

**Kate Bollinger - Creative Writing
Miller Arts Scholar Grant Proposal
An EP and Chapbook of Lyon**

Proposal Summary

Ever since I was little, I have wanted to travel. I am so thrilled to have been accepted to study abroad this summer through UVa's Summer in Lyon program, and while my primary reason for going will be to practice French and experience language immersion, I also want to seize this summer as a creative opportunity. During my stay, I plan to write and record an EP of French and English songs inspired by my experiences that I will pair with an artist chapbook which will feature my illustrations and poetry. In France and neighboring countries that I will visit, I want to seek out and collaborate with local musicians and artists, specifically ones who are attuned to political unrest and have stories to tell-people who can offer different perspectives. I am certain that stepping into a new context will challenge me artistically and inspire me to produce art and music unlike anything that I have previously created. Each page of the chapbook will have different drawings and collages that correspond with different poems featured on the pages of the book. I plan to have a few lines from each poem per page, but longer poems that take up more space may get their own page. I am aware that over the course of the summer, different opportunities may influence the project. I would love to dedicate the final pages of the book to prose about my experiences in Lyon, interviews with local musicians, and song lyrics to go along with the EP.

When I return home to Charlottesville, I plan to spend the remainder of the summer constructing my chapbook and recording the EP that will go in the back flap of the book. I was awarded some recording time at White Star Sound, a recording studio located just outside of Charlottesville, and I plan to record a few songs there. I will finish recording on my own and with a producer friend of mine, as I want a few of the songs to sound more raw and stripped down. I know that sometimes students struggle when they return from study abroad because there are few opportunities to process their experiences with other students. I think that having something tangible to mark my time in Lyon will be very fruitful and bringing it back to the community will encourage students, specifically those that value art and music, to come together to talk about travel, culture, and identity as it can be shaped by what we create and where we go. I hope that my EP release show in the fall can be a sort of multimedia gathering for the community. I have asked a friend of mine to perform a short stand-up comedy routine, a few bands and artists to play opening sets, and I plan to ask a few students from the Area Program in Poetry Writing to read some of their work. Finally, I will play a split set with both songs in French and English and will display my chapbooks for people to look at throughout the show.

Because the summer in Lyon program far exceeds my personal budget, I am also applying to the Z Society's Performing Arts Grant in hopes that I will be able to raise enough money to fund a good amount of the trip. Below I have provided a timeline as well as the UVa

Summer in Lyon program's budget sheet with some minor modifications to the non-billable costs.

Timeline

June 2 - July 14: Lyon program - Take 2 classes, travel, write, record

July 15: Return to Charlottesville

July 15 - August 15: Record, illustrate, construct chapbook

August - September: Complete chapbook and EP, present final product, schedule EP release and release show

Budget (Provided by UVa Summer in Lyon program)

Tuition: \$2,178

Program fees: \$3,172

Non-refundable deposit: \$500

Billable subtotal: \$5,850

Airfare: \$1,500

Course materials: \$50

Meals: \$640

Local transportation: \$120

Non-billable subtotal: \$2,560

Total: \$8,410