

Spring 2023 Minigrant Outcome

Jack Kehoe and Elise Ebert

Third-Year Collaborative Voice Recital turned Fourth-Year Solo Recital

At the start of our third year, Elise and I had very exciting plans to perform a collaborative voice recital at the end of our third year. We're both music majors in the Performance Concentration studying a variety of classical styles, including singing in languages such as German, French, Italian, and English, and we felt that a good way to prepare for our eventual solo recitals within the Performance Concentration was to first perform a collaborative voice recital. Our voice teacher, Professor Pamela Beasley, was very supportive of this idea, as she has access and knowledge of plenty of classical duets for Elise and I to sing together. We were planning to perform in a local church or hall, pay our accompanist Karen Dalton fees for the performance and the necessary rehearsals beforehand, create flyers and posters for marketing purposes, and write up programs for the audience to read alongside our recital. In the beginning of the Spring semester, Elise and I asked the Miller Art Society to fund most of these expenses by using a joint minigrant, which they graciously agreed to. All was looking well for Elise and I to embark on our journey towards a collaborative voice recital.

Unfortunately, soon after receiving the funding, our voice teacher had to take a leave of absence for personal reasons. We eventually were able to continue our lessons with a new voice teacher, but our plans had been altered drastically, and we were unable to learn a necessary amount of music before summer. We changed our plan over and over again, first thinking we could perhaps have our recital in the beginning of the summer, or possibly in the beginning of the fall semester, but in the end we were unable to find the time necessary to learn duets and practice together. We eventually realized that our plans for a joint recital were no longer possible – and decided instead to use the funds we received for our future solo recitals in the Spring of our fourth year.

These expenses are mostly paying our accompanist Karen Dalton for the many rehearsals and performances we have throughout the year. We may be able to spend some of it on marketing for our solo recitals, but most funds for booking the hall and creating programs are given through the Performance Concentration. My recital will take place on March 30th, 2024, and will feature a selection of three melodies by Gabriel Fuaré, three lieder by Johannes Brahms, Roger Quilter's *3 Shakespeare Songs*, solo pieces by George Frideric Handel and Gaetano Donizetti, and possibly a selection of songs from musicals. Elise may also join me for a duet at one point during the recital, just as I may join her for a duet during her recital, but we are no longer having a fully joint recital. I still feel that we will be able to adequately and responsibly spend the funds the Miller Art Society has given us. Once my recital has passed, I plan on writing another outcome report on the final performance.