

Project Title: Experimental Music Project (The Cello and Beyond), a continuation

Project Proposal: I am hoping to continue to expand the work I am currently doing in regards to combining my passion for cello with electronic music. The equipment I received from the Rising 3rd Year Grant has been absolutely incredible, but I realize that certain, new pieces would be incredibly helpful for creating a more productive workflow. I have copied my original project proposal below, as my goals still remain the same for the project. The most important addition, is that I am now hoping to utilize my equipment in live performances, and thus need new equipment to support this endeavor.

I have been a classically trained cellist for 13 years, enjoying every moment of my classical music journey. Over the past year, I have begun to explore different types of music, and have recently become a DJ at local bars and residential social events. This experience has been quite shocking, as I have seen the power of music in a much different way. Creating a positive social space through this mechanism has inspired me to see other ways that music can effectively resonate with people. Thus, I hope for this project to be an opportunity for me to utilize my musical talents to create new music. With these new pieces of equipment, instruments, and software, I will be able to create music that truly pushes the boundaries of what I have previously engaged with. My goal is to create at least one new song before the semester is over, but also collaborate with other musicians to challenge conventional music standards. I also plan to work with other student artists, to create a music video for one of my personal compositions. This will truly provide me an exploration of the arts unlike anything I have ever done.

My outcome presentation will consist of me describing the process of learning and engaging with this new equipment and software, demonstrating how I was effectively able to move the cello away from the classical music sphere, and playing one of the songs I have created. If possible, I will do a live demonstration of the music creation process, demonstrating how I have used the hardware and software to create new music. My overall goal is to expand my passion for music through learning, and quite possibly often struggling, with new equipment and software. I understand that learning to effectively operate all of these devices and software will not be easy, but I know that careful, deliberate studying of manuals and online tutorials will allow me master each of these items. I hope to use my passion for cello to create music that is new, vibrant, and exciting.

Necessary Materials: Each item is hyperlinked to a website with the product listed for sale.

[USB to USB-C Adapter](#): This adapter is needed in order to connect both my DDJ-SB controller and my Ableton Push 2 to my laptop at the same time. Doing so will allow me to integrate pre-made tracks from Ableton into live performances.

Cost: \$8.99

[Bose QuietComfort 35 II Wireless Bluetooth Headphones](#): In the process of producing new music, I have found that my both my computer speakers and my current headphones are insufficient for hearing all the effects that I wish to include. Thus, I am hoping to purchase a

high-quality pair of headphones that will allow me fully utilize the equipment I have and, in essence, produce music to the fullest possible extent.

Cost: \$349.00

[Boss RC-1 Loop Station](#): This loop pedal will allow me to easily loop inputs from my cello, allowing for greater control in recording sessions, as well as increased capability for live performance.

Cost: \$99.99

[LTGEM Case for Pioneer DDJSB](#): This purchase would allow for safe transportation of my DJ controller, something which is necessary for my continued live performances. The controller allows me to integrate tracks from my Ableton Push while also playing my cello simultaneously. This case is a safety precaution given my increased travel with my equipment.

Cost: \$30.99

Total Cost: \$490

Project Timeline:

My benchmarks have remained the same for this project, and I know that I can continue to uphold my benchmarks as this project continues. As written on my previous proposal,

- 1) “During the spring semester, I hope to create my first song, utilizing the cello as a primary voice. Finishing a song by the end of the first spring semester will be a critical step in actively pursuing this project, and thus will serve as my *first benchmark*.
- 2) Over the summer, I hope to master using all of this software and hardware, and by my third year, I will be able to experiment and collaborate with other musicians. I have already talked with musicians at UVa, and many have expressed interest in this experimental, collaborative project. This will be my *second benchmark*.
- 3) My *third benchmark* will be a song made with collaborative effort, to be completed by the end of next year’s fall semester.
- 4) By the next spring semester, my *fourth benchmark*, I will have created multiple songs, expanded my mastery of this new hardware and software, and will have worked with multiple artists to create new music. I will also connect with a student videographer to create a music video for one of my songs. If time allows, I hope to also work with other artistic fields to expand the explorative nature of this project. This timeline must remain quite general, as I do not know how quickly I will be able to master all of this new equipment. Many of my peers who use these types of instruments have already shown interest in tutoring me during my early learning stages.”