

Ryan Lee
rl6mh@virginia.edu
Class of 2023
Miller Arts Scholars

Viola Resources Funding Proposal

I have seen a dramatic improvement in myself as a musician overall while continuing my studies in viola here at UVA. Studying with Professor Ayn Baliya over the past year and a half has greatly enhanced my technical abilities and has consistently pushed me to become a better chamber musician, orchestra member, and solo performer. Given the COVID-19 pandemic, however, I have begun focusing predominantly on solo repertoire since the Fall 2020 semester for my own musical development and in preparation for the Performance Concentration audition this April. Therefore, I am requesting a minigrant this semester to fund the purchase of a recording microphone, a new shoulder rest, new high-quality rosin, a set of strings, and sheet music in order to upgrade preparation during practicing and for eventual performance events.

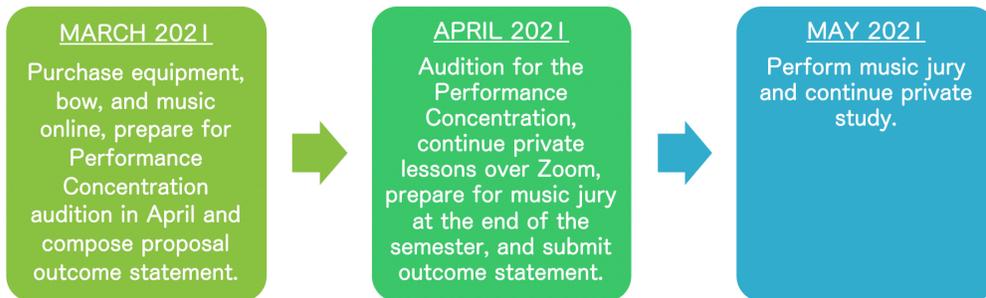
While I typically perform orchestra, chamber, and solo repertoire throughout the year with the Charlottesville Symphony, various chamber ensembles through the UVA Music Department and private lessons respectively, this past year has redirected my attention solely towards solo repertoire as I have not been able to participate in in-person chamber and orchestra activities. This shift to exclusively studying solo repertoire, however, has immensely benefited my musical growth and this experience continuously challenges me to rethink how I operate as a performer and what I want to achieve as a violist. Not only have I been able to increase the number of pieces studied but I have also been able to dedicate significantly more time to study and practice these pieces as well without the otherwise demands from chamber and orchestra repertoire.

With the funding of these musical resources, I will be better equipped for study, preparation and practicing during this pandemic. Due to the shift from in-person to online lessons, the Snowball microphone will provide a clearer sound and will thus allow Professor Baliya to notice more minute nuances over the Zoom platform that would otherwise be only heard in an in-person setting. The new shoulder rest would adequately replace my current one, which I have had for over five years, and is now showing considerable wear and decline, causing it to inconveniently fall off my instrument quite frequently. The carbon fiber viola bow will allow me to have a backup bow that will not be adversely affected by weather changes and will provide stability in the case of outdoor playing. The higher quality rosin will enhance my sound and provide a richer tone than my current one, which produces a more muted and softening tone while the new set of strings will replace my current set which I have had for over three years now. Additionally, I would like to purchase the Bach Gamba sonatas and Schumann

Märchenbilder pieces for future study. These resources would significantly assist in the changes needed to adapt to online lessons and elevate my individual practice.

My outcome statement will be in a written account documenting the improvements of my individual practicing and private lessons over Zoom. Thank you so much for your time and consideration and please reach out if there are any questions.

Proposal Timeline:



Proposal Budget Outline:

Item	Price	Quantity	Total
Blue Snowball Microphone	\$69.99	1	\$69.99
Andrea Solo Viola Rosin	\$27.00	1	\$27.00
Pedi Elegante Viola Shoulder Rest	\$72.00	1	\$72.00
Evah Pirazzi Gold Viola String Set	\$141.76	1	\$141.76
Bach, Three Gamba Sonatas for Viola and Piano	\$27.00	1	\$27.00
Schumann, Märchenbilder for Viola and Piano	\$22.95	1	\$22.95
Fiddlerman Carbon Fiber Viola Bow	\$74.79	1	\$74.79
Total			\$435.49