



Άaron Nguyen
1st Dan black belt journey
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I don't even know where to begin. My journey started when I was 7 years old and I joined my first martial arts school but I moved to different schools 3 or 4 times before coming to ASKA. From the first class, I knew this is where I wanted to stay and learn more martial arts. I felt more motivated and the people were so lively and helpful no matter what. I can't lie, I was very intimidated by Master Hien but have come to look up to him and admire him. Climbing the ranks was a very fun but hard journey to make especially because I could not remember the katas at all. Making it all the way to black belt has made me think back on how through this journey I've been able to gain more confidence in what I do. We were constantly being told that the color of our belt does not define our skill but by our emotional and physical capabilities and I strongly agree with that. I am grateful for all the skills and friendships I've developed along the way to a becoming a black belt and I couldn't have done it without the support of my friends and family. I want to thank Master Hien for continuously pushing us to be better people and students, all the black belts for coming down and taking the time to teach us, and especially to the class for being there for all the laughs, blood, bruises, and sweat and coming on this journey with me.

Thank you,
Aaron Nguyen