

Chuanyuan Liu
Miller Arts Scholars Artist Minigrant Proposal

Attending Baroque Workshop at the Shenandoah Valley Bach Festival

I am applying for the MAS Minigrant to attend the Baroque Workshop at the Shenandoah Valley Bach Festival this coming summer from June 10th to June 16th in Harrisonburg, Virginia. This intimate workshop, celebrating its 10th anniversary, is designed to give participants hands-on experience in Baroque technique and interpretation through a series of masterclasses and coaching sessions.

As a countertenor, I need to study many pieces in the baroque style because most music countertenors now sing were written in the 16th-17th century for castrati singers by famous composers including Monteverdi, Handel and Mozart. However, I only have limited time at school to learn about the knowledge of the specific period. With my acceptance to the program, I will work closely with other talented musicians, learn the essentials of baroque ornamentation and rhetoric, and perform both individually and in groups. Internationally renowned mezzo-soprano Judith Malafrente is on faculty at Yale School of Music and will be the voice instructor for the program this summer. I am fortunate to sing in her masterclass during the program and am really excited for the opportunity.

I will use the knowledge I get from the intensive workshop to prepare music for my graduate school audition and my senior recital in the spring semester of 2019. I believe the experience will be unforgettable and extremely helpful for the development of my interpretation of baroque music. It will also be my first time performing with an ensemble of instrumentalists and I am looking forward to it.

However, because I do not have a car and Harrisonburg is too close to Charlottesville to have separate bus stops, the only option is to take Uber or Lyft, the online taxi website to get to the location of the workshop. The minigrant would be extremely helpful to support the cost of transportation, housing and meals throughout the week.

Timeline

June 10th: Arrive in Harrisonburg

June 10th – June 16th: Attend the Baroque Workshop at the Shenandoah Valley Bach Festival

June 17th: Return to Charlottesville

Budget

Registration Fee:	\$25
Workshop Tuition:	\$450
Transportation:	\$150
Housing (Airbnb): \$45 * 6 =	\$270
Meal: \$15 per day * 6 =	\$90
Total:	\$985

I am willing and able to cover the rest of the budget by my personal savings.