

## Clint Wu: an outstanding young martial artist

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Clint Wu

*Helen Gee Chin Scholarship Foundation*

Clint Wu, eighteen year-old from Houston, TX, is one of the 2011 Helen Gee Chin [Scholarship](#) recipients. He started his [martial arts](#) training since age 13 at the advice of his parents [Master Ernie Wu](#) and Chien Li. He has been studying with his parents and Shaolin Master Shi Xing Hao on various martial arts. He was a straight-A student in high school and now is attending University of Texas at Austin. He majors in computer science and inspires to be a computer engineer of video games. Below is my interview with him on his martial arts experience:

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***Violet: Did you like [Kung Fu](#) when you first tried it?***

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Clint: Not really, it was really different compared to what I used to practice, gymnastics.



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***“ Violet: Which styles and forms have you learned?***

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Clint: Traditional Shaolin, Eight Step Praying Mantis – which is also his father Master Wu’s specialty -- and modern [Wushu](#).

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***“ Violet: How many Kung Fu classes did you take on a regular base?***

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Clint: 3-4 times a week.

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***“ Violet: How often did you practice and on an average for how long each time?***

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Clint: Right now, I practice at least once a day for about 1 to 1.5 hrs

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***“ Violet: What are the benefits of practicing Kung Fu?***

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Clint: Good physical exercise and helps me clear my mind and focus; has also taught me many virtues and skills

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**“ Violet: What does your family think about your practice?**

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Clint: My parents are proud of what I have achieved but always push me to do better because I'm still no match for either of them.

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**“ Violet: What type of support do you get from your family?**

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Clint: They always push me to train more and harder and pay attention to the little details but at the same time they never push me past my breaking point

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**“ Violet: What do your friends think about your practice?**

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Clint: They think I practice too much.

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**“ Violet: What is your favorite style or form? What is your favorite weapon?**

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Clint: Favorite style has to be traditional Shaolin and favorite weapon is staff.

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**“ Violet: How many tournaments have you participated and since what age?**

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Clint: 5 or 6 tournaments since I was 15 or 16.

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**“ Violet: What are the tournaments you have been to? Did you have to travel out-of-town for them?**

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Clint: The New Tang Dynasty, ICMAC, and US Wushu Team Trials/Golden State Competitions are the main ones, and yes, I've traveled to Dallas, Orlando, San Jose, and New York.

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**“ Violet: How many medals/trophies have you got?**

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Clint: Many, I'm honestly not sure how many I have received

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**“ Violet: What is your goal of learning Kung Fu? What is the next step in your own practice?**

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Clint: I just want to get better and learn how to use my body in my fighting and I guess one part of it is wanting to learn self defensive skills; just to continue training in college.

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**“ Violet: How many siblings do you have? Do they practice Kung Fu?**

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Clint: two older sisters but they don't practice Kung Fu.

**“ Violet: Who is/are your role model(s) both in and out of the Kung Fu area?**

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Clint: In Kung Fu would be my masters and a boy named Gordon Tsai; out of Kung Fu would have to be my parents and an acquaintance of mine.

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**“ Violet: What is the toughest part in your journey of learning Kung Fu?**

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Clint: Self-motivation to try harder.

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**“ Violet: How do you overcome your obstacles?**

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Clint: Re-realize how much Kung Fu has changed my life and that I can always be better.

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**“ Violet: What would you say to other young people about learning Kung Fu?**

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Clint: It's hard, but it's well worth it in more ways than one.

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## **“ Violet: What do you think about winning the scholarship?**

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Clint: I'm very grateful for the scholarship and for the scholarship committee granting me the opportunity to get closer to my goals.

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## **“ Violet: How did you hear about the scholarship?**

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Clint: From My master Shi Xing Hao.

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## **“ Violet: How are you going to use the scholarship money?**

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Clint: Pay for tuition and dorm costs.

### **SUGGESTED LINKS**

- **Clint Wu and Leslie Jaw are the first two Helen Gee Chin Scholarship recipients**
- **Amazing Sarah**
- **An overdue Tai Chi Push Hands champion**
- **Zoe Siytangco: a 13-year-old Grand Champion**



**Violet Li**

Tai Chi Examiner

