

Chuanyuan Liu
Miller Arts Scholars Artist Minigrant Proposal

Preparation Materials for Spring 2019 Audition Season

This summer, thanks to the help of the Miller Arts Scholar program, I attended three young artist programs focusing on different areas, all of which had helped me tremendously to become a well-rounded artist. I had the opportunity to work specifically on the Baroque style, perform with period instruments, meet and work with internationally famous teachers and coaches, learn Italian in Italy, and perform in scenes and operatic productions with full orchestra. The experience was life-changing and it reaffirmed my commitment to pursue the career as an opera singer.

I am applying for the MAS Minigrant to support my upcoming preparation materials for graduate school auditions and summer program auditions. In addition to a well written resume, it is essential for candidates to provide professional headshots and high quality recordings to compile a competitive application, and both of them can be quite expensive.

I also intend to use the minigrant to help with travel expenses for trial lessons. My main goal this year is to apply for graduate schools for vocal performance. Through the connections I made during the summer and with the help of my current voice teacher, Brenda Patterson, I have arranged a couple consultation lessons with voice teachers located in New York and Boston during fall reading days. While it is important for me to receive comments from different teachers, it is critical to gain exposure and familiar the teachers with my voice and personality to prepare for the potential live auditions next semester. Fortunately, singers I met through the summer programs will be able to host me and housing will not be something to worry about. But the travel is pricey because it is around fall break at UVA.

Timeline

Oct. 5-9: Trial lessons with teachers at Curtis Institute of Music, Manhattan School of Music, and New England Conservatory¹

Oct 2018: Headshot session with professional photographer, prepare audition repertoire

Nov 2018: Pre-screening recording with pianist John Mayhood

Budget

Headshot photography: \$150

Video recording: \$50

Travel expense (train from Charlottesville to New York, New York to Boston, and flight from Boston back to Charlottesville): ~\$400

Total: \$600

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

¹ Due to confidentiality and respect for the teachers, I did not put specific names in my proposal, but I am happy to provide the names to people in the committee who are interested.