

Abreale Hopkins  
Fourth year Miller Arts Scholar  
Fall 2021 Mini Grant Proposal

## Creating a Foundation for Success

### INTENTION

As my thesis and graduation steadily approach, I need to have the proper resources to create the strongest portfolio and thesis presentation possible. In regards to my thesis, I am in the Distinguished Major Program. This rigorous cohort demands constant creation, research, time in the studio, and collaboration. This has been a program where I have been challenged and inspired in ways that I had never experienced prior. We will be developing our thesis ideas this month. Right now, we need to be making as much as possible in order to find our way to our thesis theme. As an abstract expressionist artist, my work is heavily influenced by process, motion, and texture. There is a physicality that comes with everything I make. One can see how I moved, subtracted, added, and played with the material on the surface. My paintings are almost all on large canvases. The scale of them provides more space and liberty to show my process which develops into abstraction. Large canvases, however, are expensive and intimidating. Looking at a blank canvas is very different from looking at a small blank panel. For the rest of the semester, I intend on painting and creating as much as possible without any judgement on what I create. This will happen by painting on small panels or canvas paper. This creates far less pressure to paint something “perfect” or “successful”. It will allow me to cycle through so many ideas that I have not been able to do in quite some time. This will easily let me see what I do and do not like, resulting in an easier process of developing a thesis topic.

Graduation is an everso looming event. Though I am excited, there is so much more to prepare. I am interested in applying to a wide range of paths within the arts. I am especially interested in applying to residencies, graduation programs, and artist run studios. Most of the places I have researched suggest having a website where all information as well as a portfolio can be found. Currently, I do not have a website or a place that provides all of these things. With part of the money awarded through this grant, I would have the opportunity to put my best foot forward into the world. Having a cohesive website will reflect me, my experience, and art. Starting a website now will give me the time to refine its content and develop parts like my bio, artist statement, portfolio, and more. Though my future is unknown, having these resources behind me will most definitely impact the path I end up on.

### INSPIRATIONS

Artists:

Jadé Fadojutimi  
Torkwase Dawson  
Patrick Alston  
Norman Lewis  
Rashid Johnson

Websites:

Darren Hughes: <https://www.darrenhughesart.com>

Shira Bar: <https://www.shira-bar.com>

Eran Webber: <https://www.eranwebber.com>

## TIMELINE

October:

1. Put together website
  - Bio
  - Artist statement
  - Publications, grants, exhibitions
  - Portfolio
2. Generate at least 4 small paintings or drawings a week
3. Begin to write first thesis chapter draft

November:

4. November 5th: present first thesis chapter draft
5. Continue to generate at least 4 small painting or drawings a week
6. Begin to transition into larger surfaces
7. Continue working on a strong portfolio / piecing work together

December:

8. Allow these smaller pieces to inform larger panels
9. Solidify the website
  - The portfolio will be ever changing, so I should decide on a proper format that will allow a range of work to be shown. Example: time frame, style, or theme.

## BUDGET

SquareSpace → \$260.00

Website annual cost: \$144.00 (\$12.00/month)

Domain annual cost: 20.00

Item	Link	Price
Gamblin Galkyd Lite	<a href="https://www.michaels.com/cart">https://www.michaels.com/cart</a>	\$31.99
Masonite or “Lowe’s brown wall panel” (2):	<a href="https://www.lowes.com/pd/47-75-in-x-7-98-ft-Smooth-Brown-Wall-Panel/3014311">https://www.lowes.com/pd/47-75-in-x-7-98-ft-Smooth-Brown-Wall-Panel/3014311</a>	\$20.00
Acrylic Gesso Clear, 32 oz	<a href="https://www.dickblick.com/items/liquitex-acrylic-gesso-clear-32-oz-bottle/">https://www.dickblick.com/items/liquitex-acrylic-gesso-clear-32-oz-bottle/</a>	\$28.14
Liquitex® Professional Heavy Body Vibrant Set	<a href="https://www.michaels.com/liquitex-professional-heavy-body-vibrant-set/D249465S.html">https://www.michaels.com/liquitex-professional-heavy-body-vibrant-set/D249465S.html</a>	\$24.99
Liquitex® Professional Heavy Body Acrylic™ Paint Tube,	<a href="https://www.michaels.com/liquitex-professional-heavy-body-acrylic-paint-tube-4.65oz/M200003">https://www.michaels.com/liquitex-professional-heavy-body-acrylic-paint-tube-4.65oz/M200003</a>	\$53.97

4.65oz. (3)	49.html?dwvar_M20000349_size=4.65%20oz&dwvar_M20000349_color=Transparent%20Burnt%20Sienna	
Winsor & Newton Winton Oil Colour Paint 200mL (3)	<a href="https://www.michaels.com/winsor-and-newton-winton-oil-colour-paint-200ml/MCA1414074.html?productsource=PDPYMAL">https://www.michaels.com/winsor-and-newton-winton-oil-colour-paint-200ml/MCA1414074.html?productsource=PDPYMAL</a>	\$59.97

\*The listed prices do not cover taxes. The money left over after deducting these prices will be used for taxes and shipping\*

TOTAL COST: \$479.06