

MAS Minigrant Outcome Report

Chuanyuan Eric Liu

"Have you ever checked your IQ? I think it would be very high. You are very smart."

"I hear a lot of promise. I hear a lot of fullness in the sound... The fact that you have such a nice, buzzing, ringing low sound tells me your vocal folds are meeting really nicely..."

"If your English is this good, you have really good ears and that's very material... You are absolutely on the right path because you have a good sense of what you need. You are right on the money."

My fall break trip to New York and Boston was wonderful and I got to meet some of the best teachers in the professional world. Besides the positive comments I listed above, I also received advice that was incredibly helpful for my practice and prescreening recordings after the meetings with them. I practice much more efficiently and the lessons built my confidence in applying for graduate schools with only three years of training. I made good connections with the teachers and we would still talk to each other over email.

In addition to covering the trip to the north, the minigrant also covered the cost of my portrait photography. The photos will serve as my headshot for the audition season, poster picture for my Distinguished Major Recital, and a collection for the personal website I am working on. With the help of Professor John Mayhood, I made a total of seven recordings *without charge*, and the repertoire spans across five centuries in four different languages. Contrasting recordings are not only required for graduate school applications as an indication of a singer's versatility, but will satisfy the screening requirements for almost any summer programs.

I want to thank again the Miller Arts Scholar Program for helping me take the next step and support my journey of conservatory training.

Expenditures

Train from Cville to NYC: \$116

Bus from NYC to Boston: \$28

Flight from Boston to Cville: \$335.80

Photography: \$50

Total: \$529.80