Dear SAS Honors Program Students,

We’re back! While I sincerely hope your winter breaks were rejuvenating (and any winter classes productive), it is time to do some spring cleaning and dust off that break mentality. Everyone is a little rusty right now, but the first few weeks of the semester are by far the easiest and offer plenty of time to polish your skills back to what they were in the fall. Take it from someone in their last semester at Rutgers when I say that spring semester is tricky because of how easy it is to get distracted by anything but classes (once the weather warms up at least). Remember that balance, moderation, and prioritizing are some of the most important skills for a student to learn. Give this semester your best out there!

Ease into the semester with these upcoming opportunities/announcements. Watch either Encanto or Shang-Chi with some SASHP folk at one of the Movie Night Double Features. Get WAY ahead of your Colloquium event requirement at tomorrow’s presentation/conversation Living a Hip Hop and Abolitionist Life: A Presentation and Conversation with Dr. Bettina Love. Honors advisors are available to help you get ready for a successful semester. Check out the most recent Senior Spotlight!

Welcome back, everyone!

Warm Regards,
Justin Confalone
Your newsletter editor

In this Newsletter:
*Movie Night Double Feature
*Living a Hip Hop and Abolitionist Life: A Presentation and Conversation with Dr. Bettina Love
*Senior Spotlight: Tommy Newton

*Need to meet with an advisor to strategize before the Jan 27 Add/Drop Deadline? Honors advising deans are available for appointments and drop-ins. More here.
Movie Night Double Feature
The SASHP has two incredible films lined up for their first Movie Night of the semester: Disney’s Encanto and Marvel Studio’s Shang-Chi! Watch one or both and take the opportunity to reconnect with some fellow honors students. Encanto will be playing tomorrow, Jan 20 at 8 pm EST via Zoom. Shang-Chi will be playing next Tues, Jan 25 at 8 pm EST via Zoom. Join the Zoom call for both here. The password is SASHP (all caps).

Living a Hip Hop and Abolitionist Life
Get one of your event requirements completed before Honors Colloquium even begins at the upcoming conversation Living a Hip Hop and Abolitionist Life: A Presentation and Conversation with Dr. Bettina Love. Dr. Love will discuss how Hip Hop Civics Ed, when linked to the framework of intersectionality and Abolitionist Teaching, creates a space where Black lives matter and analytic sensibilities are nurtured to engage youth in the work of fighting for visibility, inclusion, and justice. There will also be a conversation with President Holloway, a moderated Q&A, and a special appearance by Paul Lewis ’22. This event takes place tomorrow, Jan 20 at 6 pm EST via Zoom. Join the conversation here.

Senior Spotlight: Tommy Newton
Kick-off the new semester with our most recent Senior Spotlight: Tommy Newton. Graduating with a double major in molecular biology and biochemistry, Tommy intends to pursue a Ph.D. in structural biology and biophysics. During his time at Rutgers, Tommy served as the Honors Peer Leader for Busch, was a peer mentor, and played in the Rutgers University Symphony Band. Read more about Tommy’s journey here.