If ever a perfect pair existed, it’s Santa Barbara City College and Ryan P. Cruz. Cruz is the Editor-in-Chief of The Channels and a brilliant example of determination, redemption and victory. Just three years ago, Cruz was on House Arrest after a DUI accident in Santa Barbara. He began rebuilding his life after enrolling in SBCC’s Transitions Program. A semester after his arrest, he made the President’s Honor Roll. Cruz then found his calling in SBCC’s award-winning journalism program. As Editor, he won multiple statewide awards and focused his personal columns on overcoming discrimination, and telling the story of the Mexican-American experience. Cruz, a Santa Barbara native, is a spectacular star of SBCC, The Channels and the future of journalism.

Ryan’s Words of Gratitude
I’m so thankful to have been part of the campus community at Santa Barbara City College. Working as a student journalist afforded me the opportunity to meet and get to know so many people around our school and tell unique stories from every corner of campus. I was lucky to be able to be a part of our amazing student publication, The Channels, and I would like to thank the staff, advisers and faculty that helped me along the way.