While Jordan Martinez ’19 (Cred. ’21, MA ’22) was earning his bachelor’s degree at UC Davis, he was looking for a career that would have the most impact in his home community. At the School of Education, he found his calling.

“Being able to have a direct line to bridge my classroom to the social issues in the community I grew up in means so much to me,” he said. “And as a first-generation student, I want to set an example for my younger siblings so they can see that our futures aren’t marginalized by the area we grew up in.”

Jordan chose to earn his multiple-subject credential because he feels that elementary school is a pivotal time when students are learning about what education means to them. “In order for learning to be engaging and accessible,” he said, “elementary students need to feel that they belong in the classroom setting. I want to make sure that the students know that there is room for everyone. I want to give them the hope that I had in my own search for higher education.”
Transformative Justice in Education Center
Annual Fund donors supported the Transformative Justice in Education Center, which is committed to imagining just futures for children and their families by addressing harm caused by racial inequities and creating restorative, transformative and humanizing learning communities.

Words Take Wing: Honoring Diversity in Children’s Literature
Annual Fund donors supported the 2020 Words Take Wing program, which features diverse children’s authors from around the country. In February 2020, the School of Education hosted Linda Sue Park for more than 1,600 regional schoolchildren.

Equity Summit
Annual Fund donors supported the March 2020 UC Davis Equity Summit, an annual event that brings together educators, community members and experts from a range of disciplines to address the pertinent social issues of our time, and to develop strategies, shape actions and create solutions for educational inequities.
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For more information about how Annual Fund gifts make a difference, contact Quentin Graeber at (530) 219-7038 or qgraeber@ucdavis.edu.

On cover: Transformative Justice in Education Center faculty, staff and students join with guest speakers after a November 2019 speaker series presentation on “From Restorative to Transformative: Pursuing Justice in New Zealand.”