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The Student Movement v. 105 (2020-2021)

Student Movement

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The Student Movement Volume 105 Issue 13: AU Students Speak out Against Anti-AAPI Violence

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AU Students Speak out Against Anti-AAPI Violence



Photo by Julia Viniczay

News

NEWS

James White Library Offers Useful Resources to Students

Amanda Cho [03.31.2021](#)

A research project is a stressful endeavor. It often involves long sleepless nights searching for articles that are not only credible, but are also easily accessible and applicable to your research. Students can especially have difficulty

if this is the first time that they have needed to write a formal research project. While this challenge is a common occurrence, having the correct resources and knowing how to use them can make the process less intimidating.

This semester, the librarians of the James White Library have been volunteering their time every Tuesday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:20 p.m. to help students become more effective researchers through a series of library workshops. They cover a variety of topics, such as developing effective research strategies, evaluating the credibility of sources, learning how to avoid plagiarism and helping students make more use of the resources that the library offers.

Joshua Li (senior, public health, liberal arts) commented, “Since I’ve never been to the library before, it was a good workshop that helped me to understand how the resources are organized and how to find content that is appropriate for my research.”

One resource that can be particularly helpful is interlibrary loans, meaning that the library can help students to obtain almost any article or book that they can find by working with other libraries to provide access. They also provide several databases in a range of subjects from education to nursing that can provide students with access to a wide range of credible articles within their disciplines.

Janice Pakkianathan (senior, public health, biology) shared, “This seminar was very helpful for me, especially as the due date for my thesis approaches. While I knew how to use some of the resources provided, I didn’t know about the interlibrary loan. This resource is especially helpful because sometimes I cannot seem to access the articles that apply the most to my research.”

The small class sizes offer a more one-on-one approach and students are able to take advantage of the knowledge of the librarians to apply to their specific projects. Even if it is not part of the topic that is covered that day, the librarians can help you with whatever research issue you are facing. Many students expressed that the workshops have been very beneficial to their research, helping them to quickly find the correct resources.

Kimberly Sampson (graduate student, K-12 educational leadership) said, “When I saw the advertisement for the series on research, I thought that it would be beneficial especially as I am working on my PhD proposal. So far, the classes have been very small and the presentations have been beneficial.”

Some additional topics that will be covered this semester are finding books, ebooks, and articles using the library’s online catalog, using databases to find relevant and scholarly articles, and determining reliable sources using the internet. To learn more information about the library’s resources, visit the James

White Library website or contact Dr. Silas Marques, professor of library science, at silas@andrews.edu.

NEWS

The Office of Diversity and Inclusion and the Center for Faith Engagement Host Asian American and Pacific Islander Forum

Jenae Rogers [03.31.2021](#)

On Monday, Mar. 22, the Office of Diversity and Inclusion and the Center for Faith Engagement held a forum for students to discuss violence and hatred towards the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community. It was held in the Newbold Auditorium, as well as over Zoom.

Eden Seo (junior, theology) was in charge of most of the preparation for the event and helped lead the discussion. He said, “The preparation of the event started with Chaplain Danielle Pilgrim, Chaplain Jose Bourget, and Micheal Nixon, vice president for Diversity & Inclusion, reaching out to me and other Asian club leaders on campus. We had a short meeting where we discussed the importance of this event and how we should formulate the discussion. They gave us a lot of space to organize it in the way we wanted to.”

Mr. Nixon began the event with an urge for everyone to work together against racism and bigotry. Then, Chaplain Jose prayed. Mr. Seo opened the discussion with results of a survey which AAPI club members had participated in. He noted that about 78% of those who responded have experienced racial bias in America. In person, there were open microphones for students to share their stories and ask questions. Several spokespeople for AAPI clubs shared stories submitted to them, told their own stories, and answered the questions of those attending.

Nicole Evangelista (junior, biology), a student who attended over Zoom, said, “I thought the forum created a necessary space for the AAPI community to be

honest about the discrimination and racism we face. I believe our struggles are down-played since we are seen as the 'model minority,' and we tend to keep quiet since we want to fit into society." She also commented, "A great point was brought up by a former Andrews Filipino International Association officer, who stated that the AAPI community has been a victim of hypocrisy on our campus as we were told to censor our cultural dances for a co-curricular event, despite having only one night a year dedicated to celebrating our history and culture. While Andrews University celebrates a diverse campus, the AAPI community includes numerous cultures, and each of them deserve to be celebrated equally. We need to embrace every culture in our fight against racism. I'd like to see a response or statement not only from Michael Nixon, but also from the university and president themselves that show support [for the AAPI community] and condemn the atrocities that continue to perpetuate [in] our society."

Another student who joined via Zoom, Taylor Belleza (senior, psychology), "As an Asian American, I'm glad that the university gave members of the AAPI community a safe space to speak up about their experiences with prejudice. It deeply hurt me to know that my peers, and even friends, have faced such discrimination, but it was also cathartic to realize that I am not the only one. We may have been hurt as individuals, but we can heal as a community." Additionally, she shared, "I think how the faculty representing Andrews responded to criticism against the university's handling of AAPI issues is also important. I am glad that rather than dismissing the problems, they were uplifting. The next step is to take that criticism to heart and work to do better. I need to see proof that they truly heard the students, rather than just listened."

Overall, it was a very productive conversation, and many of the people present expressed appreciation for being given the opportunity of a space to share their stories and receive support. Mr. Seo commented, "It was great to see the response and involvement of many students who had been waiting for a discussion like this to be had. It felt like a safe space for Asian American and Pacific Islander students to finally share what was on our hearts." Since we will not be in school during May, which is Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, Proximity Vespers will be holding an AAPI heritage vespers on April 9. Several other events are also in the process of being planned, such as an AAPI chapel and Sabbath afternoon event. Be sure to look for more information about those events.

NEWS

The Office of Research and Creative Scholarship Hosts the Undergraduate Research and Honors Scholar Symposium

Caralynn Chan [03.31.2021](#)

On Friday, Mar. 26, the Office of Research and Creative Scholarship hosted the Undergraduate Research and Honors Scholar Poster Symposium. This informational session allowed presenters and attendees to learn more about the research projects their peers have participated in. The J. N. Andrews Honors scholars had pre-recorded their presentations at the J. N. Andrews Honors Poster Symposium, while the undergraduate research award scholars presented their work in real-time via Zoom. Through a link, virtual session attendees were able to choose from an array of topics and sign up for presentations that piqued their interest. Links categorized students' research endeavors by color to indicate their respective departments and schools. The links for each student's research provided the presenters' abstracts, an online version of their poster, and a recording of their presentation.

Emma Tennyson (senior, psychology) was an Honors Scholar Symposium presenter who represented the Department of Biology. Her presentation was entitled, "Enamel Corrosion Levels on Squirrel Teeth from the Fox Canyon Locality, Pliocene of Kansas." Dr. Tom Goodwin was her faculty advisor who provided ample support during this research journey. For her research, she arranged the enamel corrosion of squirrel teeth into various category groups to determine if there was statistical significance among the distribution of corrosion categories. Concerning how her faculty advisor assisted her during this process, she remarked, "We meet weekly to inspect my research progress and to confirm that we had a good timeline for everything."

Nathaly Manrique (senior, Spanish, biology) was an undergraduate research scholar award recipient and an Honors Scholar Symposium presenter. She also

represented the Department of Biology. Her research presentation was entitled, “Modulation of apoptosis in Breast Cancer Cells MDA-MB-157, 93A and 93B by Aqueous Extract of Chinese Medical Herb *Scutellaria barbata*.” Her study investigates the modulation effect that *Scutellaria barbata* has on breast cancer cell lines MDA-MB-157 and its APC mutants 93A, and 93B. Concerning her involvement with research at Andrews, she shared, “I’ve been involved with the photochemical and chemoprevention research in the Department of Biology since junior year. Presenting my data was a rewarding experience because I was able to showcase my work, as well as progress that has been made in the laboratory.”

Lily Burke (sophomore, English, anthropology) was another Undergraduate Research Scholar Award scholarship recipient and represented the School of Social and Behavioral Sciences. Her presentation was entitled, “Emergence of entrepreneurship in Transjordan during the late Ottoman empire.” She was assisted throughout this process by her faculty advisor, Dr. Øystein LaBianca. Her research analyzed how entrepreneurship emerged in Transjordan during the late Ottoman period. Her project was a case study on early globalization through the spread of capitalism. She shared some advice for future student researchers. “Have a really solid methodology. Once you’ve got your methodology, you have a guide for your efforts and can focus on presenting your results coherently,” she said.

After each presenter unveiled their findings, virtual attendees had a designated moment to converse with the presenter, asking thought-provoking questions or providing constructive feedback on their research. Students interested in becoming involved in the next Undergraduate Research and Honors Scholar Symposium should contact a faculty advisor and ask to apply for an Undergraduate Research Scholar Award for summer 2021 or fall 2021 as soon as possible.

My Experience with Robinhood

Matthew Jarrard [03.24.2021](#)

I first downloaded Robinhood in December 2020 over winter break to start investing my money into the stock market. I looked at many different investing apps (Coinbase, eTrade, Sofi, Webull) and none seem to have the ease of investing like Robinhood does. They break down all the stocks, ETFs, Cryptos, and stock options you own in your portfolio, and give you constant statistics about them. Statistics like the market value, return, portfolio diversity, different financial ratios, and other news about them. A free stock is included when you first sign up as well.

If you are not sure of what stocks to buy, Robinhood gives you a breakdown of the most popular stocks and companies to invest in right now. Also, you can find many of the stocks and cryptocurrencies that you might not find on other investing apps on Robinhood. My personal favorite is Dogecoin, a meme currency that has recently gained popularity and, along with Bitcoin, is currently holding over 50% of the monetary value in the app. There was a lot of craze with the recent GameStop stock surge, and Robinhood recently banned people from investing their money into that stock and others. Many people wanted others to stop using Robinhood, which even had Robinhood trending #1 on Twitter. But that has not stopped me from continuing to invest in the app.

Robinhood also has a very convenient message board to tell you what stocks you have bought recently and gives you a breaking down over a text message about when you bought the stock, how much of the stock you have bought, and an explanation of the different features that are included. It then gives you an explanation of what you are buying and what you can do with it, and other important information.

You can also change the display of the data on your screen. For instance, you can show the last price of the stock, equity gained from the stock, percentage change, total gain/loss from the stock, and total percentage change over time. Each number that is displayed is color coordinated, with green meaning you made

money with your stock, while red meaning you lost money with your stock.

While stocks can be confusing to some people, Robinhood puts their own twist on investing money in the stock market in a very convenient way and simple way. Overall, I would recommend new users to try out Robinhood over another investing app because of how easy and simple it feels. It is a great way to see how your stocks and cryptocurrencies are doing over a period of time.

PULSE

Nature Spots on Campus

Gloria Oh **03.31.2021**

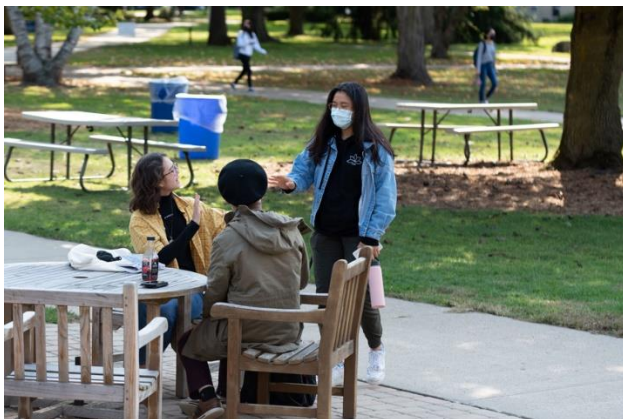


Photo by Lloyd Martinez

Hello, everyone! I hope you are all enjoying the beautiful spring weather that has arrived on the campus. Snow has melted, and the green vegetation are sprouting all over the place. Today, I would like to share a few spots at Andrews University to appreciate the beautiful scenery and warm weather outside.

The first spot I would like to introduce to you is the pavilion ([The Grove](#)). This small building is located across from the science complex in the woods. If you are looking for a place to take a break in nature, definitely check this place out! It is equipped with long benches and tables, and it is also quiet and distanced from the

crowd. I also have a fond memory of spending Sabbath afternoon with my friends at the pavilion, so I encourage you to try the same. If you are a STEM student who visits the Math and Science complex daily, the pavilion could be an excellent choice for a study area.

Next on our list is the trail near Lemon Creek. You can find the path at the back of the campus as you pass by Burman Hall and the Pathfinder building. It is really up to you which direction you would go; take an adventure by yourself or with your friends. Flowers will be blooming in a few weeks, so taking a hike next month would be a good idea. Biophilia club is also organizing a walk with Dr. Goodwin in April, so check it out and join the group! Although this is not an option available at the moment, during pre-COVID times, Kingman Observatory also held Skywatching events every Friday or Saturday evening. If they open that option for the next school year, I recommend you sign up for a spot and visit the observatory if you are taking an evening hike.

If hiking is not your cup of tea, reading or eating with your friends at the benches located sporadically on the campus is an idea. These are some places you can find benches on campus: in front of the Student Center, between Lamson Hall and Nethery Hall, next to the Administration building, in front of the bookstore and Science Complex, and so many more! Stop by these benches as you walk back to the dorm or the library after classes. Nature can present you with some moments of serendipity in stressful times.

I would like to end the list with the Andrews University farm. If you love animals, visiting the farm and watching them running around the pasture could help you destress a lot. A variety of animals—rabbits, cows, chickens, pigs, goats, and many more—are living on the farm. So if you especially like any animal listed here, treat yourself with a break, maybe on a Sabbath afternoon, and spend time with the animals while abiding by the rules!

It has been one hectic pandemic school year, and I know it was one of the most challenging for many of us personally and academically. I hope spending time in nature in the places listed above, or anywhere else in your preference would provide the healing and encouragement we all need in our life.

On April 16th, the Andrews Filipino International Association will be hosting a theater production in Howards Performing Arts Center. A cultural play set in the 19th century, "Tagumpay" is set to demonstrate both cultural traditions and the rising colonial tensions within this time period. I recently interviewed the writer, Alec Bofetiado (junior, medical lab science), and the choreographer, Franky Paypa (sophomore, physical therapy), to learn more about the upcoming production.

What is this year's PCN about?

AB: This year's PCN is a historical drama play that is set in the Philippines in the 1800s during growing Spanish-Filipino tensions. The story follows Banoy and Luciana's secret romance and a devastating tragedy that drives the plot forward. Ultimately, it's a story about personal growth, community, and cultural pride.

FP: "Tagumpay," an action-packed play, filled with exciting fight scenes and a dynamic cast, follows the heartfelt romance between two childhood sweethearts and the challenges they encounter as they try to navigate familial responsibilities, loss, heartbreak, and the need for justice. Though the play takes place during the Spanish colonial period (mid-to-late 1800s) in the Philippines, many of the political and racial undertones, present throughout the play, are very much relevant to today's discussion about gender roles and human rights. We hope that this production helps to spark a conversation with your friends and family about #StopAAPIHate and inspires you to learn more about the historical context of societal issues today.

What has been your favorite thing about working for PCN?

AB: For me, since I wrote the script, I wasn't really sure how it would turn out when looking at it on stage. Because what seems good in my head may not necessarily be true in-person; it's that relationship between theory and reality that is sometimes either a hit or miss. This was a large cause of stress to me in the previous months, essentially the unknown if my writing--or theory--would look good in real life. However, as I start to see what I had imagined in my mind manifest itself into reality, I've been getting increasingly excited to see what the final production will look like.

FP: Probably my favorite thing about working for PCN was seeing how my choreography came to life. A couple of months ago, when Alec first asked me to be the choreographer for this year's PCN, I honestly had no idea what I was going

to. When he mentioned the play, I was under the assumption that the choreography he wanted was like the typical jazz or Broadway show dance that you would see in most modern-day productions, and even though I had never been part of a theater production, I have had prior exposure to those styles of dance, so I said, "Sure!" Not realizing that the choreography he wanted was actually stage combat, and it wasn't even the typical fight scenes with swords or fists. No, he wanted kali stick fighting.

What has taken the most time to do?

AB: Since I'm working more on the producer side of things in planning event logistics and making sure the play happens essentially, I feel like the planning for this event has taken the longest. In my experience, I typically can't finish all the planning in a day because the next day, I'll tend to think of something to make the event better. Essentially, it's like a never ending cycle of planning until the day of the event actually comes to fruition.

FP: Now, I've made a couple of dance pieces over the years, and I've been asked to choreograph to a variety of different dance styles and/or occasions, but this was an entirely different ballpark. I came into this with no theater or stage combat experience, zero martial arts knowledge, and most importantly, not having the faintest clue as to what kali stick fighting was. To say that I was in over my head is an understatement, but I enjoyed the learning process nonetheless. I spent the majority of the first semester and much of winter break researching and watching a whole bunch of demonstration videos, as well as many action film scenes based on FMA [Filipino Martial Arts], to not only learn the basics but also see how other choreographers staged fights to best cater to a live audience.

The actual making of the choreography required a little.... actually, it required a lot of imagination on my part. Since all of the fight scenes revolved around two or more characters, I had to, essentially, be able to visualize both parties and their movements simultaneously since I didn't have a sparring partner, and it became even more complicated when I had to choreograph fight scenes that involved dual-wielding sticks. It was like trying to follow four different moving objects at the same time, while trying to memorize the exact angles and speed of each one. I'm telling y'all, the way that my brain hurt after each creative session.

When rehearsals began back in January, I was a bit apprehensive, to say the least. I didn't know if the choreography I thought of in my head would look good on stage

or if it would complement the actor's physical capabilities. Thankfully, we were blessed with a very talented cast who worked hard to bring my ideas to life. From my messy scribbles in my notebook to fully-fleshed-out on-stage battles, all of that wouldn't have been possible without the hard work, dedication, and patience of the cast members. I'm incredibly excited to show off the final product of the past few months, so make sure to purchase tickets and see it live before they run out!

What can the audience look forward to on April 16th?

AB: The event is held in HPAC, but we had been doing most of our practices at UT chapel. Yesterday was the first time we took the cast to HPAC to get a visualization as to how it would look on the real stage. With lack of better words, our HPAC practice was legit. We have some stick-fighting scenes, and every clack of the stick radiated throughout the stage and intensified the scene even more. I noticed that the actors became more confident as they were able to own a bigger space. This will be an amazing program, and you won't regret going to it.

FP: What can you expect on April 16th? Why everything! Heart-pumping, adrenaline-filled fight scenes? We got it. Gold-star comedy? We got it. Emotional, tear-jerking monologues? We got it. A theater production that touches serious topics about justice and human rights in a fun, engaging way? You bet that we got it.

Humans

HUMANS

Interview with T Bruggemann

(sophomore, computer science and physics)

Interviewed by Terika Williams 03.31.2021

Tell me a bit about yourself. Where are you from? What are your interests?

I'm from Toronto in Ontario, Canada. I am a sophomore, and I like reading and creative writing. I'm a bit of a nerd, so I enjoy things like Star Wars, Marvel, Lord of the Rings, fantasy, and sci-fi.

How did you feel about “WandaVision?”

I liked “WandaVision.” I was quite disappointed with the last episode. But overall, I very, very much enjoyed it.

Have you watched “The Falcon and the Winter Soldier” yet?

I've seen the first episode but I have not seen today's episode yet.

What kind of creative writing are you into?

I do a variety of things. I am mostly into sci-fi fantasy. I've written a bit of fan-fiction, and right now, I'm working on a book and some various other things. I'm also taking a creative writing class here at Andrews. Obviously, that doesn't have anything to do with my physics and computer science degrees. But I just thought it would be fun. Also this year, with a few friends, I've started a creative writing club here on campus these last two semesters.

What do you plan on doing with your major? What do you want to be?

I'm not entirely sure yet, but I want to do something that involves both physics and computer science. They work pretty well together because pretty much everything in physics now involves computers in some way. If you're going to be using computers, people need to program them. It's helpful for doing tedious calculations and storing data and things like that. I think I want to go into either particle or quantum physics, and then I'll see however I can use computer science to help with that.

I see that you're involved in a lot of activities around campus. What inspired you to run for Vice President of AUSA?

I was on the student Senate this year and really enjoyed working to make changes on campus. As vice president, I will be the chair of the Senate. So, I will be managing and organizing the Senate and I want to be able to continue working with them to continue making changes on campus. I also want to form a community within the Senate because, especially this year, there hasn't been a feeling of community among our group as much because of COVID. We've been meeting online so it's hard to connect with each other and to feel like a coherent group. I want to do this same thing for the student body. This year has been really hard for our community; we haven't been able to do as much stuff. Next year, working with the rest of the executive team, we will try to have events and activities and figure out new ways to help students get connected with each other so we can feel like one campus and so that we can increase our school spirit.

So how was the process of writing your speech? How did you come up with an idea of presenting your speech?

I wrote my speech when I did my application. Then I came back to it a few weeks later, a couple days before the speeches and worked on it again. I got some feedback from some friends and family and made some changes. I wanted to have a light, fun and friendly tone to connect with people, while at the same time present myself and what I have to offer.

You said earlier that you had some specific plans for next year, that you'd like to work on. What are they?

Yeah, I have a little list here. I've talked to some other people and had a few ideas myself, like maybe seeing if we can get more vending machines placed around. Another idea I had is getting a water fountain at the rec center. I want to work on some of the systems, the underpinnings of the AUSA Senate, to kind of make sure that everything is in its place and explicitly defined in the AUSA constitution. I've done a little bit of that in the Senate already. And so going into the role of executive vice president I want to just make sure that everything is running smoothly and efficiently. And if things could be made better, to work on those things, so that the Senate and AUSA can serve the school better.

How do you plan on working with the new president and with the new people who are holding AUSA positions next year?

I've worked with Dongchan Kim, who is our next president, this past year. And I think we worked really well together. We've already talked a little bit about things when I was thinking about running. I spoke with him a little bit about the position. Obviously, everything we do is a collaborative effort. I want to, like I said, encourage us to focus on things that build community and strengthen our school's connection with each other, specifically through events and social things. And I mean hopefully restrictions are at least somewhat lifted by next semester. It looks like stuff might not be totally better, but hopefully at least somewhat so that we can do some more in-person events and make up for this year. With regard to a bunch of the stuff we weren't able to do this year, I'm hoping that we can do it next year and go above and beyond to make up for what we didn't get to do this time last year.

HUMANS

Interviewing Andrews University's AAPI Students on Allyship

Interviewed by Abigail Lee 03.31.2021

In order to best support the AAPI community here on campus, we asked some Andrews students the following question, "How do you think people can best support the AAPI community and be good allies during this time?" These are the responses:

Zachary Alignay (freshman, biochemistry)

Love, kindness, and open-mindedness.

Eden Seo (junior, theology)

Ever since I was a kid coming into the US as an immigrant from Korea, I realized that I did not belong. Other kids would make fun of my accent and the food I would bring to school. As I got older I realized that anti-Asian racism is more real and dangerous, especially since the pandemic. Seeing the recent news about my people getting attacked has made me upset and fearful of what could happen to my family and friends. I seek justice. I seek for us to speak out. I seek for change.

Andrew Pak (freshman, music)

I think people could eat food in fellowship and share their cultures with others.

Irina Gagliu (sophomore, psychology)

During a recent class assignment when we were asked to research a social justice activist of our choosing, I realized how limited my knowledge is of Asian leaders in politics, religion, social justice issues, etc. And I further realized that this is certainly not because there aren't any, but that they often aren't offered the same platforms as other figures due to the limitations of the racial/ethnic background. Thus, I would heavily encourage people to seek out the authentic voices of individuals struggling to make changes and call attention to Asian discrimination at this time. We should use our own voices to uplift those who deserve to be heard, and most importantly, respected.

Christopher Inae (sophomore, mechanical engineering)

I think spreading awareness is very important, in order to advocate for a common interest.

Luis Saw (senior, psychology)

I think coming together as a community and talking about what is happening around us is a good start. Like the meeting that AAPI students had with the community here at Andrews that brought awareness toward the current racism and violence faced by Asian and Black individuals. I think one of the best things we can do all together is to find our support system during this time. I know that we all come from different places, and sadly some of us will face some kind of adverse experience. But having trusted people or community to talk to if you ever face discrimination will help us a lot. Also, people have access to information on where to get help if needed. If someone might be afraid to disclose information because they are scared, having information on where to get support or help can go a long way. Lastly, I think that if someone is trying to tell you about a situation where they face racism, violence, or other discrimination, believing their words will let them know you believe them. I myself have been in a situation where I was discriminated against and I tried talking to a friend about it, but they took it lightly and tried to reframe the situation as me overthinking. So acknowledging our words can bring us toward more awareness, and not letting violence and discrimination be pushed into the background of society could even save people.

Sandrine Adap (freshman, computer science)

Be understanding. It's not a matter of who's more oppressed, but the fact that some ethnic groups are oppressed in general.

Joshua Pak (junior, biochemistry)

Signing petitions and donating to peoples' GoFundMe's.

If you would like to donate to the victims and their families from the Atlanta spa shooting, you can find the certified fundraisers on GoFundMe here. For other funds to donate to from Asian American individuals to community organizations, you can check here.

HUMANS

Senior Spotlight: Hailey Kim

(senior, biology)

Interviewed by Celeste Richardson [03.31.2021](#)



Photo by Haley Kim

What have been some of your favorite parts of college and what events or memories will stick with you after you graduate?

I know this might sound a little nerdy in a way, but my favorite memory is studying until late at night with my classmates from organic chemistry. I think that's kind of my favorite memory, not because I enjoyed stressing over the material, but because I got to spend so much time together with my friends and that's something that kind of pushed me to go further and grow as a person. Those moments taught me that even though it may seem very difficult and boring, when you do things together it's not bad after all. It made it better to know that we were suffering together. I'll always remember the time we spent together during freshman and sophomore year and the community at Andrews.

How have you adjusted to the increasing workload as a Biology major over these four years?

I don't think that my workload necessarily increased. It actually decreased for me. I took foundations of biology with Dr. Zdor, general chemistry with Dr. Hayes and Western Heritage at the same time during freshman year so maybe I was already kind of prepared mentally for all the work that I had to go through for the next three years. I guess what I did that helped me find balance was trying new things outside of schoolwork. Every year I would try to do something new. I was part of Senate one year and I also was an officer for the pre-med club as well. I think those things helped me learn time management skills and to have time for other things so that I wasn't necessarily studying all the time. In a way, finding this balance helped me study efficiently too and do better in my classes as the years went on. My first year of college I just remember sitting down and studying the whole time - even Saturday nights and until sunset on Fridays. I was that one person who was always just studying and not going to any social activities, but I did better in the second semester and the year after, when I finally started finding more ways to study efficiently by actually attending social events and taking responsibility for leadership activities and work.

How have you juggled being a Pre-med Club president with your academic and personal life?

Oh, that's a hard question. It may seem like I'm on top of everything all the time, but in real life I struggle a lot because it's very difficult sometimes to keep the balance, especially with COVID and with no breaks. It has been very difficult, but then again, I feel like I was already trained because my freshmen and sophomore years were so busy. Trying new things each year, and pushing myself by doing more activities in the past helped me adjust and re-adjust quickly when things got out of balance, which is bound to happen sometimes. I still do struggle with the business of the two because it's not something that you get completely used to but I feel like because I've experienced this pace before I go into tasks mentally prepared. I've also learned a lot about myself and when I'm exhausted and when I need to take a break which helps a lot too.

What's next after graduation?

So I guess that's something I don't have a straight or concrete answer to at the moment because I haven't necessarily decided to continue studying right after school or take a gap year. I've been constantly pushing myself since middle school

and I feel like I haven't really had a chance to take a break because of all the standardized tests like the ACT, MCAT and school tests to prepare for what's coming next. I know medical school will be at least 10 times harder than what I'm doing right now so I want to take a break—so that I can kind of rebound and be mentally prepared for what's to come. I'm so exhausted right now and maybe it's because we're at the end of the semester. But also at the same time, I want to continue right away because I don't really have a concrete plan for what to do during a gap year and I don't really want to waste my time in my 20s. There are so many things I can do during these years that could change my life now and in the future. So it's something that I haven't decided. Hopefully I can figure it out soon after graduation or before, but I am excited to move on and see what the next chapter brings.

What got you interested in medicine?

So there are many reasons, but one reason is that my mom was a nurse and I grew up seeing her work in the hospital, and I enjoyed visiting her. Every once in a while she would bring the equipment that she didn't need anymore because it was broken or malfunctioning and I would play with them and I thought it was pretty cool to be able to work with it. As I grew up, I would often follow my parents around when they went to retirement centers or nursing homes because my dad is a pastor. I would visit there for at least like two or three years during high school and this inspired me to want to work in the medical field. That type of medicine isn't necessarily the typical mainstream route but it inspired me to work with people who are minorities in the medical field so that they can get the attention and care they need. The nursing homes and hospice centers we went to were very small and not well equipped and I was sad because they reminded me of my grandparents. Our grandparents and parents will all end up at that stage eventually so I want to work with them. Also, I know this sounds so generic but I really like science like I really liked biology so all these different factors kind of came together to influence my decision to study medicine. It wasn't necessarily like "Oh, I want to go to medical school to become a doctor," but I wanted to study medicine and help minorities and this is where I've ended up, so we'll see what the future holds.

What is your advice for an incoming freshmen or a freshmen starting out as a biology major?

I remember struggling a lot during my first semester of freshman year and I just wanted to give up every day. I went to Dr. Navia, who was my biology professor at

the time, crying about my grades and my mental status, like I just couldn't do it anymore. He encouraged me to give it one more shot and to come back after finishing the year. And I did finish it somehow and it did get better. The transition from high school to college is very hard, especially if you feel like you are not getting enough help.

I want to encourage freshmen students to reach out to any of their teachers or present officers, including me, for help or encouragement because they deserve to get help as I did. So reaching out for help, whenever you need it is my first recommendation. Don't hesitate because the later you get help, the harder it gets. I would also suggest learning to manage your time and finding balance between your social and school life. I think this is very very important because I know there's so many fun things to do at college but I also know there's so much to study too and you can't just focus on one thing and give up on the other. I think practicing that earlier on is better than doing it later for both your grades and your mental stability.

My last piece of advice is to have daily devotions. Even I can confess that I don't do it every day, because there's so much to do and sometimes I get behind in my readings and prayers but I've noticed there is a significant difference between when I do devotions and when I don't. My week just feels different when I do. You'll feel like you have so much strength and positivity in your life. Doing daily devotions has helped me feel connected to God so it's something that I definitely want to recommend to everyone even if they aren't too long. It doesn't have to be reading a whole chapter, maybe just a few verses that pop up on your phone in the morning and just a quick three-minute prayer can make a huge difference. Emphasis on little things makes big differences. When it seems like it's so hard and difficult and you can't really see what's in front of you, just remember that the little things make big differences and whatever you're focusing on right now, will make a big difference in the future.

Arts & Entertainment

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Creative Spotlight: Marcel Mattox

Interviewed by Joshua Deonarine [03.31.2021](#)

Tell me a little bit about yourself.

My name is Marcel, and I'm from Hyattsville, Maryland. I'm the second oldest of my triplet brothers, Cole and William. We also have a younger brother named Carrington, the youngest, but the tallest of the family. I consider myself to be very optimistic, which is portrayed in my art as I love bright and vibrant colors. I love hiking and traveling though I've never traveled. However, next year, I hope to join ACA (Adventist Colleges Abroad) and to go to France. There, I hope to learn the language and culture my mother grew up in.

What inspires you to create?

I would definitely say that my experiences, my friends, and my family have inspired me to create. I love animation, or simply anything animated. Growing up, I loved to watch superhero cartoons and read comic books, and I still do today. I loved cartoons and comics so much that I began drawing them. My friends and family supplied me with the resources and encouragement I needed to cultivate my drawing skills and pursue my dreams of becoming an artist.

Some artists that have inspired me and my art style are Pascal Champion, Dion MBD (Dionisius Mehaga Bangun Djayasaputra), and SamDoesArt (Sam Yang). I love Pascal Champion's art for his simple style and strong narrative storytelling seen throughout his comics. I love Dion for the elaborate storytelling he shows within his art and the way he portrays what seems to be an entire book of ideas in a single piece. I love SamDoesArt for his unique art style and the emotions he shows through his portrait drawings.

How would you define your art style?

I would say my art style is something I'm still finding. Over the years, my art has changed. I would definitely say that my art is different from what it was four years ago. A lot of my style has been inspired by anime and cartoons. I tend to use bright colors and simple shapes, to convey a message I want to portray. Lately, I've been playing around with animations and graphic novel-style pieces.

What is one of your favorite pieces you've created, and why?

One of my favorite pieces is "Small Spark." It's a dark canvas lit up by a bright flame emerging from a pencil. "Small Spark" is supposed to represent the small spark other artists and people have left with me throughout the years. This spark is what keeps me going and continues to allow me to create new pieces to inspire myself and hopefully others with my art in the future.

What do you aspire your future as an artist to be?

I hope to create art that inspires people. I know art isn't the most financially stable career path, which led me to choose Graphic Design as my major. With a Graphic Design degree, there are endless opportunities in both the corporate and artistic worlds. I would like to work as a freelance graphic designer for the artistic freedom, but I'm open to working at an established company for job stability and the numerous opportunities available to me through a corporate network. However, no matter what my career is, I still plan to create my art.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

AAPI Documentaries You Need to Watch

Megan Napod [03.31.2021](#)

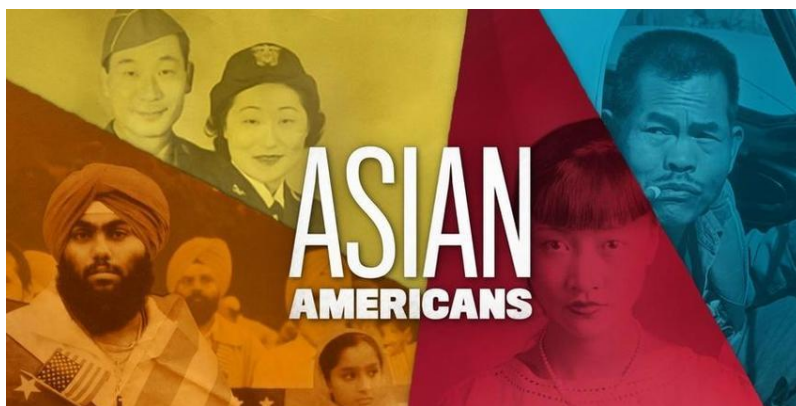


Photo by Public Domain

There is a lot of quality media out there accurately portraying the Asian-American and Pacific Islander experience to a great extent. Here are a few that I highly recommend you go and watch right now as it is important as ever that you are cultured and informed about the distinct, individual, and important experiences of these groups. By the way, all of these are free to watch - free! You have no excuse.

Asian Americans (2020)

Directed by Geeta Gandbhir, Grace Lee, and S. Leo Chiang.

This documentary, released during Asian Pacific American Heritage Month last year, is a five-part PBS documentary that is free to stream on the PBS website. The website also has amazing resources and has shorter clips from the documentary that highlight specific stories and points of history that you probably did not learn from your high school history class. Replace those Netflix episodes this week with this ambitious documentary displaying the role Asian Americans have played in shaping U.S. history. They have done more than you think.

We Need to Talk About Anti-Asian Hate (2021)

Released just last week, YouTube's Try Guys star, Eugene Lee Yang, discussed the recent surge and spotlighting of Anti-Asian hate. Through collaboration with activists and the exploration of American history pertaining to Asian America, the documentary delves deeper into significant topics such as the model minority myth, the generational divide, Black and Asian communities, and many more. The video has necessary tips embedded into the video on how to help the cause and spread awareness. The documentary also has an on-going fundraiser you can see while you watch. I encourage you to donate what you can to the cause and to the families that have suffered tragic loss because of plain ignorance and hate. This is a one-hour conversation about the complex, often untold story of the Asian American community. I hope you will hear it out.

#AsianAmCovidStories (2021)

There is no doubt that more hate for Asian-Americans spread throughout the U.S when COVID-19 appeared. This documentary series on Youtube done by the Asian American Documentary Network records perspectives of Asian Americans during the pandemic that are so invisible in today's media. This playlist on Youtube is 16 short videos that total up to 30 minutes—now you definitely have time for that. Go immerse yourself today in the community that is the Asian diaspora and how they have coped with the pandemic.

Please set aside time this week to click on the links and learn the stories of the Asian American and Pacific Islander communities. It is such a gift to have writers and documentarians in the world who want to record the heavily underexpressed

history and experience of my community—of their struggles, their victories, and their extraordinary contribution to America.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Asian Women, Courtesy of Hollywood

Hannah Cruse 03.31.2021



Photo by Public Domain

In light of the horrible shooting of six Asian women in Atlanta and the recent spike in Asian hate crimes, I would like to revisit the moments in Hollywood entertainment history that helped create and perpetuate the harmful stereotypes that lead people to take violent action solely based on gender and [race](#). These tropes have led greater society to believe erroneous things about what Asian

women are like.

To understand where we are, we must first start at the beginning with the first Chinese-American starlet, Anna May Wong. Wong faced hardship in finding roles that were for Asian characters, since those roles usually went to white people in yellow face, as in *The Good Earth* and *The Crimson City*. Many of the roles that she accepted at first were the hypersexualized Asian (almost always a minor character) like her role in *The Thief of Bagdad*, where she played a Mongol slave. This was the role that [skyrocketed](#) her career, helping her to get longer screen time. The movies made in this era of Hollywood reinforced the already pervasive sentiment about Asian women - especially Chinese women - coming to America to be sex workers, which led to [legislation](#) in the previous century. But this is just the beginning. Following the tragic history of Anna May Wong, we turn to the *Madame Butterfly* inspired *Miss Saigon*, a Broadway musical premiering in 1989. This play follows the story of Kim, a Vietnamese woman who turns to sex work to earn money and an American soldier who falls in love with her. All of the Asian female main characters were sex workers and the play promoted the white savior complex through the American soldier, Chris. On top of that, Kim was a shy and submissive seventeen-year-old when she met Chris. *Miss Saigon* promotes so many stereotypes that Vietnamese people who watch this musical cannot connect themselves to the [characters](#) onstage.

Entering the 21st century, the hit film *Mean Girls* also played off of Asian stereotypes, the nerdy Asians and the "Cool Asians." As usual, the nerdy Asians only got their spotlight at the mathlete competition and the "Cool Asians" were sexually active, with the coach nonetheless, an older white man. They also only spoke in Vietnamese for the duration of the movie. These people were once again relegated to the only spaces Asian characters can take within the film industry. All of this and more has culminated in the current racism Asian women are faced with today. Whether it's the subtle fetishization or the murder of six, every act has an impact on the person and their community. As an Asian-American, seeing myself represented on screen in such limited roles made me feel insignificant. When I saw and read about characters like Lara Jean Song Covey from *To All the Boys I've Loved Before* and Daisy Johnson and Melinda May in *Marvel's Agents of Shield*, I started to realize I could leave the model minority myth behind and create space for myself. Accurate portrayals are so important because they give examples to people who are not of that culture a better understanding of the other and people who are of that culture strength within themselves to believe that everything is within their reach.

So if you haven't heard (and if you already have and need a reminder), my existence is not a temptation. I am not your fetish. I am not your sexual addiction. I am a loud and proud Korean-American woman, and more than that, I am a human, just like you.

Ideas

IDEAS

Flying Sparks: The Implications of the Rise in AAPI Hate

Alannah Tjhatra 03.31.2021



Photo by Public Domain

It's been about two weeks since the [series of mass shootings](#) that took place in the metropolitan area of Atlanta, GA, where eight people were killed—six of them being Asian women.

By now, you must've heard the news countless times. The 21-year-old attacker took a gun to Young's Asian Massage, Gold Massage Spa, and Aromatherapy Spa -

and started shooting. The assailant was caught later that day and, after confessing to the killings while in custody, was charged with eight counts of murder on March 17, 2021.

All three locations that had been hit—Young’s Asian Massage, Gold Massage Spa, and Aromatherapy Spa—were lined with flowers the very next day, and people took to the streets in support of Asian Americans after these tragic murders.

It is no secret that anti-Asian and anti-Asian-American bias has been on the rise since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic. In addition to the Atlanta shootings, there have been numerous reports of Asian-American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) hate crimes throughout America. Take the [assault of Xiao Zhen Xie](#) on March 18 in San Francisco, or the [weekend attacks](#) on a 68-year-old Sri Lankan man and a 66-year-old man of Asian descent in New York City just a few days after the shootings (nytimes.com, 2021).

Some have attributed this discrimination to the “inflammatory rhetoric by former president Donald Trump, who referred to it [Covid-19] as the ‘Chinese Virus’ [and ‘Kung Flu’]” ([CNN.com, 2021](#)). His words, however, have simply heightened the Asian discrimination and bias that has always been present. The problem is that AAPI discrimination is only now coming into mainstream media, largely due to issues surrounding misconceptions about COVID-19.

[Stop AAPI Hate](#), a nonprofit social organization founded in 2020 that tracks incidents of discrimination, hate, and xenophobia against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the United States, reported 3,795 incidents received by the Stop AAPI Hate reporting center from March 19, 2020 to February 28, 2021. They found that about 68% of discrimination was verbal harassment, 21% was the deliberate avoidance of Asian Americans, and physical assault made up 11% of the total incidents.

With this large rise in discrimination compared to previous years, more and more Asian-Americans are finally speaking out to address these injustices—and sparks are flying. Once labeled as the “model minority” (some say that is a positive label, but I believe it has been detrimental to the way Asian-Americans have been treated throughout the decades), this population has begun to hold numerous rallies in response to the increased anti-Asian sentiment throughout this pandemic.

So, what issues and discussions does this rise in hate crimes bring about? What are the implications for the world and, specifically, this American society? For one, many people are now talking about the hypersexualization of women that

stems back from the early 20th century—especially since movies and media have portrayed women (especially women of color) as exotic, sexualized objects. There has been a long-running idea of the Asian woman either being a “dragon lady” or a “lotus blossom,” with the “lotus blossom” being submissive, compliant, and sexualized; and the “dragon lady” being evil, conniving, and sexualized. As said in an interview for the New Yorker, “It’s the parallel to another lasting image of the Asian-America as a model minority or [a] perpetual foreigner” ([The New Yorker, 2021](#)).

In the present time, women have reported twice as many anti-Asian hate incidents as men. Russell Jeung, a professor of Asian American studies at San Francisco State University, explained that “the coalescence of racism and sexism, including the stereotype that Asian women are meek and subservient, likely factors into this disparity...there is an intersectional dynamic going on that others may perceive both Asians and women and Asian women as easier targets” ([NBC.com, 2021](#)).

Other discussions and debates that arise from this incident include gun control in the United States (especially considering the supermarket shooting in Colorado on March 22nd - which makes two mass shootings in less than a week), where the rate of gun homicide is [25 times higher](#) than in other, comparable high-income countries; and how the [Biden administration](#) will address and combat these recent hate crimes.

As I thought about these tragic incidents of hate that have happened in the last few weeks, I found myself wondering an obvious question: *Why is this happening?*

How has our world progressed to this point? Why does it feel like our society has become so power-hungry, so quick to judge, so awfully cold? It seems our world is filled with a lot of darkness. But there is a spark emerging, and I believe it is growing larger and more brilliant every day.

And we have to keep that spark growing. We may not know the families of these hate crime victims, and we may not have thousands (or even hundreds) of dollars to donate to these families or any non-profit organizations. But I think there are still things we can do. There are still things we as Andrews University students can do.

Abigail Lee (freshman, sociology), who has spoken out about AAPI hate before, says this: “I think that Andrews students need to be able and willing to be open and aware. Whether that means self-reflection, or telling your friend you don’t approve of what they said, people here need to act in order to change anything.”

We can continue learning and educating ourselves. We can report incidents of

hate crime if and when we see them. We can help bring awareness to the struggles of minorities and marginalized people through the conversations we have and the things that we share. We can listen to each other's stories.

IDEAS

The Three P's of Perspective

Kyara Samuels 03.30.2021



Photo by Public Domain

One thing that I have learned over time is that perspective changes everything. People tend to assume that perspective is significant, specifically to arguments or disagreements. Yet, it is crucial to so much more, and perspective stems from more than just one's initial thoughts. Perspective stems from background, from history, from upbringing. It is something more than the black and white of the situation, more than what is visible. It is the grey.

Thus, in learning a bit more about perspective and the impact it has on even the simplest of interactions, I have changed the way that I behave—really, the way I reflect. At the forefront, I have changed the way that I engage in conversation. I think the best way to approach this would be to look at it as the Three P's of Perspective. These three Ps have forever changed my conversations and that I hope will change yours.

Past

A couple of years ago, Pastor Michael Polite preached a sermon on campus. As he came to the close of his message, he stated something that has stood out to me to this day, and that no doubt will remain with me for years to come: “Instead of asking, ‘What’s wrong with you?’ ask, ‘What happened to you?’” Since that Sabbath, I have had to stop myself a number of times to approach a situation asking what happened to someone rather than what was wrong with them. In so many instances we insist on casting away a person and their situation based on their behaviors, accusing them of having something wrong with them, a skewed mindset, a problem. We tend to focus on their poor behavior, calling them irrational, avoiding asking what it is that caused that behavior. To ask that is not to excuse their behavior, but to understand it and grow from it moving forward. Asking myself this question in my conversations has altered my perspective in so many ways, allowing me to reach the root of the issue as well as better understanding of the person rather than maintaining a surface level assessment of the issue.

Purpose

“What is my intention for this conversation? Is it to fight? To resolve? To learn?” I ask myself this question during my conversations quite often, particularly when the discussion is going in circles. The difficult thing with conversation is that you can’t always control it. Your intentions do not always match your impact. Even moreso, your initial intentions can very easily get sidetracked by a statement made, an aspect of body language, a comment misunderstood. Asking yourself what your purpose for a conversation is tends to be most effective before it begins, yet it can be beneficial at any point. Being intentional to stop and assess what your goal is will completely change how the conversation is carried. You will, even subconsciously, change your perspective and ask yourself if your behavior is in line with your intended outcome. Are you listening to respond, or to understand? Are you aiming to share, to receive, or both? What do you want out of this conversation? What is your purpose? Knowing this plays the role of guiding your conversation. When you find yourself off track or focused on a minor detail, you come back to your compass, your purpose, and redirect.

Pause

It is important to pause. Pause, because there is power in your words. From a young age, I learned that you cannot take back the impact of what you say. Yet, it took time to implement that into my conversations. Even when it takes some time,

I stop in my conversations to properly phrase what I want to say. I avoid speaking out of anger. I ask myself if what I want to say will hurt someone. I ask myself if it lines up with my purpose. When I find myself speaking about something that I don't know enough about, I pause and say, "I have a lot more to learn about this." When I find myself arguing in circles, I pause and say, "We may have differing opinions on this issue." But most importantly, I speak slowly, and I speak with intention. Each word that I say, I think about—because I control my words, and I control my feelings. They do not control me.

These three Ps have forever changed the way I have conversations. They have caused me to be intentional about shifting my perspective and beginning with the end in mind. They have forced me to think outside of myself. They have made me better – I hope that they can do the same for you.

The Last Word

THE LAST WORD

Respecting Apoliticalism

Daniel Self [03.31.2021](#)

"Oh no, I'm not brave enough for politics" - Obi-Wan Kenobi, Revenge of the Sith

At what point in our information age did national politics become something that dominated our time and energy? More importantly, does an obsession with the political realm drain our energies in such a way as to weaken human flourishing? As political science major, the rich irony appears as clearly to me as to you in advocating for a greater appreciation for apoliticalism. There's so much outside pressure to feel a certain way about politics—the way you vote in America means so much. Voting signifies your personal stance on a handful of issues that will come to the forefront of the public interest during an election cycle—or more truthfully, the issues that politicians deem important. Yet, our voting patterns cannot begin to grapple with the "why?" When we make judgements about people's voting without attempting to understand their motivations, we treat them as means—as an

additive number towards achieving our desired political outcome. A person's stance on single-payer healthcare or abortion may draw from poignant lived experience but when the political culture is such that hearing "Oh, they're a liberal," or "He's just a Republican," immediately predisposes us against their beliefs, it stunts the potential for interaction.

I don't see many differences between people immersing themselves in federal political news and becoming informed on professional sports. For as many Instagram stories that you repost or petitions you sign on Change.org, your impact on federal politics is akin to that of wearing a LeBron jersey to a Lakers game and claiming, "I inspired the win tonight." It's true, we vote change into our federal government during presidential and midterm elections, but otherwise, I argue that any effort exerted does not seem to create a tangible change. Political scientists have long known that citizens can create the greatest political change that will actually impact their lives by becoming involved in local politics. Politics is, and always was, a domain that required actualized mobilization to create difference. Many millennials interact with the political realm, and claim, "I am a political person," in the same way the chained prisoners in Plato's famed cave would identify illusionary horses and houses along the cave's wall.

However, I won't even advocate that people necessarily need to become active in local politics. If an issue arises that you disagree with, attend the necessary meetings and raise your concerns as an active member of that community. Your input as a citizen appears infinitely more valued on a county or city level than on a national level. However, my true purpose is not in advocating for being an active citizen. Politics, like all other vocations, is far too complex a realm to observe superficially. In my opinion, the information age was one of the most dangerous shifts for political discourse. Citizens continually consume highly condensed and superficial political information from news media. Allegedly, to be a good citizen, one must stay informed—yet, does my understanding of the American political leviathan come remotely close to that of actual politicians, of those people appointed to bureaucratic positions due to their years of higher education and preceding work experience in specialized fields? As clinical psychologist and well-known Canadian intellectual Jordan Peterson writes in *12 Rules for Life*, "Ideologies are substitutes for true knowledge, and ideologues are always dangerous when they come to power, because a simple-minded I-know-it-all approach is no match for the complexity of [existence](#)." It's only with a profound arrogance can people disdainfully look at each other and think, "Your politics are morally wrong and you deserve judgement for holding them." Or more

importantly, that if someone either knowingly or unknowingly, decides to remove themselves from the political sphere in order to focus their energy elsewhere: let them.

Star Wars' Obi-Wan Kenobi (played by Ewan McGregor in Episodes 1-3, and earlier by Alec Guinness in 4-6), a Jedi Master, loyal friend, and force for good, seems to exemplify the possibilities for an apolitical life. The Star Wars franchise, consisting of three trilogies, functions under compelling political conditions. The prequel trilogy observes the Galactic Republic (coined "the Republic" by fans) fall into authoritarian conditions at the hands of Sith Lord Darth Sidious. The descent from democracy to the formation of the Galactic Empire, ("the Empire") headlines the prequel films. The original trilogy, films four through six, observe the galactic civil war that follows between the Rebel Alliance and the Empire. Throughout Master Kenobi's arc, he rarely involves himself with the Galactic Senate, leaving that to his ally and friend Senator Padme Amidala (played by Natalie Portman). The quote introducing this essay represents the sentiments of Kenobi, that his best self would be inhibited by interacting with the political realm. More importantly, that there's so much more to life than politics.

I'm not advocating that all people become apolitical, for some people hold the predisposition to finding genuine meaning in activism and politics. Certainly, the political landscape inherits the sort of colossal challenge that one could dedicate the entirety of their life to and find unbelievably meaningful. It's the same sentiment that underlies Dr. Peterson's assessment that "It's in responsibility that most people find the meaning that sustains them through life. It's not in happiness. It's not in impulsive [pleasure](#)." For those people who truly find meaning in politics, pursue it fully. Yet, it should not be a life requirement. If you choose to never learn the name of a single US Supreme Court justice and would rather invest yourself in training for a triathlon, do so--do what lights your proverbial fire.