



James Ho
1st Degree black belt
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When I had first joined, it was because my parents had made me. They thought it would be a great form of exercise and a great way of learning karate. To be quite frank, I was not excited about spending my Saturday learning how to kick and punch. However, as time went by, as I moved up ranks, as I grew up, I finally realize the importance of karate and martial arts. Karate, or the way Master Hien teaches it, is about the importance of respect and dedication to the sport. Master Hien had taught me that karate is more than just punches and kicks, it's about defending yourself, not beating the other kid up. Master Hien teaches not just karate, but about respect and self defence. He teaches us how to always respect people and never miss use the technique he had taught you. He teaches us to always to never give up and always push through. He teaches us to always be strong and be confident. Master Hien and all of the instructor at ASKA had been very encouraging and very helpful for this part of the journey. They had helped me with my technique and katas; however, I still could not remember most of them. They have always been part of the journey to getting me where I am today. In high school, I had slowly stop going because I always had a lacrosse game; however, Master Hien had still encergerage me to go. He had not given up on me receiving my black belt. Every so often i did go to class, Master Hien had made sure that I was ready for the test. In the end, after I had received my belt, I didn't really care for it. I was happy to make Master Hien, all of my instructors, and my parents happy and proud. After everything, I am very grateful for Master Hien for all the life lessons, I am grateful for all of my instructores for all of the techniques they have taught me, and I am grateful for my parents for all of the encouragement they have given me.

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