todo lo que me has dado. I love you. I also thank my brother Leo, friends and tutors who have supported me during my academic journey. Fortunately!! I've not finished school but I've just started since education must have to be a continuos process; regard of age and S.E.S. Canas y el ánimo bien levantado are needed in order to accomplish your goals.

**PATRICIA OJEDA BOLAÑOS**  
*B.A. Social Science*

Quiero darles las gracias a mis padres Esther y Miguel Bolaños quienes con su trabajo me enseñaron a valorar y a seguir adelante en mi educación. Su trabajo y esfuerzo en este país no há sido en vano. Gracias también a mis hermanos Rogelio, Miguel y Sergio y a mis hermanas, Marcela y Laura quienes creyeron en mí y en mis metas.

P.S. Thanks to all the people in school who helped, supported, and encouraged me to continue my education. Without you I would not have made it.

**VERONICA CANTABRANA**  
*B.A. Creative Arts*

I would like to give special thanks to my mother Susana and Paul Torres for being there for me. Madre, muchas gracias por ayudarme a salir adelante cuando lo necesite, con una madre como tu no necesito padre. Gracias. Paul I guess you will be happy to finally get rid of me, but I guess I will still bug you for a while. Thank you for everything.

**BELEN ALVAREZ***B.A. Liberal Studies Minor: Business*

Quiero darle las gracias a mis padres por todos los sacrificios que hicieron para venir a este país, especialmente a mi linda madre que me ha enseñado a no darme por vencida y siempre seguir adelante. And my sisters Erika, Elida, Maria, Shelly, and my bro Gonzalo, bless you all for all the love and support that you have given me. Thank you godparents, Antoinette and Hector, for always being there to guide me. Thank you Frenchie and Leslie for always believing in me. And to my love, Dennis, who has supported me with lots of love and patience. I love you all!! I could not have done it without you. Thank you.

**ALBERTA BUSTAMANTE***B.A. Social Science Minor Spanish*

Quiero darle las gracias a Dios, a mis padres y familia. El apoyo que me han brindado ha sido una gran ayuda para realizar el sueño que se cumple al graduarme. Agradezco a todos los que me ayudaron y brindaron su amistad. Thanks to the people that were beside me along the way and helping me achieve my goal. El estudio es nuestro futuro, sigan estudiando! Gracias a la vida!

**CHRISTINA CARDONA***B.A. Liberal Studies*

At times it seemed like I would never see the day, but it is finally here. It has been my parents motivation and support that I have been able to accomplish my educational goal. I love you Mom and Dad, Alma, Lisa, and Gabbie; See I'm finished. Adriana you've always believed in me even when I didn't. You're the best and I love you. To LSG you will always be in my heart. Thank You GOD!

**PATRICIA M. BARBA***B.A. Liberal Studies Minor: Spanish*

It's been a long journey, but I've finally made it! Thank you God for giving me the perseverance and strength to continue furthering my education and for not allowing me to ever give up. Thank you Mom and Dad for your patience, support, and understanding, throughout my college years. Thanks to all my friends for your support and friendship and the good times we shared, like the salsa dancing. Lastly, thank you Tony for your love and support and for always being there for me!

**ROSAURA CAMPOS***B.A. Social Work*

Primeramente le doy gracias a Dios por dejarme llegar a esta meta de mi vida. Por guiarme por el camino del estudio. A mi familia por sus consejos y ejemplos que me han enseñado a valorar la vida. A mis amistades (las comadres) por la comprension y apoyo. Las experiencias seran muy especiales y un lindo recuerdo del camino de la luz del estudio que seguimos hasta lograr nuestras metas. Mi consejo, planten la semilla que trairá buenos frutos- el estudio. Gracias a todos.

**SANDRA CARRANZA***B.A. Advertising Minor: Marketing*

"To be or not to be, you gotta be mi'ja". Papi gracias por tus palabras de inspiración, tu eres mi heroé. A mi mejor amiga quien tambien es mi mamá, te quiero mucho H.....! A Gabriela mi hermana, la futura doctora, sigue adelante Xicana! A Cecilia, mi hermana, estudia mucho para que un día logres todas tus metas. Thank you Helen Ayala and Linda Ortega for giving a young Xicana the opportunity to go to college. Gracias tambien a mi familia Carranza, de Autlan, Jalisco; mis hermanos postizos Ruben y Jazmina. Adios.

# You gotta be, mi'ja!

*Julio Carranza, padre de Sandra Carranza*



## *El Camino Hacia la Graduación*



*How many pounds of masa does it take to make 1600 tamales?*

*Lots.....!! The "Tamalada" was one of the most enjoyable fund-raisers. After hours of separating hojas, doblando tamales, and quemando a few, we finally did it!*



### PATRICIA CASTILLO

*B.S. Psychology Minor: Spanish*

I would like to first thank God y La Virgen Maria for giving me the faith and hope to pursue my goals. I would like to thank those who believed in me and inspired me: Fernando Nugnet (Geyserville H.S.), Ruben Sandoval, and Gloria DeBlasio (SRJC) and those who supported me along the way; Luz Nazarette and Connie Gozzarino (SRJC). I would also like to thank my parents for finally accepting me as an educated woman. Finally I would like to thank those who listened when I was "tripping", my "psychologists": My sweetheart; Robert Negrette Jr., Lidia Ulloa, and Maria Velasco. This diploma is dedicated to all of these special people. I am very grateful!

### MARIA A. CHAVEZ

*B.S. Social Criminology*

Quiero darle gracias a Dios por haberme permitido llegar a este día tan importante para mí y mi familia, este sueño fue posible porque mi mamá vino a este país hace veinte y cinco años. Gracias a toda la gente que me apoyo. Gracias a mi prometido por su ayuda, su lealtad y su apoyo. Gracias a mi papá Jesus que me puso en el camino correcto y yo se que desde el cielo me esta mirando. Mi mamá Reyna por todo lo que hizo por mí. Que Dios los bendiga. A mis hermanitos, espero que los siguientes sean ellos. A todas estas personas que me ayudaron con mucho cariño les dedico mi graduación.

### LISA ANN CHAVIRA

*B.S. Sociology/Criminology  
Minor: Administration of Justice*

I have many people to thank for helping me to get this point in my life. First of all, I thank God. Secondly, I'd like to thank my family who believed in me. Also, my two sons who give me the strength to go even further. Lastly, I'd like to give thanks to all the people who said I would never make it and thought I was crazy for trying - this one is for you!!!!!!

### MARCIA CHAVEZ

*B.S. - Health Science / Community Health Ed.*

I am proud to be at this commencement to celebrate graduating from San Jose State University. It has been struggle to finish my education and at times I thought I would never achieve this goal! What makes me most proud at this moment is to be sharing this achievement with my family, for, without them I feel I wouldn't of succeeded this far.

It is with their continuous support and motivation that kept me going to finally graduate from a four year institution. This day is also for my father the late Dr. Mauro Chavez, who would of been proud to see me finally graduate from college as well, it was his continuous encouragement that made me feel that I should never give up no matter what obstacles I faced.

### MIGUEL CHAVEZ

*B.S. Aviation Administration  
B.S. Business Finance*

Pursuing higher education has been my family's dream. I feel content to know that my family's wish is accomplished this semester. Four years ago I could not even imagine the day of my graduation. It seemed too far away, but it is now a reality. Throughout my education I have learned that if you try hard and know what you want, it is possible to achieve your goals. I want to thank all my family and people that have been around me for their support during all these years.

### MAYA AZUL COLLINS

*B.A. Anthropology Minor: Spanish*

It has been a long and hard road to get to this point in my life. It has not been easy to balance the many aspects of my life, but I would not have given up the experiences I have gained in college for anything in the world. College has been a emotional, mental and spiritual awakening for me. I could never have gotten through these past few years without the loving support of my parents, Henry and Olga, and my sisters as well. I would also like to thank my friends who have been there for me through thick and thin through out my college years, you guys have been great! Thank God it's almost over!



**Patricia Bolaños Ojeda**  
*B.A. Social Science*

Patricia's goal is to pursue a career in the field of education as a teacher and guidance counselor after receiving a Master's Degree in Education and her teaching credential. She feels that minority students can benefit from seeing they see a professional counselor who shares their same background. Obviously, she is someone they can identify with."

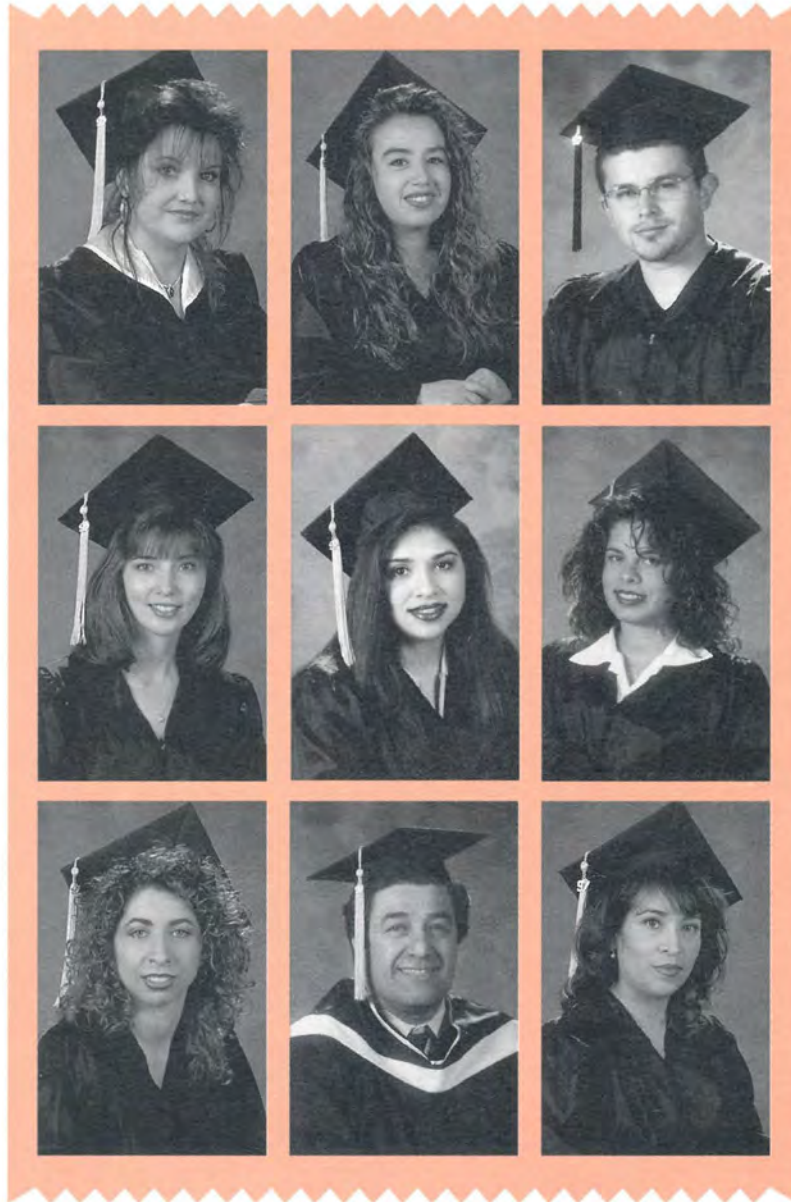
Throughout college Patricia has had the opportunity to advise Elementary, Junior High migrant students and High School students about the importance of higher education. "I not only advised students about college education, but I also advised their migrant parents." Patricia has been instrumental in guiding students towards a better future by providing the motivation they need to succeed.

Presently Patricia works for Student Outreach and Recruitment (SOAR) in Pioneer high school. She recruits students and helps them with the admission and financial aid process at SJSU. She also works at San Jose High Academy as an advisor.

Hard work and dedication will ensure Patricia's success in the Masters Degree program. "I will serve as a role model for other Hispanic women whose desire is to pursue a higher education."







*Fifty pounds of queso and thousands of tortillas all ready to be turned into the Chicano Commencement "Super Quesadilla". Once again Chicano Commencement had the most profitable booth at the SJSU Food Bazaar.*

***iQuesadilla!***

**CYNTHIA LEE CONSTANTINI***B.A. Clinical Psychology*

My accomplishments have stemmed from my philosophy: "fight for what you want in life". The fight begins with goal setting, determination, and belief in yourself. Education has given me the opportunity to see the world with an open mind and with this I can help others.

I thank my husband, Mark, for his patience and support because at times it has been difficult for him to accept my need to further my education.

**LAURA LESLIE CORDOVA***B.S. - Health Science / Community Health Ed.*

Mom and Dad, this is just the beginning. I couldn't have done it without you!! I love you always!

**VERONICA DUEÑAS***B.S. Biological Science*

Todo que han sacrificado, todo que me han dado. Ahora les puedo dar las gracias que tanto merecen. A mi querido papá, que siempre me a puchado para que sea lo mejor en lo que yo escogiera. Para mi mamá, que me enseñó fuerzas para completar lo que e empesado. A SQY, gracias por las memorias. A Elias que eres mi inspiración, tu tienes mi corazón.

Le pido a Dios que me siga guiando en la fortuna de sorpresas que es la vida.



## the Design process

The production of this program was a true labor of love. It was the result of countless hours of planning, telephoning, arguing, photo-taking, and working on the computer; not to mention the many burritos that were devoured in the process.

**JESSICA CONTRERAS***B.S. Clinical Psychology Minor: Sociology*

I would like to thank, the main inspiration of my life, my father. Thanks for your given dedication, time, love. You have inspired me to continue with my education and to be the woman I am now. I love you always. Thanks to my boyfriend for giving me support to continue with my education and for giving me a wonderful baby boy. Thanks a great deal to my brother for being so understanding and loving. Now stay out of trouble, love you!!!

**YVETTE DIANE CUIRIEL***B.A. Psychology Minor: Criminology*

At last, this term of my college career is complete. I knew there was a light at the end of this tunnel. A special thanks to my "LOVE" Paul Gomez. My family and friends for their patience and understanding during this challenging and time consuming achievement. My studies in Psychology and Criminology have enlightened me most about my interperson, and have greatly attributed to my enhanced understanding of people and of life in general. "That a girl, this goal is met!"

**JOHN EDWARD DURAN***M.A. Education Administration & Supervision*

I was twenty-three years of age when I graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology and a double minor in Psychology and Chicano studies. Today, twenty four years later, I am graduating with a Masters of Arts in Education Administration and Supervision. This time I have my family with me and it feels great. This Masters is for all my family to learn and understand that you can't give up on your goals, and that you can succeed if you keep on trying.

**JUAN CARLOS CONTRERAS RUIZ***B.A. Graphic Design from the California College of Arts & Crafts*

Bueno... esta etapa de mi vida ya esta por terminar, y nos preparamos para comenzar la busqueda de la vida 'real'. Solo puedo decir que por supuesto, este logramiento esta dedicado a mis padres, quien siempre me han apoyado. Gracias, por todo. Los quiero mucho.

Que no se dejen de mencionar los otros seres importantes en mi vida: mis hermanas, primos, tios y todas esas amistades preciosas que hacen la vida una dulzura.

¡Animo! A bailar, se ha dicho.

**SHEYLA M. DUARTE***B.A. Psychology Minor: Spanish*

Celebro con mucho orgullo uno de mis logros mas grandes, mi graduación. Aprovecho la ocasión para agradecerles a todas las personas que hicieron posible este día en mi vida: Maria Teresa (abuelita), Mamá, Francisco, Deborah, Leo, Miguelito, Papá, Hermanos, Sergio, Amparo, Irma, Familia Macias, Catalina, Profesor Zermeno, Profesoras Castro y Gomez, Coach Roger, compañeras de 911 y DVP. Ustedes de una manera u otra me inspiraron y me brindaron su apoyo, pero lo mas importante es que creieron en mí.

**VENUS SUE ESPARZA ZAVALA***B.A. Social Work**Minor: Mexican American Studies*

Mom, Dad and family thank you for all the love and sacrifices, I love you. Cleo, your a Godsend, Dr. DiAlena, Thanks for your guidance through the years. Aunt Sallie thank you for your guidance, support and encouragement.

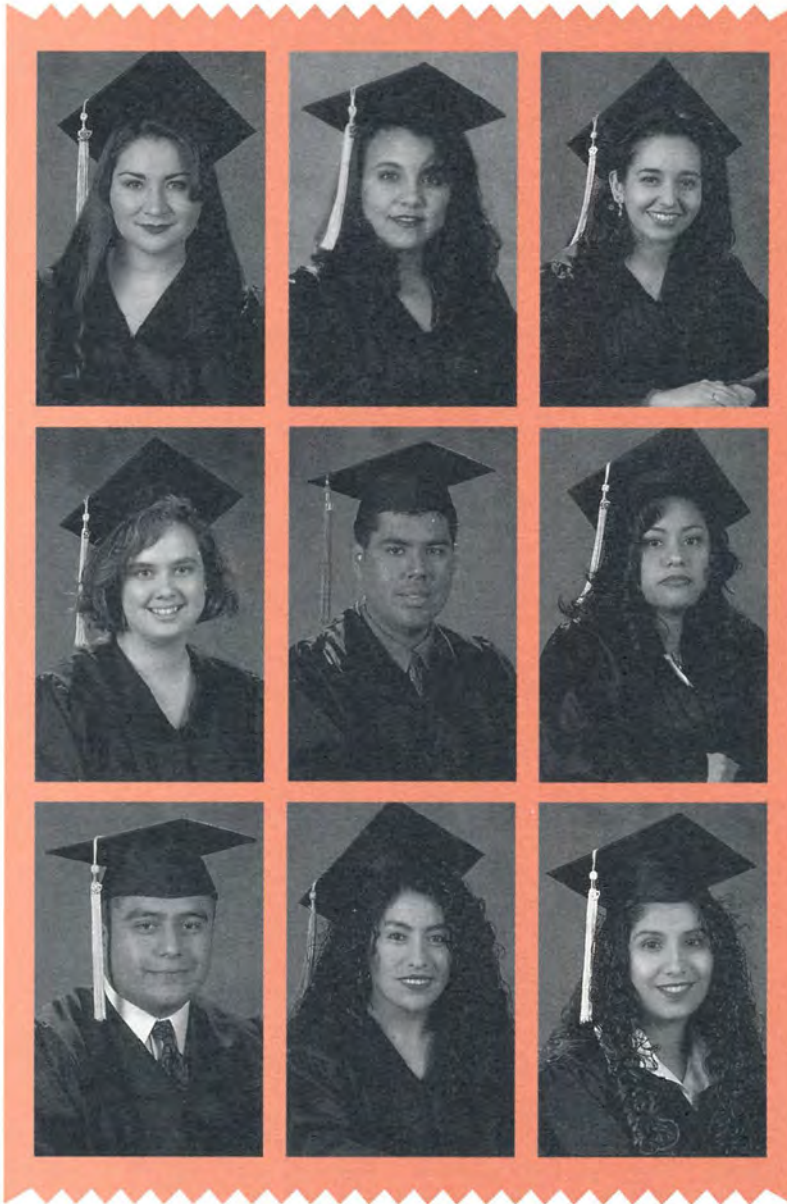
A mis compadres, Leon, Leypon, Lujan y Zavala gracias por su amor y apoyo, especialmente Maria Lujan. A mis fabulosos amigos, Laura, Gloria, Irene, Dr. Maria Alanis, Ramona, Guisella, Leonora, Roxanne, Pita y Paul, gracias por su amistad y animo.

Finalmente, a mi mejor amigo y esposo Jaime Zavala, me has demostrado tu amor y paciencia. Estoy orgullosa de compartir mi vida contigo. I Love You!!

Le doy gracias a mi familia y amistades por su apoyo, amor,

cerveza  
y calamari  
y cumbianasos.

*Lorena Flores*  
B.A. Clinical Psychology



**Walk-a-thon**

*¡A Caminar se ha dicho! And that is exactly what 87 Chicano/Latino graduates did, in order to raise funds for Chicano Commencement. Family and friends sponsored these dedicated members per lap or at a flat rate. "Rumor has it that co-chiar Adrian Rodriguez ran 10 tortillas."*



**AURELIA ESPINOZA***B. A. Sociology / Family & Marriage*

Primeramente quiero darle las gracias a Dios, por darme la oportunidad de salir adelante. Con el apoyo y amor incondicional de mi padre he podido realizar mis sueños. Le doy gracias a mi madrecita que ésta en el cielo, por su sacrificio y confianza. I would like to thank all the special people in my life Maria V., Rafael, Sylvia and my brothers for their love and support.

**GABRIELA FELIX-KNOWLTON***B.S. Sociology*

Summing up my years of college into one brief statement seems harder than actually graduating from college. My father, Raul R. Felix and my mother, Beverley Felix, have been both teachers and counselors over the years. They helped me complete one of the most important steps in my life. My husband, Kelen Knowlton, has been an inspiration to me. His love of life and learning is unending. He shares my father's passion for knowledge and my mother's compassion in life. All three have shaped me. I am proud to have such a special family; and I thank each day for their support and unconditional love. Thank you.

**ANTONIO ALVARO GARCIA***B.A. Political Science / Pre-law*

Quiero dar las gracias a mis padres Antonio Vargas y Ester Perez Garcia, quienes son mis héroes en mi vida para siempre. Me hicieron hombre de educación no solo para mi familia, pero también para mi comunidad y el mundo. Los quiero mucho...My sisters who I love and respect...Mamá & Papá...Mi Papá Alvarito que desde el cielo nos bendice..."B"...Caminante no hay camino, el Camino se hace al andar"...ADELANTE XICANO/A

**ELIZABETH ESPINOZA***B.A. Social Work*

Con mucho orgullo, dedico mi título a mis padres, Sra. Josefa y Sr. Luis Espinoza, a mis hermanos, sobrino, familia y amigos. Agradezco a Dios por permitir que lograra mi gran sueño. Gracias Ricardo, por su apoyo en los momentos más difíciles de mi vida universitaria y espero que yo sea una motivación para que sigas estudiando. Miss Balekian, my special thanks to you for believing in me. Thank you Paul for ALL your help! Gracias a todas mis amigas de la Clase del '92 por su apoyo académico y sobre todo por su amistad. ¡Rosa y Roberto ahora siguen ustedes!

**GUILLERMO CESAR FERNANDEZ***B.A. Communications*

Some days ago somebody asked me, "How does it feel being out of school?" After thinking a little while I answered, "It feels like the beginning of something exciting and at the same time challenging."

Throughout my school years my main goal was to get my B.A. in Communications, because I knew that a school degree would open the doors of good job opportunities. Something that, in the long run, proved right.

Now I feel proud of what I've achieved and ready to face the world with dignity and confidence.

**LILIA L. GOMEZ***B.S. International Business / Latin America*

Primero quiero agradecer a Dios por darme la fortaleza y la perseverancia de alcanzar esta meta. También quiero agradecer a mis padres por su apoyo, comprensión, y paciencia. Este diploma se los dedico a ustedes Papá y Mamá porque sin su ayuda esta meta no hubiera sido posible. Les agradezco por haberme inculcado ese espíritu de superación y por querer siempre lo mejor para mí. Special thanks to my brothers and sisters for their encouragement. Thanks to Jesus, Johnny, Martha, and Chely. I love you all.

**LORENA FLORES***B.A. Clinical Psychology*

Por fin a llegado el día en que una etapa de mi vida ha terminado y entro en otra con más sabiduría, experiencia, y animo. Where the Wild Things Are taught me to tame those wild beasts. Le doy gracias a mi familia y amistades por su apoyo, amor, cerveza y calamari, y cumbianasos. Sobre todo te doy gracias a ti Mami por tu paciencia y tus bendiciones. Este triunfo no es solo mio, sino tuyo tambien. Que Dios los bendiga a todos. Un beso cariñoso para todos.

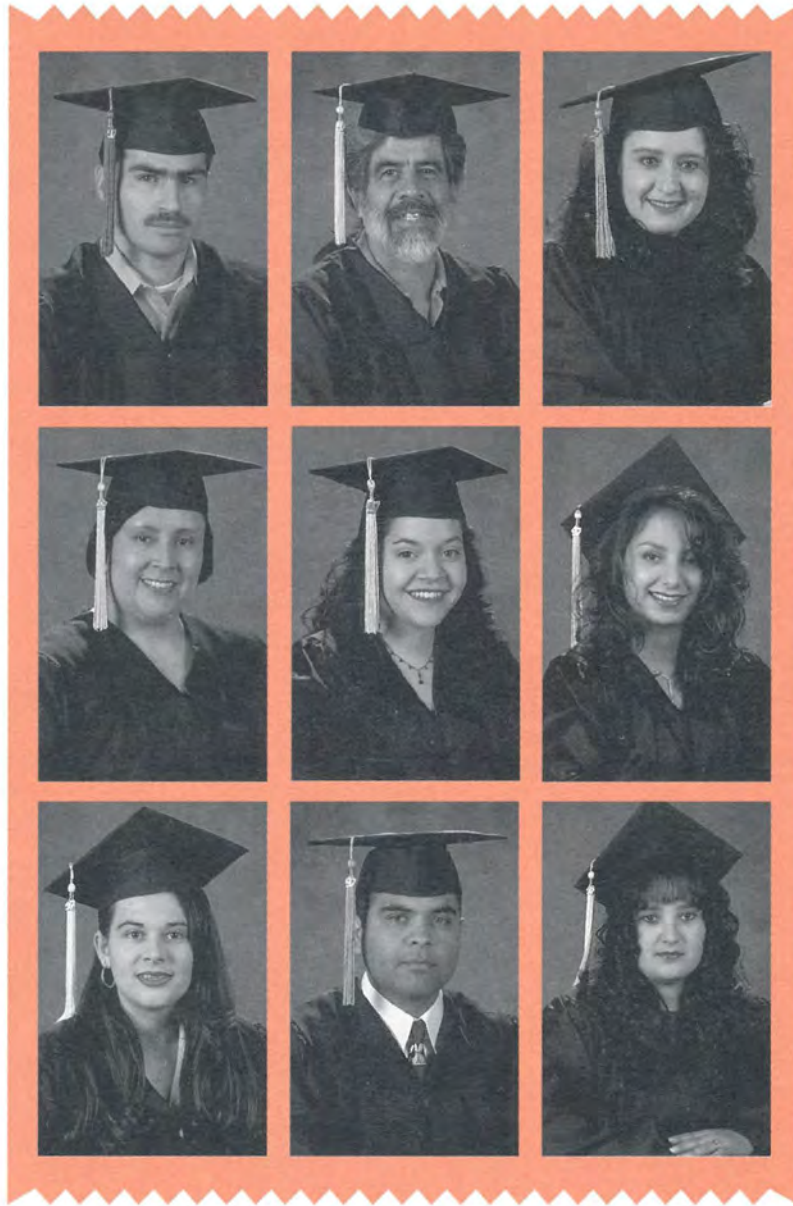
**ANA MARIA GARCIA***B.A. Political Science*

Para mis padres gracias por todo el amor que me han dado. Luis, for the great new ideas you have given me through the years and for bringing out my true self. Bob, my friend of all the adventures that we've had and will have for the years to come. Para mis Abuelos que sin ellos no estuvieramos aqui. Miles de gracias a Mi Mama Mayo por todo ese amor que nos has dado. For the greatest love of all, my "TINY" who without you I would have never known what true love is. To Alejandra and William without you there will be no "TINY". To my Tia Josie thank you for the laughs thru the years. You have been like a mother. And for the rest of the family thank you!!!! God bless you all.

**MARGARITA GÓMEZ***B.S. Liberal Studies Minor: Spanish*

Gracias a Dios, que finalmente he logrado mi meta de graduar. Les debo este honor a mis padres Manuel y Florestela que siempre me exigieron y apoyaron. Ojala que pueda servir como inspiración for my brothers Manuel Jr., Daniel, Home-ro, y para mis primas y primos. Thanks to mi Tia Ofelia, Tia Adela, y prima Diana, and Grandma gracias por su cariño y apoyo. Paul, thank you for being there during my most difficult and joyful times. I love you.

Manuel, bro keep up the good work, you're next!!



## *Raza Meetings*

*The Chicano Resource Center has been the center of activity for all Chicano Commencement meetings.*



**RAFAEL GOMEZ***B.S. Recreation and Leisure Studies  
Leisure Service Management*

The day has finally come, I just want to say thank you to my family and friends for their encouragement and for believing in me. I want to say thanks to my wife for putting up with my long hours both at school and at work, things will get better. Reynaldo, this is for you "Hijo". I want to see your picture here some day. Daddy loves you!

**DEANNA LYNN GONZALEZ***B.A. Social Science*

I dedicate this day to my parents Robert and Dolores. Without their love and support this accomplishment would have been impossible. Mom I love you. Poppí, I miss and love you. To my sister, brothers, nieces, nephews and friends, thank you for putting up with me! To my Soul Sister Kathy thanks for believing in me. To the sisterhood of Lambda Sigma Gamma thank you for always showing your love. FINALLY!!!

**RAQUEL GONZALEZ***B.A. Liberal Studies Minor: Spanish*

Primeramente quiero darle las gracias a Dios por haberme dado la oportunidad de alcanzar otra meta en mi vida. Tambien quiero darle las gracias a mis padres, Luis y María, quienes me enseñaron a valorar la educación. Gracias a mi única hermana, Elva, y a mis hermanos, Juan Luis, Samuel, y Ruben, por todos los momentos felices que hemos pasado juntos.

P.S. Thanks to all those who encouraged and believed in me.

**RALPH GAMEZ***B.A. Sociology: Criminology*

Thank you God, for awakening life's real values. Bill "Bull" Lewis, (SJSU, 1939) for his advice 34 years ago, "To grasp and exploit the few opportunities you get, remember without resentment or anger, that 'few' are better than none." My love, Karen Thompson, and my best friend, Joanna Snyder, who both, without reservation, limitations or specifications, gave me love and unknowing support, enhancing my self esteem, that I might have courage and perseverance. My daughters, Yolanda and Angela, inspired me to set my best example.

**GINGER LEE GONZALEZ***B.S. Business Finance Minor: Political Science*

Thank you, Mom and Dad, for giving me your strengths and for encouraging me to keep on reaching for the stars. Rangel and Dominic, you have been my inspiration. Herman thank you for your love and support. The ladies of Sigma Theta Psi, I could not have done it without you. To all my family and friends, each of you have touched my life and have given me so much, I love you all. Law school here I come!!

Phenomenal Woman, that is me.

-*Maya Angelou*

**MARIO GUERRERO***B.S. Business Administration  
Management Information Systems*

I thank God, my mother and father for giving me the drive, strength, and support in achieving one of my dreams, a college degree. Achieving this dream has opened a whole new world for me. The road was very tough, but I made it! I have always remembered, and now truly believe that, in the words of my father, "Nada en este mundo es imposible!" Gracias Mamá y Papá por todo, los quiero mucho.

**LETICIA REBECCA GOMEZ-TORRES***B.S. Business Finance*

I'd like to express my deepest gratitude to my husband Artemio Torres, who has shown me that what we believe in ourselves and our lives can become true for us. I dedicate my diploma to Artemio, for without his support and encouragement this could not have been possible. I'd also like to thank my parents for their continued support and for believing in me. To my niece Priscilla Moreno, this one is for you too girl!

**CHRISTINE R. GONZALEZ***B.S. Nursing*

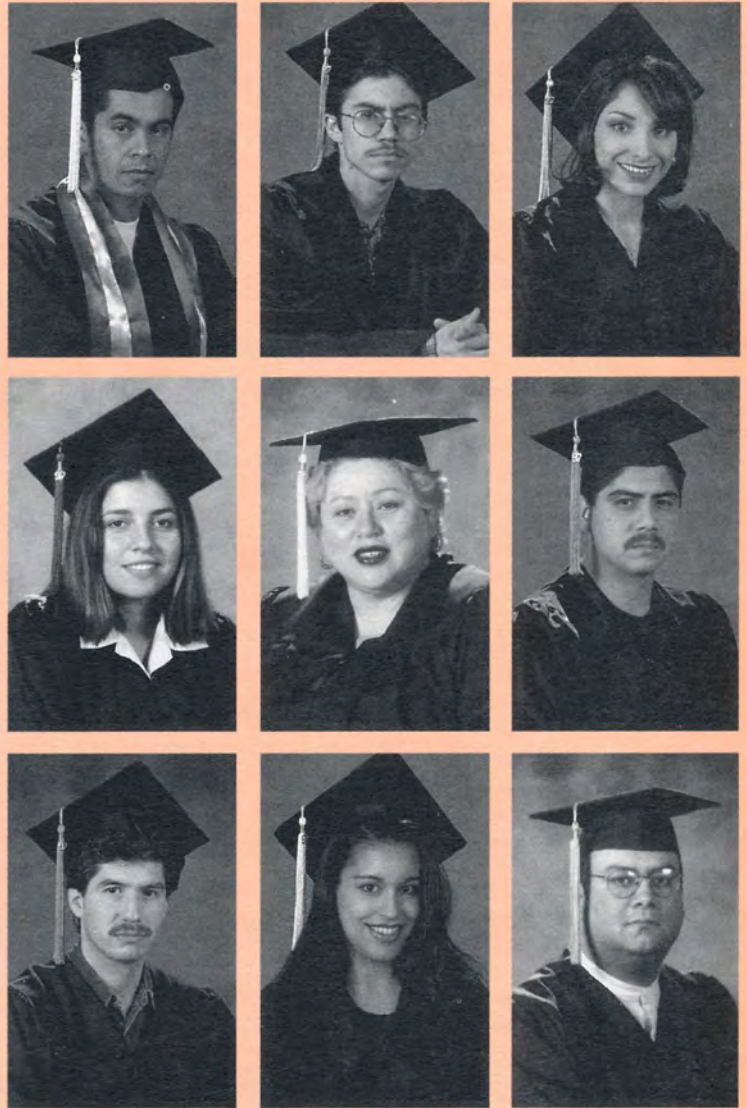
On this special day I would like to express my gratitude for the love, support, and encouragement my family has given me; My mother especially has given me the strength needed to endure and succeed in life. I thank God for strength, and the ability to accomplish my goals. Special thanks to my friends who listened when I was discouraged, and gave me hope when I was hopeless. Accomplishing this goal has taken much determination and dedication, but in the end it is all worth the reward. I hope to encourage others in my family to educate themselves, and share in the rewards. Thank you all for sharing this special day!

**RITA ISELIA GUTIERREZ***B.A. Liberal Studies*

Quiero darle las gracias a mi familia y mis amigos que de alguna manera contribuyeron a convertir uno de mis grandes sueños en realidad. Especialmente, quiero agradecer a mi madre que siempre me brindo su apoyo y que durante los momentos mas dificiles me alento para seguir adelante. Quiero dedicar este diploma a mis hijos que han sido el principal motivo para mi superación. Papá, si me puedes escuchar desde donde estas - ¡Al fin lo logre!



*familia de Zenedith E. Hernandez*



## *Planet-X fundraiser*

Even El Chupacabras was spotted at Friday night at the Planet-X fundraiser.

**JUAN CARLOS GUZMAN**

*B.A. Spatial Arts Minor: Graphic Design*

Gracias al todo poderoso por concederme una meta más en mi vida. Gracias a mis admirables padres (José y Lupe Guzman) por sus sacrificios, y sus pensamientos, que hoy me han conducido a un triunfo completo. También, special thanks to my Martial Arts Head Instructor: Rich Buford for his wisdom, his support, and his patience. Y gracias to my brother, sisters and friends por su apoyo and courage. Faby, thanks for everything.

**TRICIA HERRERA**

*B.A. Journalism  
Minor: Mexican-American Studies*

My success would not be possible without the encouragement and continual support from my family. For that I would like to thank my tias and tios who inspired me to educate myself. I hope that this accomplishment will inspire my younger cousins to follow their dreams whatever they may be. Above all I would like to thank my mom who has always been there for me.

**VICTOR M. JIMENEZ**

*B.S. Mechanical Engineering  
Minor: Mathematics*

I'd like to thank those who've crossed my path and stirred me in the right direction. I would especially like to thank my patient girlfriend of five years, Maricruz Montero—You were very supportive and understanding, no matter how bad things were, you kept my spirits up. I always knew I would go to college and graduate, thanks to my brother Martin, who has been a great motivating force in my life. But I never knew what to expect out of college life. It is an experience all of its own. The friendships, social groups, brothers of GZA, SOLES, MEP, and every course I struggled through, have enriched my life beyond my expectations and contributed to the College Experience that I have come to know and appreciate. But, it's not over, I'll be back for more!!!

**JUAN CARLOS HERNANDEZ**

*B.S. Business  
Management Information Systems*

Primero quiero darle las gracias a Dios, por darme este inolvidable día. Espero que este día llene de orgullo a mi querida madre. Usted madre que me a apoyado en mis decisiones, le dedico este día. Gracias Ramiro por estar siempre al lado de ella. También quiero dar gracias a todos en mi vida, especialmente a mis hermanos: Leonel y Fernando. Lo logre, la quiero mucho jefa.

**MARTHA OFELIA HICKOK**

*B.A. Liberal Studies Minor: Spanish  
Cum Laude*

Knowledge is power.

The power to make oneself feel good, good enough to help others achieve the joy of learning. I wish to be a Spanish bilingual teacher and give our children an opportunity to shine in more than one language.

**GINA MARIE JUAREZ-BURNIAS**

*B.A. Liberal Studies  
Minor: Literature*

Thanks Mom, Dad, Grandpa, and Grandma for your emotional, financial, and moral support. Grandpa and Grandma, thanks for instilling in me the importance of my culture. I dedicate today to you. I want to give thanks to my husband, Mario. He's my mentor, my inspiration, and the love of my life. Our beautiful son Christian can be proud of his college graduate parents. Thanks dad for the hard work you demonstrated throughout my life. Thanks mom for your encouragement, I couldn't have done it without your support. I love my friends and family that helped me along this journey. I thank God for my education.

**ZENEDITH E. HERNANDEZ**

*B.A. Sociology  
Minor: Spanish & Mexican-American Studies*

Primeramente quiero darle las gracias a Dios y la virgen de Guadalupe por guiarme y darme las fuerzas para alcanzar esta meta. Mom, Dad, Zenia, Zenaih, bros'/sis', tia Linda tio Rubencito, Llubia, nina Chalo/fam, Lisa/fam, tia Tina/tio Chuy, alvarez fam., y los demás de mi familia y mis amigos; Gracias por su ánimo, su apoyo y su amor! Raymond, it's been an "experiencia religiosa", Gracias for your love & friendship-luv U! Mom-como decia mi gramma: "No hay mal que por bien no venga." All our sacrificios are paying off! You are my inspiration-this is for you! Gracias-I love you! Dedicated to gramma Nicha.

**MARTIN O. JIMENEZ**

*B.S. Business Administration  
Minor: Accounting*

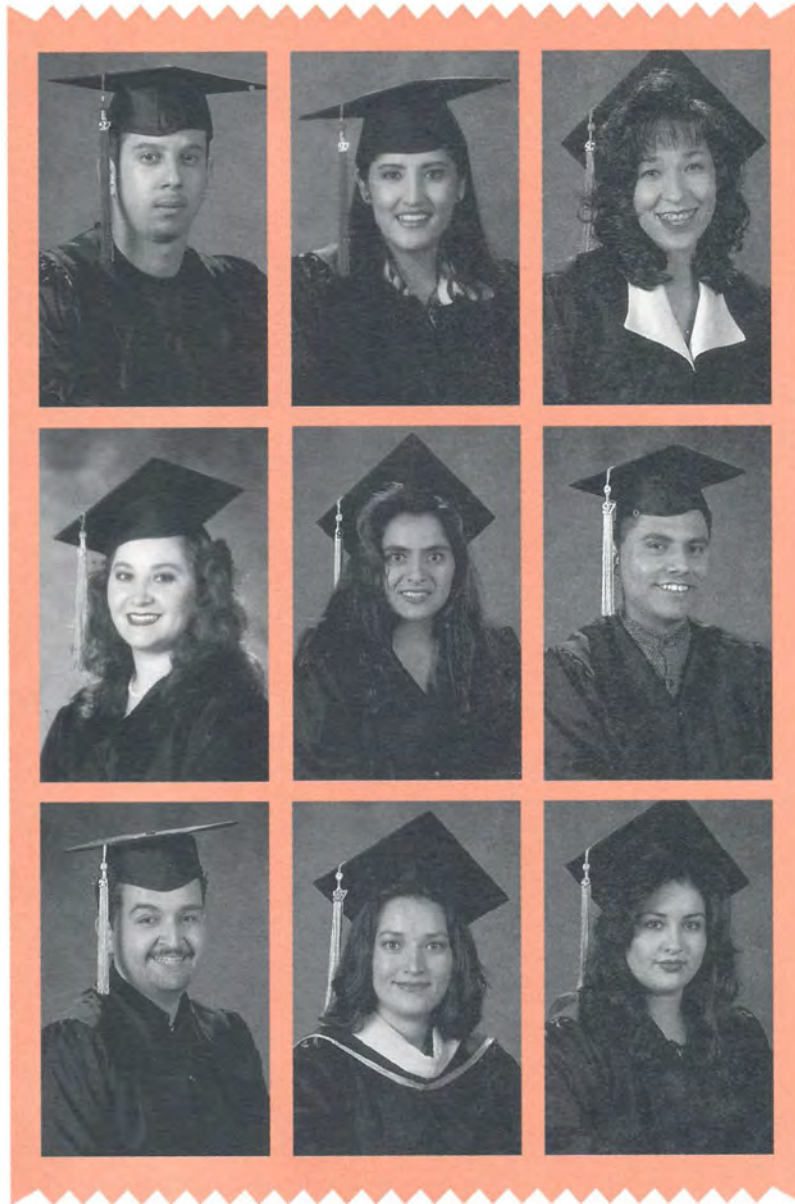
ALL MY RELATIONS: My accomplishment is for my family to share. My gorgeous wife, Irma and my brother, Victor have witnessed first hand the struggle that I have endured. The road has never been an easy one, but I always knew that I was not alone; my family was there to give me comfort despite all the missed family gatherings. I want to tell you thanks one and all.

**ELIUD LANDIN**

*B.S. Business Administration*

My dream has come true! I had always regretted not finishing my college degree, but not anymore! I've got my degree! I want to first thank my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. All that I am and ever hope to be, I owe it all to Him. To my wife Hope, I couldn't have done it without you. To my daughters, Sophia, Monica, and Michelle, you can be anything you want to be! To my Mom, Dad, and Tias, muchas gracias por todo su ayuda. And to all Hispanics in or soon to be in college... Si Se Puede!





¡Que Viva Juchipila!

*Maria Mena*

**ANGEL E. LOPEZ***B.A. Aviation - Maintenance Management*

I would like to thank God for giving me the desire, the strength, and the chance to obtain my degree. Mis mas agradecimientos a mis padres, Angel y Adela Lopez, por todos sus esfuerzos y apoyo. Mama Nene gracias por su amor, apoyo y paciencia. I would also like to thank my family, my friends back in the City and here at SJSU for their support and understanding. To my fraternity brothers from NU ALPHA KAPPA, who supported me all these years, thank you for all the great memories, especially winning NAK Fest '97. Strength & friends, these especially.

**LULU LOPEZ***B.S. Public Relations*

Primero agradezco a Dios por darme la fuerza de nunca vencerme. A mi mami por siempre creer en mi y cuidarme a mi J.J. A mi papi por heredarme su amor por los libros. A mi J.J. por aguantar que su mommy no estaba por las noches para cobijarlo. A mi esposo, Juan Carlos, por tomar el rol de papá por su amor y fe en mi. Los quiero mucho!

**ERNESTO MARTINEZ***B.A. History*

Primeramente, quiero dar gracias al creador y a la madre tierra. Mi sueño de ser un hombre y persona de razón no sería posible sin apoyo de mis padres. Estoy logrando mi vida con la paciencia, cariño, respeto, amor y sacrificio de mis padres. Amo mis padres y a mi familia: Martinez y Gonzalez; los quiero y los admiro. Estoy orgulloso de ser MeXicano. Viva la Raza y M.E.Ch.A.

**DORA LOPEZ-ZAZUETA***B.S. Industrial and Systems Engineering  
Minor: Spanish*

Quiero darle las gracias a todas esas personas que me apoyaron en mi carrera universitaria. Especialmente a mis padres que me enseñaron que la familia, cultura y educación es lo que hace a una persona. A mi esposo Beto, gracias por apoyarme siempre en todo y por darme cariño y amor cuando mas lo necesitaba. Christina and Mary Lou all your hard work pays off at the end. Joe thanks for believing in me. "Acceptame como soy."

**AMALIA MARQUEZ***B.A. Sociology of the Family*

Estoy orgullosa de mi por aver logrado lo que me propuse. Gracias a Dios logre esta meta. I would like to give a special thank you to my best friend, mi esposo por apoyarme en todo. I would like to thank mi familia. Mi mama y mi papa. Gracias mama por tus palabras de apoyo, "Porque volar abajo como un simple pajarito cuando tu puedes volar arriba y alto como una aguilita."

**SILVIA MEJIA-BUENDIA***Master of Social Work*

Dios, gracias por darme una vida maravillosa. Me has dado el privilegio de tener unos padres que me apoyan con todos mis sueños y a un esposo esplendido, a quiero con todo mi corazón.

Le agradezco a la familia Buendia, mis hermanos y amigos por siempre ser tan cariñosos y buenos conmigo. Me doy gracias a mi misma por tener por tener la inteligencia de seguir adelante con mis estudios y mejorar mi futuro.

**DESIRIE MARIE LOREDO***B.A. Social Work*

A special thanks to god & my guardian angel, Mary Valadore for giving me strength & the ability to believe in myself. My parents Tomas & Mary, for supporting me and believing in my "fantasies". Mommy & Daddy's little girl did it!!! Tammy, Tito, Spanky, Ralpie, Felicia, Andrea, and baby Tomas for inspiration, guidance, and encouragement. Manny, for being patient and having faith in me....you are my future!! My lovely Kappa Delta sisters, Follow me I'll teach you the ropes!! My extended family & friends, for contributing to my success & happiness.

**CESAR E. MARTINEZ***B.A. Social Work*

Gracias a Dios por la dicha de estar saludable. Gracias familia por el apoyo moral, espiritual y amoroso. Madre, sin ti no hubiera llegado tan lejos, te quiero mucho. Marvin, gracias por su apoyo en todo. Memo, gracias por enseñarme mas de la vida, te quiero mucho hermano. Concha, Arlen, Conchita y Marvin, espero verlos graduados pronto. Corina, thank you for the support and encouragement, I love you my princess. Gracias a todos mis amigos por haber hecho esta experiencia de colegio inolvidable.

**MARIA MENA***B.A. Child Development*

Quiero darle las gracias a mis padres, Victoriano y Ofelia. Porque con sus ilusiones de un futuro mejor para sus hijos, y con sus apoyos e llegado a vivir estos momentos. ¡Los Quiero Mucho!

Para mis hermanos y hermanas que con sus grandes sentidos de humor, hemos pasado momentos inolvidables. Los quiero, admiro, y respeto a todos

Para mi familia, por ellos e reconocido mis raíces y lo que es ser Mexicana.



¡CHARRO!

# Homenaje al Gran Cine Mexicano

by Roberto Mena *B.A. Film*

My film was an homage to the Golden Age of Mexican Cinema. It was a way to pay tribute to the legends of the Silver Screen like Pedro Infante, Jorge Negrete, Maria Felix, and Dolores del Rio. People from all over Latin America still remember with fondness these beautiful melodramas; the epic "Charro" movies filled with romantic music and scenes. Filmed in black & white, the actors wore traditional "Charro" suits and dresses of the past century.

The plot is based on the song by Adolfo Salas, "El Tahir", interpreted by the great Vicente Fernandez. It is an interpretation of the song; a story about falling in love, vengeance, and reclaiming lost loves.

I made this film to recreate the aesthetic look of the classic films. I believe this sort of retro film making would be a most welcomed gift to Latin American audiences.

Because I come from a culture of written imagery, history and drama, it is only natural that I choose a career in the visual arts. My wish in life is to direct and produce films that are universally appealing but with the spirit, humor and drama of Latin American culture.

My plans after graduation are to produce films and hopefully be discovered. Then I'd like to marry Salma Hayek (just kidding)... no really, I'm not. Salma if you're reading this....

Seriously, I just want to make my familia and my country proud. It is artists like Isabelle Allende, Gabriel Garcia Marquez, Laura Esquivel, Emmanuel Lubezki, Alfonso Arau, and many other Latino and Mexican contemporary artists who have put Latin America on the artistic map. These are role models that I admire and hope to work with one day.

FIN

**ROBERTO MENA**

*B.A. Film*

Mis metas y logros solo han tenido importancia si ha estado mi familia para celebrarlos. No les e dicho con frecuencia a mis papás, Victoriano y Ofelia, cuanto los quiero. A si que ahora quede grabado en tinta para que todo el mundo sepa cuanto los quiero y admiro. Son mis héroes.

Mari, Lila, Susi, Lalo, y "Jaquizi" hermanito y hermanitas de mi alma. Bien saben cuantos los quiero por todos los pellizcos e insultos que les e dado. También dedico esto a mi madrina Ester.

¡Sarobe-Fasero y Pa para siempre!  
¡Luces, Camaras... Accion !

**EDITH MEZA**

*B.A. Psychology Minor: Social Science*

Graduation is very important because I have worked very diligently to make this day possible. But I could not have reached my goal without the help and support of my husband Rodigo. I would like to thank my academic instructors for their words of wisdom and their patience. I am especially grateful for the role models in my life who have encouraged my academic achievement. I am also thankful for meeting my best friends at S.J.S.U. -thanks Urla and Josie. Last but not least, I would like to thank my mother for her guidance and persistence in my pursuit to a higher education. Her encouragement has helped me to excell and overcome many obstacles.

**YOLANDA MIRAMONTES**

*B.A. History*

Born and raised in San José, I am the only child of Jose and Amelia Miramontes. I want to thank my parents especially for allowing me to learn through trial and error and for supporting my reading addiction. My curiosity and love of reading has lead me to my chosen field of study-history. The affection and great laughs I receive from family and friends, keep'um coming!

**SANDRA ELOISE MENDOZA**

*B.A. Political Science  
Public Administration*

First I would like to thank God for giving me the strength and courage to overcome my obstacles. To my parents, for instilling in me the value of education, love, and family. I love you both. For my family, you have aided me in this very long journey, and have always believed in my dreams. I thank you. To Rebeca, and my Lambda Sigma Gamma sisters, thank you for your support and memories. To Ruben, thank you for being my inspiration, motivation, and my best friend. Para mis ojos Mateo, God blessed and enriched life when He gave me my angel. Mamá loves you with all her heart and soul. This accomplishment is dedicated to you.

**RENE MICHEL JR.**

*B.A. History  
Minor: Recreation & Leisure Studies*

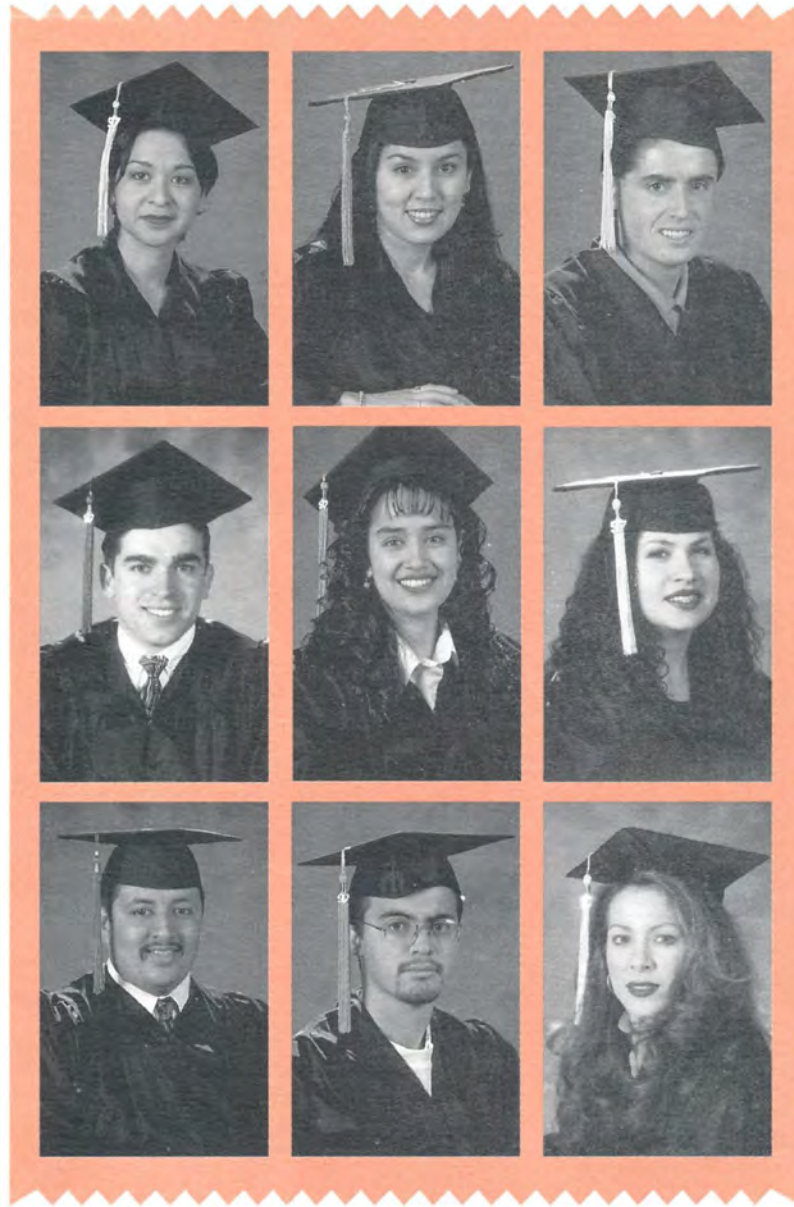
I want to first thank Nuestro Señor for making this all possible. I wish to thank my parents Rene and Aiden for their love and support throughout good and rough times. You have been my vehicle to becoming what I want to be and without you I could not have made it. I wish to thank my tíos, tías, and grandmother who have helped in my success. And I want to thank my carnal for being the best brother en El mundo.

**EVA OGAS MONTAÑO**

*B.A. Social Science - Teaching*

I am very happy and proud to be graduating from San José State University. My journey has been very challenging and also enlightening. I have learned a great deal, not just academics, but about myself. I have overcome many obstacles, and persevered. I look forward to my future with certainty and confidence.





Gracias Papá por sembrar más de 35 años de tu vida en esos campos insoportablemente calientes durante el verano y helados durante el invierno. Y tú Mamá, gracias por fertilizar nuestro hogar, el hogar que tú en ocasiones haz llamado cárcel.

*Tobías Bañuelos Nava*



## VERONICA QUIRÓZ MORENO

*B.A. Social Work*

Este diploma se la dedico a todos los Mexicanos y Chicanos que se han sacrificado para que nuestra gente salga adelante. En especial para mis padres Enrique y Lourdes for their love is truly unconditional. Catherine, Maria, Octavio & Claudia thanks for your friendship, support & encouragement, you pulled me through some really tough times. A mis hermanos, especialmente Junior quien me acompaño siempre. David Gabriel, comparto contigo mi exito y pienso que tu nombre deberia aparecer en este diploma. I love you.

## ADRIAN NIETO

*B.A. Graphic Design*

I first like to thank God for allowing me to complete what I begun five years ago and my family for supporting me in that pursuit. My father's patients, allowed me to continue going to school, despite some financial hardships. My mother's encouragement inspired me to achieve my goals, at times that I wanted to give up. Without both of you, I would not have graduated, I'm proud to be your son.

## GREG ORTIZ

*B.S. Administration of Justice*

As the road comes to an end, I embark on a whole new journey. Even though it has taken me awhile, I can finally say "I've done it." Being the first in our family to receive a college degree has been a great accomplishment. I have been blessed with a loving family and wonderful friends. Quiero darle las gracias a mis padres que se han sacrificado para que yo tuviera la oportunidad de una educacion buena. Thanks, Babe, I could not have done it without you. Pero esto no se termina aquí. Hay que seguir aprendiendo porque el futuro esta en nuestra manos. Y con la ayuda de Dios todo puede ser realidad.

## CONCEPCION MARIE MOSQUEDA

*B.S., Business Administration / Management Information Systems*

Thank you mother up above, you have been my greatest inspiration. Thanks Dad and Family for all your love and support, I greatly appreciate all you've done very much. William, thank you for our beautiful daughter, Briahna, the greatest gift ever. Arcelia, Michelle, Diana, Andrea, and all my sisters of Lambda Sigma Gamma thanks for all the memories and good times. Family, William, FNM, and friends you have all made this day possible. I love you all very much.

## SANDRA NUÑO

*B.S. Business Administration*

I dedicate my diploma to my mother and father. Thank you both for your unconditional love and support. A very special thank you to all the women in my life. Mom, Sandi, Alejandra, Tías, Abuelita, Blanca and all my friends, you have all made this day possible. Ladies of Sigma Theta Psi, I will miss all of you. Issac, my son I love you. It's over baby, until... graduate school. Hey, we'll worry about that later.

## URIEL ORTIZ

*B.S. Materials Engineering*

Antes de todo quiero darle gracias a Dios por haberme dado la perseverancia y salud para haber logrado una de mis metas. Ahora, quisiera agradecerle a mis padres por haberme dado la oportunidad, comprension, y mas que todo apoyo para seguir adelante.

Por ultimo quisiera agradecerle a mi segunda familia "GZA" por haberme ayudado a crecer en mi persona; y tambien quien por su apoyo desarolle talentos que no sabia que tenia en mi. Gracias!

## TOBIÁS BAÑUELOS NAVA

*B.A. Sociology Minor: Spanish*

Gracias Papá por sembrar más de 35 años de tu vida en esos campos insoportablemente calientes durante el verano y helados durante el invierno. Y tú Mamá, gracias por fertilizar nuestro hogar, el hogar que tú en ocasiones haz llamado cárcel. Esos sacrificios finalmente estan dando fruto en forma de mi educación y la oportunidad de cada uno de sus hijos y nietos que se superen. Sin ustedes, hermanos, no hubiera logrado esta meta. Gracias Ramiro, Evelia, Alfredo, Carlos, y Sylvia. Gracias Abuelos: Mamá Nieves y Papá Manuel.

## LAURA OJEDA

*B.A. Social Work*

I would like to express to my family the love I share for them. I would also want to take this opportunity to give thanks to them for their support and concern throughout my education. I hope to have made an impression for my two lovely boys to follow in. It is all possible because I always have you two in my mind.

## SUZANNE JEANETTE OSORIO

*B.A. Social Work*

Thanks to my son, Christopher, for your patience and understanding. Thanks, mom, for your support, help and your computer. Thanks, Selda Sigala-Aguilar, Lisa Arieta and Kathy Zaretsky. I don't know if you realize the impact you've had upon my life. Thanks, to all my friends. You know who you are. Thank you god., I wouldn't be where I am today without all of you. My accomplishments are far more yours than mine. God bless you.



**EDUARDO PADILLA-GOMEZ**  
*B.A. History & B.A. Social Science*

Gracias a Dios. Gracias Mamá y Papá por todo el apoyo, amor, y ayuda durante mi vida. Dedico este diploma a mis Padres queridos, los quiero mucho! Gracias a Dios por mis hermanas tan cariñosas que escucharon mis lágrimas y risas. Mari and Christy, I love you. Gracias a Dios por una bebida que llena mi vida con una sonrisa eterna, Marina. Thanks to All the kids at the Northside Boys and Girls Club I love all of you!!!! Nu Alpha Kappa, thanks for all the love guys. Jaime, Jesus, Carlos, and Beef. It's All Good!

**VILMA I. PERRY**  
*B.A. Psychology*

It has taken me since 1955 to finally get my degree. It was a long, long, struggle but I finally reached my goal. I would like to thank my parents for their faith in me, one that has never wavered. I would like to thank my son, who was my support system, and to the many friends and co-workers at the university who stood by me, and helped me along the way.

**VICTOR HUGO PEREZ**  
*B.A. Social Work Minor: American Studies*

Foremost, I want to extend my gratitude to God for his guidance. Segundo, le quiero agradecer a mis padres por brindarme tanto amor y apoyo. Third, I want to thank my sisters Evelyn, Janira, and Joanna—I love you all. Fourth, thanks to my mentors for their encouragement—thank you Dr. Alice Hines and Jeanine Slater. To my girlfriend Maria, thanks for your love. Last, but not least, thank you hermanos from SIGMA DELTA ALPHA for the memories.

**MARIA A. QUEZADA**  
*BA Social Work*

Dedico este diploma a mis padres y hermanos por la cofianza y apoyo que me brindaron. Mis padres que siempre me guiaron por el camino del bien, inculcandome importantes valores. A ellos les debo este triunfo. Agustín gracias por animarme a seguir adelante; deseo lo mejor para nosotros siempre! Vero, gracias por todo, suerte para todos los graduados! Gracias a Dios , lo logre!!

**PHILIP RICHARD PERRY**  
*B.A. Recreation and Leisure Studies*

It is hard to believe that I finally did it. I would like to thank my Mom and Dad who would not let me quit, and supported me through it all. I would like to thank my friends, who put up with all of the school events I made them attend. And, lastly I would like to thank my classmates and the faculty and staff of the Recreation Department.

**ROSA GUILLERMINA QUINTERO**  
*B.A. Sociology / Criminology*

Antes que todo, gracias a Dios por permitirme llegar a lo que simplemente significa el primer paso a una carrera profesional. Gracias a mis padres por su apoyo, paciencia y sobre todo por creer en mi. Les agradezco infinitamente y quiero que sepan que no los defraudare. Thank you to my sister Eva, Nathan, Junior, Abel and Tavi for being there. I love you all. Thanks to my friends that are graduating with me.



**Ernesto Martinez**

*B.A. History*

*M.E.Ch.A. Co-chair, C.E.T instructor*

Ernesto is Mexican by ancestry, but is Xicano by choice. Neto, as most friends call him, is committed to helping his RAZA through his work and community activism.

Ernesto has been working at C.E.T (Center for Employment Training) for three years. Neto teaches because he considers it a challenge with a tremendous reward. "I like to see a student, that once was struggling, overcome their obstacles and achieve their goals."

His commitment to his students, extends far beyond CET. Every year Ernesto, along with other students at SJSU, put on events to promote higher education. He is part of M.E.Ch.A., an organization that has coordinated Raza Day for the last 17 years. "As a M.E.Chista I have learned to become more civic oriented, to help the Chicano community and learn more about myself"

Ernesto also aspires to be a *danzante* in the Aztec dance group Tlaloc-chalchihuitlique. "I see dance as a means for me to reach back to my indigenous roots. And besides Chicano-aerobics is good for your health."

**M.E.Ch.A.**



**What is M.E.Ch.A., SJSU?**

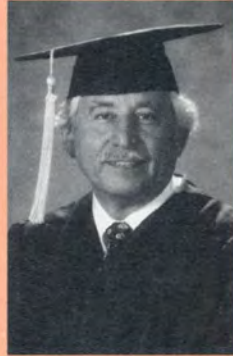
Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlán- M.E.C.h.A. is a national organization that is dedicated to promoting culture, advocacy and Chicano studies. At San Jose State, the M.E.Chistas have been very active. In the fall semester the Chicano Resource center was threatened for closure. M.E.Ch.A. was at the front lines, organizing a 24 hour hunger strike to show their support for the center.



**Raza Day,  
San Jose State University**







*familia de Sylvia Reyes*



### EDITH RAMIREZ

*B.A. Political Science*

To my sister who inspired me when I needed a role model... gracias.  
 To my brother who made me wash the dishes every time I got a low grade... gracias  
 To my sister who gave me the strength... gracias.  
 To my brother who taught me algebra when I was little... gracias  
 To my sister who always went to my school events... gracias.  
 To my father who said that I must go to school and become someone, so I don't have to depend on anyone... gracias.  
 To my mother who gave me an opportunity... gracias.  
 To all my family for all your love and support... gracias.

### SYLVIA REYES

*B.A. Liberal Studies Minor: Business*

I would like to thank my parents for their faith, love & support. It's great to be loved through the good the bad & the ugly. Thank you Lord for providing me the strength to succeed against all odds. Quiero dar las gracias a mi abuelita Soccoro Rico por todo su amor y apoyo. Special thanks to the Sandoval family, Big Bro JR., Rita, Macias, Aury Espinoza, all my SSP amigos, and to my sweetie Tony Aguilar. This one is for ya'll: Sammy, Kevin, & Nicole.

### RUTH REYNOSO

*B.A. Social Science - Law & Law Enforcement*

I would like to take this time to thank those people who have impacted my life in one form or another. Being the youngest of five children, my brother and three sisters have been significant role models for me. To the extraordinary friends I have had since "way back" thanks for the support and all the exceptional times. To my fiancée, thank you for your support, understanding, and overall patience. To my father, thank you for being a wonderful parent and for being the center of my inspiration.

### EVA RAMIREZ

*B.A. Liberal Studies*

Quiero darle las gracias a mis padres por haberme dado la oportunidad de continuar mis estudios. Sin la ayuda de ellos no hubiera hecho mi sueño realidad. Nuestro Señor me ha dado la perseverancia para sobresalir durante todos estos años de estudios. Special thanks to Juan, for being there when I needed encouragement. Con mucho amor le dedico este diploma a mis padres ¡Los quiero mucho!

### GABRIEL A. REYES

*Ph.D. Advanced Educational Instruction, from University of Southern California*

I would like to thank my family: Helen; Sofia; Anita; Corrina; and Veronica, for their love and support; and my Mom and Dad, for teaching me to work hard and persist.

I would also like to thank the members of Nu Alpha Kappa for their cooperation and participation with my doctoral dissertation.

Finally, I would also like to express my deep appreciation to the students and staff, both new and old, of the Educational Opportunity Program at San Jose State for giving me the privilege and the opportunity to be of service to my people.

### ANA L. ROCHA

*Master of Social Work*

Primeramente quiero darle las gracias a Nuestro Señor y a la Virgen Maria por darme la sabiduría, el entendimiento, y la paciencia para sobresalir todos los obstáculos durante mis años de estudio. Le dedico este diploma a mis padres y hermanos que con sus sacrificios me han inspirado a seguir adelante, y que sin su apoyo no hubiera podido realizar mis sueños. Gracias por toda su ayuda y paciencia, por la fortaleza y el valor que me han dado durante los tiempos difíciles, y por la alegría que me han brindado durante todos estos años. I also want to thank my friends for all their support and encouragement. Thank you for making my college years memorable. Without you, my last few years would have been impossible.

### JOSÉ ANTONIO RAMIREZ

*B.A. Administration of Justice Minor: Spanish*

Son esos momentos de decisión que forman el destino. Gracias a Dios quien me dio la dirección para ver la luz de un brillante destino. Muchos besos y abrazos a mis jefitos que se sacrificaron enormemente en su vida para proveer para mis hermanos y para mí. También quiero agradecer a mis mejores amigos que me apoyaron en mis horas más oscuras. Todos me dieron la llave para abrir las puertas de mi destino. Gracias!

### ROSARIO RAMIREZ

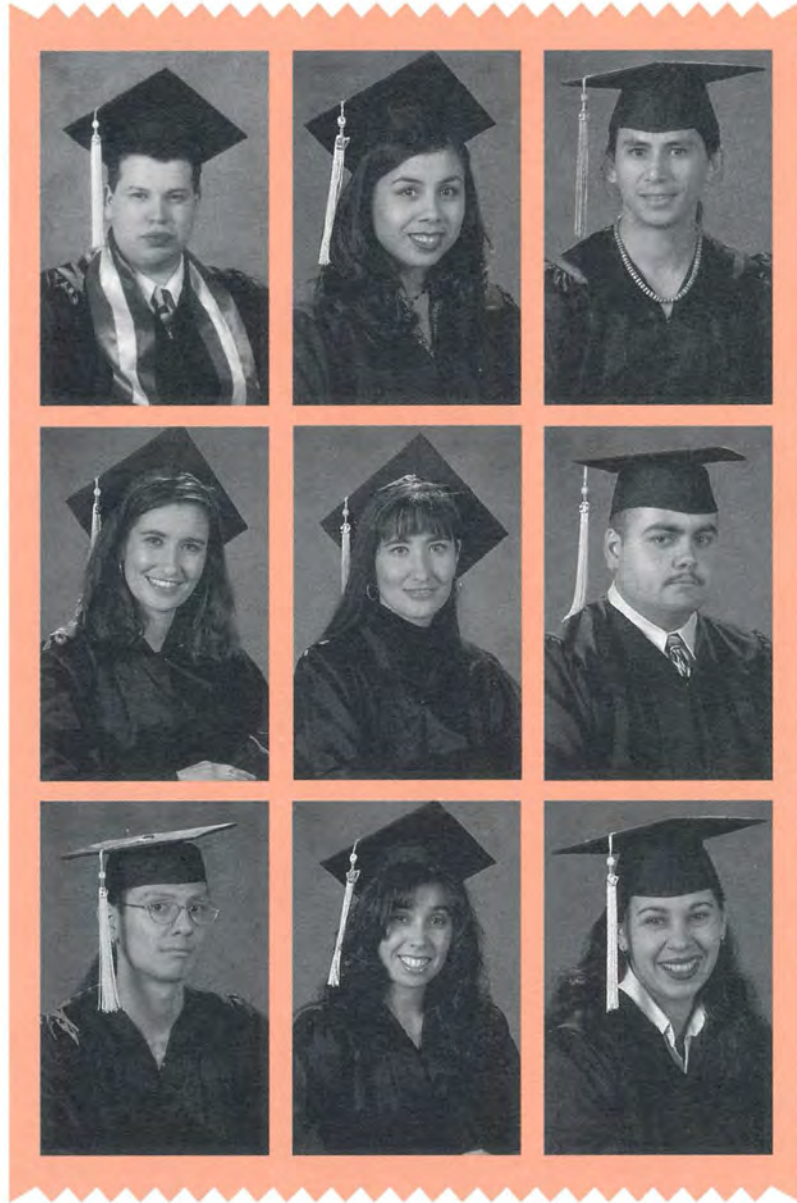
*Masters in Social Work*

Le doy gracias primeramente a Dios y a La Santísima Virgen por haberme dejado llegar hasta este punto de mi vida. Quiero agradecerle a mis padres por su gran apoyo y paciencia en tiempos difíciles que tuve en mi carrera. También quisiera darle gracias a mis hermanos, amigas, amigo y familiares por brindarme el apoyo cuando más lo necesitaba.

### ANTONIO ARNULFO RODRIGUEZ

*B.A. Social Science*

I would like to thank all of the positive role models that have influenced me and encouraged me to succeed. Some of those people are my father, Antonio, my mother, Amparo, my sisters, Norma, Liliana, and Laura, my Football coach Alex Vasquez, and my girlfriend Kristen. I am currently working as an Obstetric Surgical Technician, and my final goal is to attend Stanford University's Physician Assistant program. I will endeavor to be a positive role model for other students and to practice medicine in under-served communities.



## *La Official Commencement T-shirt*



*¡Oye! Where'd you get that firme t-shirt? If you don't have the official Chicano-Commencement shirt than you're not into the latest moda.*

**ADRIAN NOE RODRIQUEZ***B.A. Latin American History  
Minor: Mexican-American Studies*

I must first thank; my lord Jesus Christ, La Virgen de Guadalupe and my father Noe Rodriquez. Their spiritual influences have provided a beacon for my conscience. Of equal respect and adoration, I give praise to my mother Maria De Jesus Rodriquez and my sister Angelica. Without their love, commitment, sacrifices and continuous support, my accomplishments could not have been achieved. Para mi abuela Delfina, te amo muchismo. To my SJSU primos Robert & John, the force will be with you, always. Beloved sentiments for the families Rodriquez, Guerrero, Daley, Quevedo, Hernandez, Martinez, Campero, Ruiz, de Alba & Diaz; you have all contributed to my development as a person of God. To my compa' Miguel, thanks for my social life! Finally, I'd like to thank everyone who has shared their life with me!!!

**HILDA RUIZ***B. A. Clinical Psychology*

Primeramente, quisiera darle las gracias a mis padres Antonio y Eva por sus sacrificios y ayuda que me han dado para terminar mis estudios. También quisiera darle las gracias a mi hermano, hermanas y a mi abuelita Jovita por apoyarme en mis decisiones. Especialmente quisiera decirle a mi hermana Maria que le agradezco por siempre estar a mi lado y por todo su apoyo que me a brindado toda la vida.

**MANUEL SALAZAR***B.A. Sociology - Social Change  
Minor: Mexican American Studies*

How do I say thanks to those I owe everything? To my parents, I must say thanks for an infinite number of reasons. Believe it or not, I was paying attention. (By the way, sorry about those teen years!) Yo, thanks for the encouragement, but it's your time now, no more excuses, kick some ass! To my Love, what would I do? I can't say anything you don't already know. MEChISTAS RULE! A mi gente, I love you all!!!

**MARIA R. RUELAS***B.A. Social Work Minor Spanish*

Hoy le doy gracias a Dios por haber llegado a lograr el sueño de ser un orgullo para mi madre a quien nunca podre pagarle el apoyo y el amor incondicional que siempre me a brindado. Este triunfo te lo brindo con todo mi corazón mami!! También, se lo dedico a ese ser que con esfuerzos y amor a mantenido a la familia feliz. Gracias papá!! Y sin duda a mi novio quien con su apoyo, regaños, amor y motivación, me motivó siempre a no darme por vensida en los momentos más difíciles. Gracias a mis hermanas/nos Nuvy, Carlos, Milagros, Chunky, Anto-ni-ni y por supuesto a la familia Rodríguez.

**MARIA RUIZ***B. A. Clinical Psychology*

Quiero darle gracias a mis padres Eva y Antonio por apoyarme en mis estudios. Porque sin su ayuda no hubiera hecho mis sueños realidad. También quisiera darle gracias a mis hermanas y hermanito por darme las fuerzas de seguir adelante. Especialmente a mi cuata Hilda que siempre a estado a mi lado y por aguantarme tanto. Les dedico mi diploma a mi familia que quiero mucho.

**GLORIA CHRISTINA SANCHEZ***B.A. Social Work*

Much love and thanks goes to you, mom and dad for always being there. Not once did you ever stop supporting me and I'm grateful for that. Tony, with lots of love, thanks for all the technical support. Louis, your love, humor and encouragement were there every step of the way. I luv u Babe. To the entire Hoeke family, thanks for being the wonderful people you all are. Lew, I Can't thank you enough. Everybody, I DID IT!

**DAVID JESUS RUIZ***B.S. Business Administration  
Minor: Area Studies*

Quiero dar las gracias a mi querida familia, amigos y profesores por su ayuda, consejos y apoyo. Mi experiencia en la universidad ha sido una de gran valor y logro. Hoy será un día inolvidable para nosotros, los graduados, porque tenemos el honor de compartir este día especial con nuestros familiares que caminan al lado de nosotros a un futuro brillante que nos espera en Xipe-Totec.

**RUBEN OSCAR RUIZ***B.A. Sociology - Criminology*

Quiero darle las gracias a mi madre, mi hermana y mi hermano, por todo el apoyo que me han dado. Este diploma se lo dedico a ellos por la paciencia, motivación y ayuda que me brindaron para que pudiera alcanzar mis metas. I also would like to thank all the brothers of SIGMA DELTA ALPHA for all the long lasting memories. Last, but not least, thanks to my girlfriend Rebeca, for her help and all the great times.

**JEREE DENYA SAUCEDO***B.A. Radio, Television & Film*

For all the people we meet in our lifetime, there are only so many that make a difference. I'm fortunate to have many of them here today, to share in the most rewarding day of my life.

To my sisters of Lambda Sigma Gamma - I'm speechless for the very first time! You can't begin to imagine how much you mean to me... thank you for all the endless love and support.

To my family - thank you for believing in me! Dad, your guidance has carried me. Mom, you are my everything. This is for you!!!



**MARIA SERRANO**

*B.A. Business Administration  
Management Information Systems*

Quiero darle las gracias a Dios por haberme dado la perseverencia y fortaleza para sobrevivir todos los obstaculos durante mis años de estudio. Le dedico este diploma a mis padres y mis hermanos por su apoyo, liderasgo, y paciencia

También, quiero darle las gracias a mis padres por su apoyo y paciencia, y a mis hermanos por siempre estar a mi lado. Quiero dedicarle este diploma a mi hermano Jose Luis por su persistencia y perseverencia en su vida.

I especially want to thank Louis, whom which I could not have made it this far without. Thank you for your support, dedication, and patience.

**CHRISTINA MARGARITA SOTO**

*B.S. Administration of Justice  
Minor: Mexican-American Studies & Psychology*

I would like to give thanks to my familia. To my Dad and my Mom for all their help and all their apoyo que siempre me han dado. To my sisters and brother (Olympia, Marta, Chris) thanks for all the laughs when I went home. Which wasn't alot. To Cesar the man who makes me happy and who always lets me see the light. Te quiero!!! A todos mis amigos Rosalinda, Alejandro, Josie without you guys I probably wouldn't of made it. Gracias a todos Ustedes!!!!!!! I finally made it.

**MARCO ANTONIO TORRES**

*B.S. Mechanical Engineering*

Primeramente quiero dar gracias a Dios por guiarme en este camino. Con todo mi cariño quiero dar gracias a dos personas en mi vida que sin su apoyo me hubiese sido imposible lograr esta meta, mis padres. Antonio y Socorro Torres. Papá y mamá gracias por todo su esfuerzo, el cual me ha llevado al éxito. A mis hermanos por creer en mi y darme el ánimo de seguir adelante. Especialmente tú Vero, espero y sigas este camino de triunfo. Mil gracias a todos mis amigos y compañeros que me ayudaron en esta jornada.

**MARGARITA SILVA**

*B.S. Finance  
Minor: International Business*

Primeramente quiero dar infinitas gracias a nuestro Señor por su apoyo y aliento que siempre me ayudo a levantarme cada vez que caia. La realización de metas academicas a veces es dificil pero con la motivación de todos mis seres queridos, la joronada fue más facil. Así dedico este diploma a todas las personas que de un modo o otro me ayudaron a la realización de mi meta academica. Gracias a mis padres, Guadalupe Silva y Margarita Cruz por todos sus sacrificios.

Un agradecimiento especial a mi abuelita que desde el cielo me acompañara en este día tan especial. Quiero tambien dar las gracias a mis maestros por compartir sus conocimientos y experiencias.

**PHILLIP G. TABERA**

*M.A. Mexican American Studies*

It would be major error on my part to not acknowledge the support, encouragement, and patience that my wife, Hermelinda, has provided to me since my enrollment in the Master Program, Mexican American Studies at San Jose State University. Without her, I probably would not be here. She has given me everything husband could ever hope to want for in a lifetime and I love her for it.

To my beautiful children Felipe, Gregorio, Joaquin (Chico), and Lorena. My father, Felipe, and my mother, Lupe, for your love, continual support, and undying belief in me, your son.

For my friend, Jesse Armenta, you've given me all a person could ask for in a friend, confidence, knowledge, love, and brotherhood. You're my big bro! You walk quietly, and you carry a big stick, and I respect you immensely!

**MATEO FLORES TORRES**

*B.A. Sociology - Criminology  
Minor: Mexican American Studies*

First and foremost, I would like to thank my mother and father for their encouragement, wisdom, and guidance which have allowed me to make this dream a reality. To my brother & sisters and my two nephews: never give up on your dreams, all you need are ganas... dreams do come true! To my N.A.K. brothers, this is for you as it is for me!! Much love to everybody!

**PEDRO SILVA**

*B.A. Social Science - U.S. History*

Primeramente, le quiero dar gracias a Dios, a mi familia y amigos. Pero especialmente a mi madre querida le dedico este diploma para usted porque con su apoyo y esfuerzo, este sueño no fuera realizado. Sely, I can't wait to see you graduate! Good luck. Muchas gracias a todos y que sigamos adelante.

**RICHARD ANDREW TITSWORTH**

*B.A. English & B.A. Psychology*

Quiero dedicar este día a mis padres: Estela y Griff. Gracias por el apoyo y el cariño que me han dado. A mi familia y amigos, gracias por creer en mi. Weego, quiero que este día sirva de inspiracion y motivación para cuando llege el dia que vayas a la escuela. To my siblings and friends, thank you for always believing in me.

**ESTHELA TOWNSEND**

*B.A. Liberal Studies  
Minor: Spanish*

Achieving my BA is the first step towards my goal of obtaining my doctorate in education with emphasis in child psychology. Working with children is my fondest goal. To help a child succeed in life will be my greatest reward and accomplishment. I thank very much all my four children for helping me achieve my goal.



*La Banda Trujillo*



### MARTHA TREVIÑO-HARDIN

*B.A. Psychology*

I would like to start by congratulating my fellow graduates. I would also like to thank Patricia Salazar-Robbins and John Loera, and special thanks to Josie Gutierrez who is my counselor, mentor, and friend. Through their guidance I have learned the opportunities available to me through higher education, and for this I am grateful. In conclusion I would like to thank my husband John Hardin, and my family for supporting me throughout my education.

### FREDERICK R. TURPO

*B. S. International Business  
Minor: Latin American Studies*

Doy las gracias al cielo por mis padres Robertoempo les dedico este diploma en honor a la invaluable educacion y consejos que me supieron otorgar. Tambien dedico este diploma a mi hermana Gladys por su ayuda y apoyo incondicional que sin ellos hoy no podria tener la dicha de graduarme. Agradesco a mis familiares y amigos que en alguna forma u otra me ayudaron a obtener este diploma. A todos ellos y con la bendicion de nuestro Dios y creador les doy mis mas sinceras gracias. ion y verdadesieron enseñar A mi hermana Delcy sigue adelante te falta muy poco para graduarte.

### JESUS TRUJILLO

*B.S. Business Administration  
Minor: Finance*

Gracias a Dios que me a dado el animo y fuerza de terminar mis estudios. Mamá y Papá, han sido mi fortaleza; los quiero mucho. Mi hermana Lydia que a sido como mi segunda madre, gracias por tu apoyo. Para mis hermanos: Ruben, Manuel, Humberto, y Ubaldo, sacrificaron su educacion para darme a mí y a mis otros dos hermanos un mejor futuro, mi diploma es para ustedes. Jose, we're graduating together again. Thanks for always listening. Damian, you've been and will always be my role model. Thanks for everything. Para mi gema preciosa Griselda, thanks for your love, understanding, and encouragement. Special thanks to my brothers of Nu Alpha Kappa, you'll remain in my heart forever. NAK NAK NAK !!

### LIDIA ULLOA

*B.A. Psychology  
Minor: Spanish*

Quisiera pedirles las gracias a Dios y la Virgencita. A mi mamá por dejarme llorar en sus brazos cuando ya no aguantaba. A mi papá por tratar de entender que no andaba por las calles sino estudiando cuando llegaba tarde. A mis hermanos por el apollo que me ofrecieron. Lastly, to my Comadres, especially Rosaura, Marisol, Patty and Aly, we all embarked on this journey together and I thank you for helping me along the way to complete it.

### JOSÉ TRUJILLO

*B.S. Administration of Justice*

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my family, my girlfriend Laura Chavez, and my friends for their support. I deeply want to thank Laura for always being there for me. Gracias a Dios, I also had the privilege of graduating with my younger brother Jesus, and to follow the footsteps of my brother Damian. We're the first three in our family to finish college, but not the last ones. The celebration is just beginning, and with God's help, todo se puede. As my mom always told me "Entre-gale tus estudios a Dios y el te ayudara para salir adelante."

### CLAUDIA VERDIN

*B.A. Social Science  
Minor: Spanish*

Ayer empecé el camino de la superación llena de esperanzas e ilusiones. Fue un camino largo y estrecho del cual ahora puedo mirar hacia atrás y ver que lo he superado. A través de este camino aprendí a valorar los esfuerzos de mis padres a quien hoy les doy las gracias. A Dios, porque siempre fue la luz que me guió en desafíos que me presentó la vida. Ahora este camino ya no es largo ni estrecho, sino que se ha convertido en un horizonte lleno de oportunidades. ¡Nunca nos demos por vencidos, la superación esta en nuestras manos!





**HÉCTOR MANUEL VERDUZCO**  
*B.A. Social Science*

Ha mis padres les agradezco toda su ayuda y apoyo. Sé y reconozco que sin ustedes nada de esto se me hubiera hecho posible. También le quiciera dar gracias a mi esposa Annette por soportarme especialmente durante los últimos meses. Ha mi hermano Alberto y hermana Marisela les doy gracias por ser mi inspiración tanto como mis padres son para todos en nuestra familia.

También quiero dar gracias a todos mis tíos y tías. Igualmente a mis otros tres hermanos Jaime y Jorge and Gustavo !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

**ROSEMARY YBARRA**  
*B.A. Liberal Studies*  
*Minor: Mexican American Studies*

Bendito sea Dios por mi familia y amistades. Mis padres Celia y Efigenio siempre me dieron amor, apoyo y un ejemplo de vivir respetoso a la familia y a mi misma. Su fe en mi ha sido la raíz de esta "Rosa" que hoy florece. Blessed be my sisters and brothers, who through example taught me cooperation, compromise and teamwork. My plans are to pursue a Masters in Education at U.C. Santa Cruz, and a career as a bilingual educator, advocate and reformer!

**MICHAEL CHRISTOPHER YBARRA**  
*B.A. Behavioral Science*  
*Minor: Social Work*

First of all, thank you family for your love & support. MOM, LouAnn Hernandez for making me the man I am today & giving me 24 years of yourself. DAD, Michael B. Ybarra for your constant support & love. Tammy for standing by me, loving me, & giving me a beautiful daughter. Grandma, Mary Ybarra, for always being their when I needed something.

In loving memory of my grandfather, Mike S. Ybarra, "Thank you for the inspiration to succeed & help others that are in need, your always in my heart"

**GUILLERMO ZAPIEN RAMOS**  
*B.A. History*

One thing is for sure, I never thought that I'd graduate from a university. And here I am, a San José State Alumni. But, this would have not been possible without the encouragement and motivation I received from my family and friends. I'd especially like to recognize my mother and father who gave me the resources for successful completion of my studies. My father, who unfortunately passed away in 1990, encouraged me to go to school, and I'd like to dedicate my graduation to him. Tambien quisiera agradecerle a Dios por haberme rodeado con gente tan buena y cariñosa quien me conmovio. Muchas gracias a toda la gente quien me apoyo en mis estudios, y en especial quiero agradecerle a mi padre quien ya no vive, pero se que su espiritu me acompaña durante todas mis luchas.



1968  1997

## Pete Tapia



Hijo de mi vida  
y de mi corazón.  
Nunca te olvidare,  
mi niño. *Mamá*

Pedro Rafael Tapia, also known as "Pete" to everyone, was born on June 29, 1968. Pete grew up in Gilroy, California where he attended Gilroy High School. One of the happiest days in his life was when he received his acceptance letter into San José State University. While at San José State, he was known as a leader and a role model. His efforts improved our campus community as well as our local community. His motivation, encouragement, and optimism in life created a sense of peace and unity throughout our campus. In 1989, he was one of fourteen founders of Nu Alpha Kappa Fraternity (NAK). Through NAK, he promoted higher education and constantly encouraged other members to cherish their education and treasure their family. Pete also became involved in the Chicano Commencement Committee for many years. Pete was instrumental in the success of Chicano Commencement. On occasions, after the ceremonies, the committee remained in debt. But in order to keep the integrity of future Chicano Commencement Committees, Pete would pay the outstanding balance out of his own pocket. He oftentimes singlehandedly coordinated raffles in order to raise funds for the annual events. And on May 29, 1993, Pete walked on the stage with his fellow Chicano graduates, another successful event he helped put together. Pete received his Bachelor of Science in Industrial Technology. Soon after, he was employed at Samsung Corporation. His efforts and hard work have inspired us and motivated us. Pete is survived by his parents, Jesus and Yolanda Tapia, brothers Jesus Jr, Martin, Fabian; his sisters Isabel, Yolanda and Cynthia and by his fiancée, Yolanda Jimenez. His memory will remain in our hearts forever. Rest in peace....

You and the other Founding fathers have created something that will never die. *Andrew Diaz*

While I was pledging for NAK, he would tell me to get my degree and make my family proud; make my friends proud; make NAK proud. *Cris Cardenas*

Te tenemos en nuestros corazones y no te podremos olvidar. Fuiste una persona especial y un fiel amigo. *Enrique Arreola*

# Chicano Commencement

began 27 years ago and its continued success is made possible through the dedication and hard work of students, as well as the support of *nuestra comunidad*. It is through our community businesses, organizations and personal donations that we find the financial means to continue this celebration. We encourage you to support these establishments and join these organizations that have dedicated themselves to making this commencement successful. Gracias a todos por su apoyo.

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The sisters of Lambda Sigma Gamma thank you for contributing your academic success, community involvement, and sisterhood. Remember that you will always be in our hearts because Sisterhood is forever!  
All your sisters wish you luck, success and happiness  
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se enorgullece en felicitar a todos los graduados

Enrique Aceves      Hugo Moreno  
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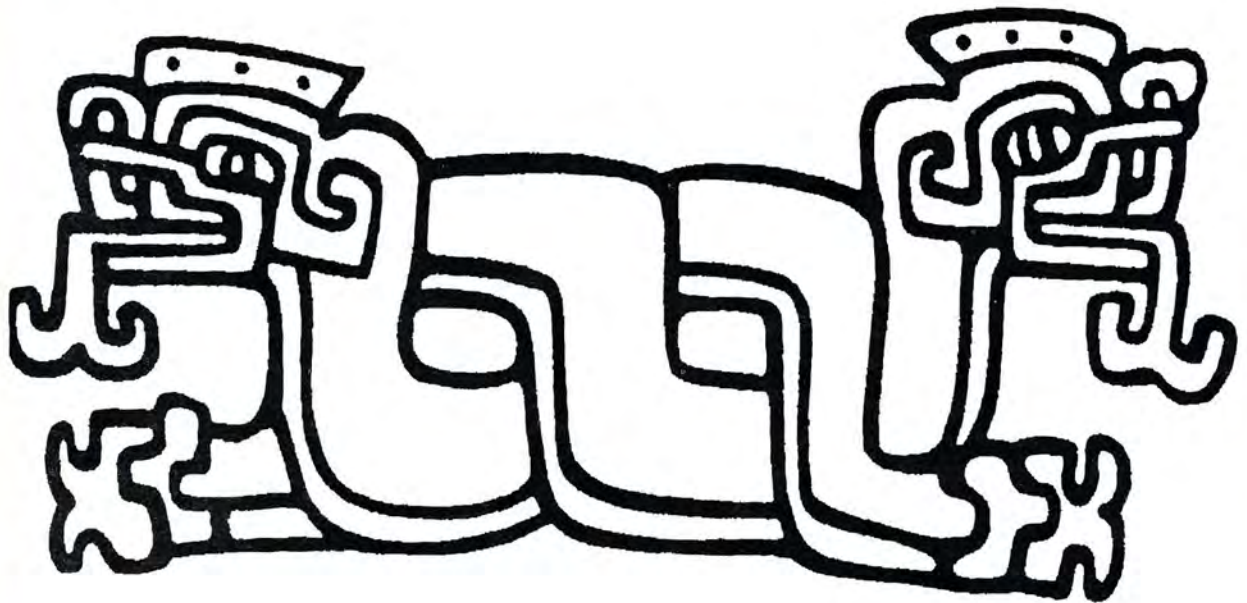
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## Muchas Gracias

Associated Students, San Jose State University  
Robert Caret, University President of SJSU  
Cathy Busalacchi, Event Center, SJSU  
Ron Duval, Spartan Shops, SJSU  
Dr. George Castro  
Chicano Library Resource Center  
Sharon Lee, Aramark Catering

Al Ornales, Santa Clara Convention Center  
Augie Reyes, Santa Clara Convention Center  
Student Development Services, SJSU  
Student Outreach & Recruitment, SJSU  
The Honorable Manny Diaz, City Councilmember  
Teresa Guerrero Daley, San Jose Police Auditor  
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Noe Montoya, Super Mercado Foods  
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La Familia Contreras, Tres Amigos Taqueria  
Kathy Chavez-Napoli, Santa Clara Truck Wreckers  
Lidia de la Garda Rios  
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Rolando Loera, Touche Manufacturing  
New Ways Workers  
Gabe Reyes, Special Assistant to the President of SJSU  
Hector Garza, Personnel Management Association of Aztlan  
Tropicana Foods  
La Familia Martinez, Mi Rancherita Carniceria  
Robert Rodriguez & John Saldivar, Party D.J. 's  
Nu Alpha Kappa  
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And to all the Chicano Commencement Class of 1997

## Special thanks

La Familia Tapia  
La Familia Burciaga  
Yolanda Jimenez  
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Gabriela Carranza  
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## Graphic design

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with Sandra Carranza