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Minigrant Outcome Report

Attending the Jazz Education Network Conference

For my Fall 2019 minigrant project, I attended the Jazz Education Network (JEN) Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana from January 7th to January 10th. Through this opportunity I was able to gain valuable networking opportunities, attend specialized workshops, and learn much about current research in jazz and jazz education.

I mentioned in my proposal the potential for a travel grant to support this trip - unfortunately I was not eligible to apply due to the nature of the conference, so I followed the Plan A budget and timeline that relied solely on this minigrant. At the conference itself, I attended a wide variety of presentations and workshops that I found incredibly useful and interesting. I learned new ways to approach the emotion of jazz lyrics, the importance of social media and how to use it as a jazz musician, stylistic considerations when scatting on different types of songs, and new rehearsal techniques. I met many jazz players and teachers from around the world, and have already planned a performance with one this upcoming summer. I am very grateful to have had the opportunity to learn from jazz educators around the country and to broaden what I know about jazz music and practice.

Budget:

\$75 - Conference student registration

\$45 - JEN student membership

\$275 - Roundtrip airplane ticket

\$105 - Housing

Total: \$500

I paid the extra \$75 for the cost of the Airbnb out of my own savings. I am so deeply grateful to the Miller Arts Scholars Foundation for giving me this opportunity to expand my musical experience and learn about the jazz field. Without them, this experience would not have been possible. This conference truly helped me find focus and clarity in regards to the next steps I should take within my jazz career and singing style.