

# Marin Independent Journal

Thursday, December 7, 2023

## GIVING MARIN

A Community Partnership to Strengthen Nonprofits • Visit [givingmarin.com](https://givingmarin.com)



### 10,000 Degrees honors inspiring alumni



*Honorees Josue Castillo, Dayane Mendoza, Janelle Charles, Ashley Blanco, ceremony co-host Cinthya Cisneros, honoree Adriana Ascencion Cisneros and Kim Mazzuca, 10,000 Degrees president and CEO (from left) at the organization's Alumni Changemakers Celebration.*

Photo courtesy of 10,000 Degrees

10,000 Degrees, a San Rafael-based nonprofit that empowers students in Marin and seven other Bay Area counties to enter and graduate college, hosted the annual Alumni Changemakers Celebration on Nov. 2 at the

Julia Morgan Ballroom in San Francisco. The event recognized five inspiring alumni who are making an impact in the world as changemakers in their families, careers and communities.

At the celebration, the five honorees shared their stories, including the challenges they overcame and the successes they celebrated on their path toward earning their college degree and becoming leaders and changemakers in the world today.

"10,000 Degrees is on a mission to achieve educational equity by supporting students from low-income backgrounds to realize their full potential, and positively impact their communities and the world," said Kim Mazzuca, 10,000 Degrees president and CEO. "We're incredibly proud of this year's honorees who have demonstrated how a college degree has changed the course of their lives, their families' lives and their communities."

The event raised over \$200,000 for 10,000 Degrees students and programs. For more information, visit [10000degrees.org](https://10000degrees.org).