

## AT THE MOVIES

**"THE SUN IS ALSO A STAR"**  
**has likeable stars and**  
**tackles immigration**  
**— but is also so boring omg**



30+ age rating ▶



16+ age rating ▶



By Stacy Nguyen  
NORTHWEST ASIAN WEEKLY

"The Sun Is Also a Star" is the film adaptation of Nicola Yoon's 2016 young adult novel of the same name, about two young strangers who fall in love in the

course of a day — the hitch being that one of them is set to be deported at the end of the day. The film follows protagonist Natasha Kinsley, a Jamaican-born high school junior who has been in the United

see **THE SUN** on 15

## ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

# MARK DACASCOS

Discipline and determination does dazzling



"John Wick: Chapter 3 – Parabellum"

By Andrew Hamlin  
NORTHWEST ASIAN WEEKLY

Very few folks grow up with not one, but two martial arts experts for parents. But for Mark Dacascos, who excels on the workout floor, as well as on the silver screen, that was all simply part of growing up.

The martial arts and film star, playing opposite of Chinese Hawaiian Keanu Reeves, starring as the villain "Zero" in the recently-released "John Wick: Chapter 3 – Parabellum," remembers a childhood loaded with workouts.

"My father, Al Dacascos, the founder of Wun-Hop-Kuen-Do Kung-Fu, taught my stepmother, Malia Bernal (Dacascos). Both of them were my first martial arts teachers. I was told that I started playing

around with martial movements when I was 4, but started formal training with them at age 6.

"I fought in semi-contact tournaments for almost years, from 6 years old until 18. My parents were both champions, and they had very high standards... In addition to evening group classes at our Kung-Fu Academy, my mother ran and stretched with me every day before going to my academic school, 2-3 mile run in the forest, stretch, do the splits, etc."

The future media sensation grew up in Hawaii, which he remembers, aside from all the workouts, as a delightful panoply of beaches, ocean, fishing with his grandparents, and family on all sides. A sense of self-identity proved a bit more

see **DACASCOS** on 14

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