

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

Performance Concentration Recital Resources Funding Proposal Outcome Report

I am extremely thankful to the Miller Arts Scholar Program for granting me the funding to purchase several items including high-quality sheet music, a brand-new set of viola strings, as well as providing future contributive funding for collaborative pianist fees for my upcoming Distinguished Major Project fourth-year recital in the Spring of 2023. With these materials and funds, I have been able to further prepare for my recital well in advance along with easing numerous aspects of my performance practice.

This artist mini-grant provided me the ability to purchase high-quality editions of the sheet music for the majority of my recital repertoire. In particular, the Bärenreiter and Henle editions of the Brahms Sonata and Beethoven Duet, respectively, were extremely valuable additions not only to my daily practice but for my growing personal collection of properly printed viola repertoire. Prior to these purchases, I was using loose-leaf paper copies of these pieces during practice, lessons, and performances. These were printed from IMSLP, which only offered a limited selection of editions, none of which were as thoroughly reliable as the Bärenreiter and Henle editions are. Furthermore, loose-leaf copies did not provide the protection and ease of usage that sheet music provides with its proper binding. The sheet music also included the piano parts to my pieces, which I can now easily distribute to my collaborative pianists. Overall, the addition of these new sheet music parts has immensely benefited the preparation for my upcoming recital.

With the new set of viola strings, I was able to replace old, worn strings that I currently use. Recently at one of my performances this semester, my A string snapped off of my instrument, prompting me to replace it with a used backup string until I could purchase new ones. The new strings have allowed me to regain some of the freshness and vibrancy of my viola's sound, elevating it once more to its fullest extent.

The contributive funding has greatly eased the financial burden of collaborative pianist fees. Due to the difficulty of certain pieces I have chosen, compensating the pianists who will work with me is a key part of being able to put on my recital. While I receive some additional funding from my participation in DMP and the Performance Concentration program, this extra support from the artist mini-grant has aided me tremendously.

I cannot thank the Miller Arts Scholar Program enough for providing me the funding for these various items and for supporting my musical endeavors, especially my DMP recital. These resources will all help me present a satisfying culmination of my musical work here at UVA. This recital has been a constant goal for me since I was a first year and being able to receive financial support from Miller Arts has been an absolute privilege.