

Margaret Kim
mek9ay@virginia.edu
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Miller Arts Scholars Minigrant Application

Adding Color to Sculptures of Biologically Possible Alien Organisms

Nature of Research:

During the past few years at UVA, I was able to develop my craftsmanship and explore different sculpting techniques and materials, such as bronze, plaster, clay, and polymers. I focused mainly on overall composition and shape of my sculptures, and the color of my pieces would be solely relied on the color of the media I used: white for plaster, brown for clay, bronze for bronze, etc. I always felt this was limiting, and as a painter, I missed working with colors. I've decided that for my next series of sculptures, I would incorporate heavy use of colors.

I am requesting a mini grant to fund an airbrush, along with an air compressor, paints and inks to be used with the airbrush, pigments, airbrush cleaning tools, and few other consumable sculpting materials.

For the next phase of my sculpting journey, I plan on using my background in biology to create highly realistic science-fiction inspired organisms illustrating what would have happened to life on Earth if we had deviated from our evolutionary path. The series of sculptures will have a narrative, where they would represent specimens, fossils, and artifacts gathered by a fictional expedition to an alien planet. The sculptures will be displayed like an exhibition at a natural history museum.

I am requesting this tool because airbrushing a fine mist of colors onto my sculptures would create realism not possible with traditional methods of painting with a brush or a sponge. This would allow me to paint highly realistic patterning and textures. The airbrush would also allow coverage of large surfaces with even tone of color, which is nearly impossible to achieve without use of multiple spray paint cans, which are toxic and detrimental to the environment.

This grant would allow me to pursue a medium that I would not be able to otherwise, since not only the airbrush itself is costly, the accessories like the air compressor and cleaning supplies is required for proper maintenance of the brush. And since airbrush is not compatible with most paints, I would be required to have a new supply of specialized pigments and thinner acrylic inks that I do not own from my previous experience with traditional painting. Sculpture also demands a constant flow of new supplies, as it involves a lot of consumable items. I am also requesting funding for a supply of acrylic paint, varnish for use as gloss, and pigments.

With the funding to purchase this tool, I would be able to add shades, details, and texture not achievable by other means, and add multiple layers of realism to my sculptures. Along with other accessories and sculpting supplies, I would continue to develop and try new techniques and approaches to sculpting.

Projected Schedule:

- October: procure materials
- November: begin development of sculpture series
- November-December: create sculptures averaging 2-3 sculptures per month
- December: document and compile list of sculptures to be included into portfolio

- Beyond: I would be able to utilize this tool as long as I pursue art

Budget:

Total: \$504.29

Badger Air-Brush Co R1V Renegade Velocity Gravity Feed Airbrush	113.74	https://www.dickblick.com/products/badger-renegade-series-airbrush-sets/?clickTracking=true&wmcp=pla&wmcid=items&wmckw=25084-1009&gclid=Cj0KCQjwrMHsBRCIARIsAFgSeIOJzj4ch_YwmkoenqExrliL-LVGj_eCYZYhd7Lg4WRxKNMF-nB_HN8aAp1ZEALw_wcB
Liquitex Professional Acrylic Ink! Essential Set, Multiple Colors, Set of 6	27.94	https://www.amazon.com/dp/B071WQ9VC4/ref=twister_B07TKFJT6M?_encoding=UTF8&th=1
Daler-Rowney FW Fluorescent Acrylic Ink, Set of 6 Neon Colors	32.37	https://www.amazon.com/Daler-Rowney-Fluorescent-Acrylic-Colors-160329006/dp/B00KC05PC6/ref=sr_1_5?keywords=FW+acrylic+ink+set&qid=1569770343&sr=8-5
U.S. Art Supply Jewelescent 24 Color Set of Mica Pearl Powder Pigment	19.96	https://www.amazon.com/dp/B07MPD8LJL/ref=sspa_dk_detail_1?spLa=ZW5jcmlwdGVkUXVhbGlmaWVyPUEyR05LQkNRSTZMQlBHJmVuY3J5cHRlZEIkPUEwMDIwNjgxWVRDQzRWRkRIRUJmVWY3J5cHRlZEFkSWQ9QTAzMjMzMDUxWERKTlYyUDJVSExUJndpZGdlE5hbWU9c3BfZGV0YWlzMhY3Rpb249Y2xpY2tSZWRpcmVjdCZkb05vdExvZ0NsaWNrPXRydWU&th=1
Lumiere Lusters Dichroic Opal Flake Art Pigments	11.00 + \$5.60 shipping	https://www.amazon.com/Lumiere-Lusters-Dichroic-Flake-Pigments/dp/B07L2JH1FY?th=1
Holbein Aeroflash Liquid Acrylics	97.50	https://www.dickblick.com/products/holbein-aeroflash-liquid-

		acrylics/?gclid=Cj0KCQjwrMHsBRCIARIsAFgSeI2DzCANb10OxDP9vIcKivfq6ZpxjMk70v7j1dkf3UH99-oQ0uP0xB8aAkyJEALw_wcB
Liquitex High Gloss Varnish-8oz, 8oz	13.14	https://www.amazon.com/Liquitex-High-Gloss-Varnish-8oz-8oz/dp/B0060KUW70
Iwata-Medea Airbrush Cleaner	7.27	https://www.amazon.com/dp/B001BHI3UU/ref=twister_B00RZ9AJTG?_encoding=UTF8&psc=1
4 SET Airbrush Spray Gun Wash Cleaning Tools Needle Nozzle Brush Glass Cleaning Pot Holder	13.99	https://www.amazon.com/Airbrush-Cleaning-Needle-Nozzle-Holder/dp/B0154HN2NA/ref=pd_bxgy_img_2/135-9504055-0776158?_encoding=UTF8&pd_rd_i=B0154HN2NA&pd_rd_r=80026cdf-e605-4eab-bb66-60075688c349&pd_rd_w=icYJo&pd_rd_wg=rgH6s&pf_rd_p=479b6a22-70ae-47a0-9700-731033f96ce8&pf_rd_r=2BAWX6CZWYH0QS1STKAF&psc=1&refRID=2BAWX6CZWYH0QS1STKAF
Vallejo Airbrush Thinner 200ml Paint	13.25	https://www.amazon.com/Vallejo-Airbrush-Thinner-200ml-Paint/dp/B002X6DTHK/ref=pd_bxgy_201_img_3/135-9504055-0776158?_encoding=UTF8&pd_rd_i=B002X6DTHK&pd_rd_r=f1168ced-7d50-4da1-845e-e7d740596a95&pd_rd_w=GcM03&pd_rd_wg=rdo2W&pf_rd_p=479b6a22-70ae-47a0-9700-731033f96ce8&pf_rd_r=V8KYZ5H5CGJY5R0GNPMT&psc=1&refRID=V8KYZ5H5CGJY5R0GNPMT
Iwata-Medea Studio Series Ninja Jet Single Piston Air Compressor	135.55	https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B002JLVM5U?pf_rd_p=183f5289-9dc0-416f-942e-e8f213ef368b&pf_rd_r=H3MPY1GH03FQT9E8B2RE
Pro-Production Super Fine Detail Kit	12.98	https://www.dickblick.com/products/badger-airbrush-needlenozzle-replacement-kits/

