

ASIA Newsletter

(Asian Students in Action)

Hunter College, 695 Park Avenue, N.Y.C., NY

Fall 1979

ASIA

Asian Students In Action, ASIA, is our Asian student club on campus. Our purpose is to serve the interest and needs of the Asian student population and to build a better understanding between Asian and minority students. We hope to bring together students of different nationalities and backgrounds to share in our common histories, cultures and experiences.

In the past, ASIA has organized many diverse activities in the hopes of including the interests of as many students as possible.

Last semester, we organized a cultural/educational program (which included a slide show on Asian Studies and songs on the Asian American experience) as part of the Asian/pacific American Heritage Week, a nationally observed event. In April some of us even journeyed all the way to

Boston to participate in the U/Mass Amherst Asian Conference which had observed this particular week with workshops on the Asian American experience. These activities provided us with a deeper understanding and awareness of Asian people's history and culture and important issues facing us today.

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JOIN A.S.I.A.!

*Social/Cultural Committee

*Education Committee

(Newsletter, films, lecturers)

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*Leave us a message

at our office in
Room TH102, cubic C

OR give us a call:

Wayne 585-2213

Janice 732-3467

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"OPEN HOUSE"

The A.S.I.A. club held its Open House on Oct. 11 at the Roosevelt House. About 70 Hunter College Asian students came by to enjoy an evening of food, entertainment, and getting to know one another. Members of A.S.I.A. told about the club's many activities. Special guest speakers included Ruby Tsang, a SEEK counselor at Hunter, Thomas Tam, the instructor of Hunter's only Asian American Studies Course, and Shirley Huen, who said a few words on Asian Studies. We also enjoyed a movie about an Asian American band, Hiroshima, from Los Angeles.

This was our first activity of the semester and it was a success! We would like to thank all of you who helped out and attended.



Asian American Studies

Asian American Studies or just Asian Studies is a course about Asian Americans. It gives a general overview of the conditions which gave rise to the new and unique culture of the Asian American. One of the purposes of Asian Studies is to preserve and explore the role of Asian Americans in their struggle to make a better life for themselves and of their many contributions.

The vibrant history of Asian Americans, as well as Americans of other racial backgrounds have been glaringly left out of history books. Because we are also a product of another culture no less important, we owe it to ourselves to explore it and its influences on us. Asian Studies can provide glimpses of "Images from a Neglected Past", to borrow the name of a Basement Workshop photo-exhibit.

Asian Studies is about the struggle of the first Chinese American immigrants who had come in search of a better life and of the Japanese Americans whose rights as American citizens were taken from them when they were incarcerated in the World War II concentration camps. Asian

Studies may also be about the native Hawaiians' struggle to maintain their identity against those who would take it from them.

However, Asian Studies is more than just a history course; much of its appeal lies in the fact that Asian Studies can provide students with a better awareness of what it means to be an Asian American. In this course, for example, we looked at the concept of "Stereotypes." After defining stereotypes as mainly to be preconceived, simplified notions of who a person is, we then discussed how a person may use stereotypes to inaccurately define another person. Some of us in the course have come to realize that certain commercials such as the one for Opium perfume and

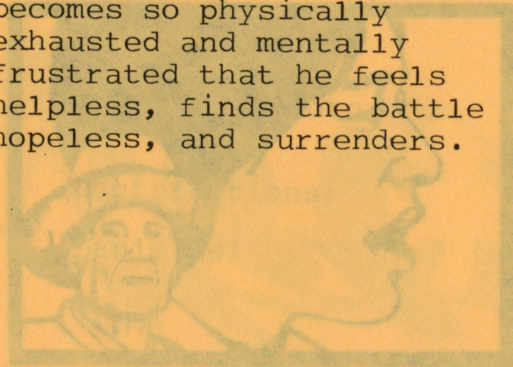
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Aikido Exhibition

One of the most passive self-defense forms, if taught in the original (Ueshiba) style, is Aikido. This Japanese martial art integrates the techniques used in ancient sword and spearfighting.

The major principle emphasized in this art is to "harmonize" the mind and the body; when one's physical motion is in control of the mind, the mind can then be guided and reinforced by the motion produced. In Aikido, the defendant should not fear his opponent, should always be on his/her guard, and should never take an offensive stand. When performing Aikido, the defendant "cooperates" with the aggressor by taking advantage of his loss of "center" (balance) and by re-directing the attacker's energy against him/herself. If not already injured and/or defeated, the aggressor becomes so physically exhausted and mentally frustrated that he feels helpless, finds the battle hopeless, and surrenders.



Many people were fascinated by the demonstration held on November 16 and it made me realize how Aikido is truly an art of defense.

Thanks to all of you for coming- we hope you enjoyed it!!

Lelanie Oei

Ain't No Stopping Us Now !!

Asian student clubs everywhere are getting together, building friendships, and sharing common experiences. This year marks the formation of a new Asian student network, the Asian Student Association Network (ASAN), initiated by ourselves, Concerned Asian Students of CCNY, and by the Chinese Student Association of Brooklyn Polytech. The purpose of the network will be to facilitate communication among the different Asian student clubs in the New York area and to work jointly on different activities of interest. The network will hopefully help our Asian student organizations through the exchanging of different ideas, sharing of resources and through promoting each other's activities. Currently, we are working on a newsletter and are planning a network Christmas party on December 21.

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Last semester we also had begun to see the need to be aware and support happenings in our communities. As a first step, ASIA joined with Basement Workshop to do a benefit concert for the "Children at Basement", a daycare program in Chinatown, which had featured AMERASIA (Alex Chin and SYLC) and ELECTRIC HAZE.

In addition, ASIA has made concerted efforts to meet students from other campuses to find out what was happening with their clubs. In this area, we jointly sponsored a very successful Christmas party and City-wide Asian student picnic last June with Concerned Asian Students (CAS) of CCNY. Also, many of us have joined in their annual CCNY Sports-Nite.

This semester we are trying to make an all out effort to expand the club and its activities and to get ourselves better organized. We want ASIA to be your Asian student club. We sincerely invite and encourage your participation and ideas.



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various movies like the Fu-Man Chu, Charlie Chan type films have depicted and perpetuated a stereotypical and untrue picture of the Asian American.

In short, Asian Studies can provide new insights into being Asian and also American-in what ways am I Asian- in what ways am I American. Asian Studies can provide the means to an answer. This course not only allows us to examine our lives in a historical context but also, more importantly, it allows us to see ourselves in the present day context in which we are living.

- ANNOUNCEMENTS -

Asian Student Association Network's

First Dance

DEC. 21, 1979

6:30 - 10:30 pm

Baruch College, Oak Lounge, E. 22nd St.

Take #6 to 23rd Street.

Bet. Lexington & 3rd Ave.

URGENT! S.E.E.K. TUTORS NEEDED

To assist students in the area of Math and English.

Salary based on Educational background.

See Ruby Tsang
Academic Skills Dept.
Rm. HC 713

欢迎各位參加：

文娛組 和

教育組

(會刊, 電影, 組
演講演活動等)

請個名字電話意見
在中學102房C室
或電：

WAYNE - 525-2213

JAY - 492-7300

JANICE - 732-3467

如閣下對寫作, 繪畫,
文藝有興趣, 歡迎你
參加設計「通訊」各
項工作!

此外, 我們亦體會到那種需要, 留意和支持我們社團的狀況, 首先, 「亞同行動」聯合了「地下室傳導組織」, 辦了一個特等籌款的演奏會, 由亞力斯·陳和絲樂隊領導, 籌金是捐助「兒童在地下地」華埠一項在日間照顧兒童的服務。

「亞同行動」亦曾努力去聯絡其他大學的同學和找出他們校內的活動, 這我們成功的辦了一個聖誕舞會, 六月間, 又與「亞同行」的亞洲同學聯辦了一個市區亞洲同學野餐會, 又我們很多同學都參加「亞同行」的週年亞洲夜。

這學期, 我們盡力去擴大這個同學會和舉辦一些活動, 更速進同學間的友情; 如此, 希望「亞同行動」就是你們的亞洲同學會, 更誠懇的邀請和鼓勵你們來參加和給與意見。

亞洲同學在行動通訊

紐約市亨特學院·帕克路六九五號

一九七九年秋刊

我們是誰？

亞洲同學在行動！我們校裡的一個亞洲同學會，目的是為了給與亞洲同學的興趣及需求，更想聯絡所有亞洲同學和少數民族間的友情，連繫所有來自不同國籍及背景的亞洲同學，一同切磋和溝通亞洲的歷史、文化和經驗；過去「亞同行動」曾經舉辦過多種活動，由教育性的項目及「互」的是高。

上一個學期，我們曾辦了一項文化及教育性的節目（包括放映亞洲學的幻燈片和美國亞洲人所經歷的歌曲，那是亞洲太平洋文物週的一部份。四月間，我們一些同學還北上遊波士頓，參加麻省大學亞向斯（U/Mass Amherst）的亞洲招待會，這些活動增廣我們對亞洲歷史、文化的認識和了解，和現在社會面臨的重要印行。