



The Asia in Maryland (AIM) Cultural History Project
Spring 2016

Student Research

Student Researcher: Theresa Schempp

Subject: The Life and Legacy of Grandmaster Kim and Tang Soo Do



Theresa investigated the life and legacy of Grandmaster Ki Whang Kim, a martial artist of the Karate form Tang Soo Do who moved from South Korea and opened up a studio in Rockville, Maryland. Her research also explored Grandmaster Kim's influence on the popularity of martial arts within Maryland, the practice of Karate, its history, and its presence within the United States. She focused especially on how Kim's students carried on his legacy while adapting the tradition to create individual studio brands. Theresa conducted field research at several studios and conducted interviews and oral histories with several Maryland Karate instructors, including one who is a student at Towson.

Applications:

The AA&CC plans to create an exhibition, workshops and Family Art Day activities focused on martial arts in spring 2019. We hope that Theresa and the instructors who contributed to her project will they will participate in the project as curators and program leaders.