CW: Racism and racial violence

To the ASES Community,

Over the past few days, we have seen injustice, pain, and heartbreak inflicted across the country as a result of systematic racism and inequality toward Black communities. We must recognize the suffering of those within the Black community — it goes without saying that Black Lives Matter. Your voices are heard and wholeheartedly supported.

We are by no means an expert on this topic, but we would like to as a community recognize the injustices that have been inflicted upon the Black community both currently and historically and create a space in ASES for anyone affected by these circumstances or who want to have a safe space to share, discuss and learn from each other. Whether it is through donating, signing petitions, educating yourself, speaking up, supporting Black organizations, attending protests, or just checking in with those around you, we encourage you to take meaningful action. In whichever way you choose to do so, we want to encourage actions that not only raise awareness but also drive solutions to the issues that our country faces.

We have compiled a list of resources both from on campus and off campus sources including organizations that you can donate to or places you can learn more about the work of Black activists, antiracism, and allyship. Our list is by no means complete, so we encourage you to seek further information.

On a last note, we want to acknowledge that our leadership team as well as a significant portion of our general membership are predominantly of Asian descent, a group that has historically benefited from the systems built to oppress Black communities. We recognize that this is a small first step, and we are constantly striving to become better allies, educate ourselves, and build more inclusive communities. Lastly, we would like to affirm that the wellbeing and voices of our membership are our largest priority and we are committed to learning and growing together. That said, whether regarding this topic or any other, please know that we are here for you, and if you ever need any support, especially in as challenging of times as these, we are more than happy to help.

Sincerely,
ASES Leadership 2020-21

RESOURCES
Note: Many of the resources below are drawn from this document: bit.ly/combat-antiblackness

Organizations to donate to if you are able:

- [Official George Floyd](#) Memorial Fund.
- [I Run with Maud](#) Memorial Fund
- [In Memory of Tony McDade](#)
- [Reclaim the Block](#).
- [Black Visions Collective](#).
- Campaign Zero
- Northstar Health Collective
- Unicorn Riot
- National Bail Out Fund
- Community Justice Exchange
- Black Lives Matter
- NAACP Legal Defense Fund
- We Love Lake Street

Resources for information and allyship:
- Check out the reading list from Black and Asian American Feminist Solidarities.
- Check out this list of anti-racism books populated on Ideal Bookshelf.
- Join the Algorithms of Oppression Book Club organized by the Black Womens’ Library and the Womens’ Center for Creative Work.
- Check out this Google Drive compiled by Charles Preston, filled with books and other important work by Black activists.
- Read this Huffington Post article: “Amy Cooper Knew Exactly What She Was Doing.”
- Read 20+ Allyship Actions for Asians to Show Up for the Black Community.
- Read this article on why not to post videos of police brutality.
- Read this article written by Zyahna Bryant about how to take steps towards non-performative activism.
- Check out this thread on Instagram of Things to Do Instead of Calling the Cops.
- Watch this talk on the Weaponizing of 911 Calls Against the Black Community.
- Check out this list of the 25 best Black history documentaries compiled by PopSugar.