Jun Starkey lived on a boat with her parents in the Santa Barbara Harbor, but found her real home at Santa Barbara City College and in its journalism department. Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, Editor-in-Chief Starkey redesigned the newsroom to rapidly respond. She led a team of 27 students to provide accurate, thoughtful and meaningful journalism. Starkey approaches the news with urgency and sensitivity. She’s fierce in seeking answers and will not allow herself to be intimidated. During two years on The Channels, she wrote more than 60 articles, displayed immense personal and academic growth, developed confidence, inspired a newsroom, and found deep purpose in journalism. Starkey is also the elected student president of the Journalism Association of Community Colleges.

Jun’s Words of Gratitude:
Thank you so much to everyone at The Channels for continuing to work and keep student journalism alive during this time. My time at The Channels has been some of the most memorable of my life. I am eternally grateful for the opportunity to contribute to local journalism, and spend the last year covering our diverse college campus. I am also grateful for my amazing advisor, Josh Molina, and department head Patricia Stark, for making The Channels such an enriching and life changing experience for me.