

Kevin Park

Campaign for an AAS Major at Hunter College/CUNY

The Campaign for an Asian American Studies Major at Hunter College coincides with the 10th anniversary of the Coalition for the Revitalization for Asian American Studies at Hunter (CRAASH). In NYC, a city with the largest U.S. urban Asian population, AAS serves as a field of critical scholarship that relays the history and experiences of Asian Americans in the U.S., which is not taught or readily available in most academic institutions. We are already privileged to have a thriving AAS Program at Hunter, and this campaign seeks to expand and stabilize the current program to increase visibility for the CUNY Asian American community and to ensure that CUNY students will have access to an indispensable interdisciplinary education that fills a critical gap in academia.

Asian American history, which is essentially just another aspect of American history, provides everyone with a better understanding of how intertwined the contributions and experiences of the APA community are in the context of U.S history and its lasting impacts on the U.S. today.

Our main demands include:

- implement an Asian American Studies Major/Department
- create hiring lines for five full-time Asian American faculty

The various methods we used to spread the word about the include:

- A webinar with scholar Vijay Prashad, APA student groups from Northwestern, Cornell University and 18 Million Rising to discuss the national student movement for Asian American Studies
- A panel about CRAASH's campaign at the annual Association of Asian American Studies Conference.
- An Instagram Campaign highlighting the voices of CUNY students who want an AAS Major

The campaign began in Fall 2015 and will stay in motion until CRAASH's demands are met. We will know we have had a successful campaign if we see the establishment of an AAS Major at CUNY, the approval of full-time AAS faculty lines and a more unified and visible Asian American student community at Hunter and throughout CUNY.

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Supporting Materials

Title	Links	Description
CRAASH's Facebook Page	facebook.com/huntercraash/	Current CRAASH Facebook page with all upcoming events and photos of past events
Where Are We Now in the #Fight4AAS?	bit.ly/Fight4AAS_YT	YouTube video of the #Fight4AAS webinar that I participated in with Vijay Prashad, 18MR & other APA student groups
"University Students, Alumni Fight for Growth in Asian American Studies"	bit.ly/Fight4AAS	NBC Asian America's article on the #Fight4AAS webinar that I organized and participated in with Vijay Prashad, 18MR & other APA student groups
Asian American Roots: The Current and Historical Role of Youth and Undergraduate Organizing in Asian American Studies	bit.ly/AAAS2016	Undergraduate panel on Asian American Studies and CRAASH that I organized and chaired at the 2016 Association of Asian American Studies Conference
"MOCACITIZEN: Let's Talk About Ferguson and Asian America"	bit.ly/MOCACitizen	A panel at MOCA on Black-Asian solidarity that I participated in with other Asian American activists and organizers
"Men in the Movement: Kevin Park"	bit.ly/MenInTheMovement	Post by former supervisor about the feminist work I've done with the organization, Girls for Gender Equity on the International Planned Parenthood site
"Cop Watch Trains Community to Document NYPD"	bit.ly/CWTraining	<i>Gotham Gazette</i> article on a Cop Watch Training that I cofacilitated at CAAAV: Organizing Asian Communities for a series of trainings in NYC in 2014.