THE UNIVERSITY OF SAN FRANCISCO CELEBRATES THE 4TH ANNUAL

Indigenous Peoples of Oceania Ceremony

Native Pacific Islander Graduation

Ehara toku toa i te toa takatahi. He toa takitini toku toa.
My strength is not due to me alone, but due to the strength of many ~Maori Proverb

SPRING 2020
The Indigenous Peoples of Oceania ceremony was created for graduating students who identify as Indigenous Oceanic, Native Pacific Islander, and Pasifika people to celebrate their visibility and representation in higher education. This is a space to honor those of us who are accomplishing this milestone, despite the institutional barriers that can persist. Within us, we bring the knowledge of our families, our ancestors, our islands, and our ocean in every space we embody. We invite these graduating students to be in community with their friends, family members, and fellow Native Pacific Islanders at this ceremony, as they continue along their journey.

**THEME**

This year’s theme is:
“Ehara tōku toa i te toa takitahi. He toa takitini tōku toa.”
(My strength is not due to me alone, but due to the strength of many)
- Māori proverb

**A LETTER FROM THE IPOC PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Dear Graduates,

We are so happy to welcome you into our Indigenous Peoples of Oceania Graduation Ceremony. Congratulations on your accomplishment and cheers to graduation! We commend the hard work you have invested into this journey and are so proud of each and every one of you!

Although alternative recognition needed to be put in place, we celebrate each of you and the communities you represent.

Keeping in mind this year’s theme, we hope you are able to reflect on the journey that brought you to this point and recognize that this accomplishment has been achieved because of your fortitude and the strength of those who have aided you along the way.

Once again, congratulations to the class of 2020 on your accomplishment and thank you for allowing us to take part in your celebrations.

Mahalo, Ngā Mihi, Ofa Atu,

The 2020 Indigenous Peoples of Oceania Graduation Ceremony Committee
Erin Echols, Committee Advisor
Malia Aiello, Mōhala Aiona, Nicola Andrews, Alaina Arroyo, Dalia Barrientos, Saundra Bell, Ria Angelica Laxa
THANK YOU

Cultural Centers staff and interns
Dr. Mary Wardell Ghirarduzzi, Vice Provost for Diversity Engagement and Community Outreach
Julie Orio, Vice President for Student Life
Office of Marketing and Communication
Office of the Registrar
Office of the Assistant Vice Provost for Student Engagement
Rev. Paul J. Fitzgerald, S.J., President

Indigenous Peoples of Oceania Planning Committee
Malia Aiello, undergraduate student
Mōhala Aiona, undergraduate student, Pacific Islander Collective
Nicola Andrews, Gleeson Library
Alaina Arroyo, graduate student
Dalia Barrientos, undergraduate student, Cultural Centers Intern
Cassandra Bell, undergraduate student, Pacific Islander Collective
Erin Echols, Cultural Centers
Ria Laxa, undergraduate student, Culturally-Focused Clubs Council

Donors
Cultural Centers
Culturally-Focused Clubs Council
Alumni Association

Program design: Ria Laxa