

## Stepping Into My Own Sound

### Project Summary

Next semester I will be studying abroad in Florence, Italy through the program, UVA in Italy: Florence (in affiliation with ISI). This program offers opportunities to enrich my worldview by experiencing college as a local would. I am signed up to take Italian, two psychology classes, and an oil painting class. However, they do not offer any music classes. Italy is geographically close to major music hubs such as Berlin, Germany and Vienna, Austria. These are two places I plan to visit for their famous attractions, but also to experience European music.

Since I was a young flute player, I looked up to Emmanuel Pahud's flute playing. Pahud is one of the best flute players and it would be a dream come true to see him perform in-person as the principal flute player in the Berlin Philharmonic. Although this is a priority of mine during my semester abroad, professional orchestra concert tickets are extremely pricey.

I saw the New York Philharmonic Orchestra perform over the summer and my ticket was roughly \$250. I was able to plan this trip from my current Arts Award project and found this experience valuable. I could immediately notice the distinguishing characteristics with the New York Philharmonic Orchestra and National Symphony Orchestra. As a flutist, I paid close attention to the flute section. Robert Langevin performed the Shostakovich Symphony No. 5 flute solo with such poise, yet tranquility. His style of performing reminds me of James Galway whereas the NSO's principal flute Aaron Golman reminds me of Emmanuel Pahud's playing.

It would be interesting to see the pedagogical differences between major European and American orchestras not only to see how I am influenced by American teachings while constantly listening to Pahud play online, but also to grasp the orchestra's identity. I hope to use this opportunity to discover my own sound, with continuing my trips around the globe to watch professional orchestras perform.

### Proposal

During the spring semester abroad, I would like to use this fund to purchase 1) a Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra ticket, 2) a Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra ticket, and 3) transportation to and from these areas.

My Florence program begins on January 11th and ends on April 29th, so I would see this concert on a weekend between those dates. The *Berlin Philharmoniker* website indicates that I cannot book a ticket for concerts in December and January until October 9th or for concerts in February and March until December 11th, 2022. Given that I cannot access exact ticket prices for potential concert dates, I will base my proposed budget on current ticket prices. Currently, tickets are 70-100 Euros, which converts to \$66.92-\$95.59. For the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra, concert tickets are a little more expensive. They are priced up to 215 Euros, which converts to \$205.53. The rest of the remaining fund would contribute to transportation to and from Florence. The \$500 grant would not cover both concert tickets and total transportation costs, but would subsidize most of the expenses.

### Budget

Concert	Ticket Prices (estimate because they vary and are converted from	Transportation Costs (converted from Euros)	Why I Want to go

	<b>Euros)</b>		
Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra	\$75	Roundtrip train ticket: \$117.59	I constantly listen to the principal flute player, Emmanuel Pahud and try to imitate many of his techniques I pick up on in his audio recordings. Watching him perform in person would allow me to learn from him in a way that I cannot via technology.
Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra	\$175	Roundtrip train ticket: \$130.90	The Vienna Philharmonic is another major orchestra on my bucket list. I hope to broaden my flute knowledge by watching this concert. I also want to go to Vienna after Berlin to see if I can discover my own flute identity, rather than merely imitating professionals. Stepping into my own sound is where my flute career will see the most growth.

**Total Cost: \$498.59**