

Mary Hall
Miller Arts Scholars Minigrant Outcome
Fall 2023

The Auditioner's Toolkit: Outcome Report

Thanks to the generous support of Miller Arts Scholars, I was able to use my minigrant to support some of the most crucial parts of preparing for auditions as an actor. I'm very pleased with how I was able to stretch my \$500 for materials that will be able to help me with auditions for the next year and beyond.

After being notified that I would be receiving the award, I booked my appointment to take my headshots on November 17th. Since I would be staying in Richmond that weekend to visit my family, the timing worked out perfectly. I received my funding on the evening of October 18th, 2023, and promptly purchased my ring light, hard drive, backdrop, and backdrop stand that night, receiving them all within the span of the next week. I was able to use my new self-tape setup to record a self tape for my Overcranked! Audition, and the improvement from the last self tape that I filmed was major. I've added it to my hard drive along with former acting projects and my developing playwriting projects, with plenty of space to spare. I'm thrilled to see how it's going to fill up over the next few years!

Finally, I was able to head over to Goochland to take my headshots in Amanda Miles' home studio, and it was one of the best photography experiences I've ever had. Even though she is a highly booked photographer around the Richmond area and had a lot of shoots around the holiday, she got my proofs and photos back to me in less than a week, and I fell in love with every single photo offered. Especially when you consider the price, these headshots are high quality and ones that I plan on using until I absolutely can't anymore. I'll also continue to recommend Amanda to my fellow actors/Drama scholars that would like to get theirs done closer to Charlottesville, especially since she has three different packages for different needs and offers high quality printing straight from her website. My next known use for them will be for Virginia Theatre Festival auditions in the spring, but I'll be sourcing audition opportunities over winter break as well. I've attached a few of my favorites below.

I'm forever grateful for the support that Miller Arts has given me over the past few months, and I'm looking forward to continuing to work with them and give back in any way that I can!

Mary Hall
Miller Arts Scholars Minigrant Outcome
Fall 2023

Expenditures:

<u>Expense</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Professional Actors Headshot with Amanda Miles Photography	35 minute session with two outfit changes and 10 digital images	\$250
Sunpak - LED 448 19" Bi-Color Ring Light Kit - Black	19 inch bicolor LED ring light, ball head, adjustable light stand, and smartphone mount	\$89.99 + \$4.77 sales tax
Reversible Collapsible Backdrop	Gray and blue reversible backdrop for video (self-tape) production	\$62.99 + \$3.34 sales tax
Portable Backdrop Stand	Stand to hold backdrops for self-tapes	\$38.99 + \$2.07
Seagate 2TB External USB 3.0 Portable Hard Drive	Storage for video footage (i.e. reels, self-tapes, films, etc.) and other drama projects (such as plays)	\$70.99 + \$3.76 sales tax

Total: \$526.90*

*The additional \$26.90 was paid out of pocket by me.

Headshot Examples:

