Bruce Lee Way

Councilmember Rebecca Kaplan

Bruce Lee Way

"ALWAYS BE YOURSELF. EXPRESS YOURSELF. HAVE FAITH IN YOURSELF."

In life and death, Bruce Lee (b. November 27, 1940 - d. July 20, 1973) has contributed to the common good and betterment of the City of Oakland and stands as one of the most influential figures of the 20th century.

4157 Broadway, Oakland, CA.

It is on-site at 4157 Broadway in Oakland, where Lee and his training partner, James Yimm Lee, founded their studio. It was originally named the "Jun Fan Gung Fu Institute." The studio and Lee exemplified many traits held dear to Oaklanders, such as tolerance, health, discipline, and community.



Notable Students

Lee's studio welcomed students of all races and creeds.

At this site, Lee created his hybrid style of martial arts, Jeet Kune Do.

Lee's skills and prominence in the martial arts world garnered a massive following of students, including legends in acting and sports, such as Steve McQueen, James Coburn, and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar.



Global Stardom

Here in Oakland, on the site we wish to honor, Lee met his longtime business partner, Ed Parker, a prominent promoter and organizer of American martial arts.

Through the partnership with Parker, Lee would star in films such as *Enter the Dragon* and *Game of Death*, showcasing his talent to a global audience. Lee would also star in the television series *The Green Hornet*.



Uplifting the AAPI Community

Lee is not only an influential figure in film and martial arts but also in the Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) community.

Oakland is proud to continue to nourish and uplift its AAPI community by taking action to increase artistic outlets and business opportunities. Undertaking actions like this underlines the City's desire to attract and foster creative individuals and businesses.





Oakland's History in the Arts

Adopting proposed resolutions, such as this, reinforces the City's commitment to nurturing a healthy and productive environment for artists.

By honoring the City's rich history, the work and stories of Oaklanders past and present can inspire the next generation of local artists.

Spurring Oakland's Film Industry

The City has the potential to maximize and cultivate a bustling film industry. By investing in our past, we ensure our past successes can catapult the City's film industry into a trajectory that creates jobs, such as filming and film production, including soundstage work, graphic design, wardrobe, set design, and film training.

Potential for Martial Arts growth in Oakland

Oakland has been home to martial artists such as Andre Ward and John Henry Lewis. As the popularity of various martial arts grows, Oakland can build upon its marital arts history and attract an assortment of martial arts training and events while simultaneously promoting sports and healthy lifestyles.



Lee's Legacy

Despite his untimely passing in 1973, Lee's legacy continues to thrive through his hybrid creation of Jeet Kune Do, his influential writings on martial arts, and pieces of prose on life. Lee's global influence began at the Jun Fan Gung Institute in Oakland, and this proposal intends to honor the site and life of Bruce Lee, an Oaklander whose influence lives on well after death.

