

Drew McCarter

Mini grant Outcome

UVA Student Film Project: The Call

The MAS mini grant was an incredibly generous amount of money that helped make this student film possible. The \$500 allowed me to purchase a 50mm lens for \$330 and a tripod for \$190 that came to a grand total of \$520; I only had to spend \$20 out of pocket. Without these two accessories the film would have been a much lower quality. The 50mm lens allowed for me to rack focus in the same shot creating an incredible fluidity that could not have been attained on the iPhone camera alone. Racking focus is something that adds a lot of professionalism to a final film and I'm pleased to say that this film would not be the same without the help of this lens.

The tripod that I purchased is incredibly versatile. I was able to use the tripod as a kind of stabilizer for the camera allowing for stagnant shots and it also allowed for stable shots on the go. My director had me sit in a wheelchair while shooting on occasion in order to achieve the effect of movement in a shot. Had I been without the tripod there would have been an abundance of shakiness in the shots. This specific tripod also allows for two legs to be removed creating a monopod, which allows for relatively still shots while on the go. I was also able to use this tripod to get very interesting shots that would not be attainable without the lightness of the iPhone or without the durability of the tripod.

I do not have any clips to share with you as of right now due to the fact that the film is being edited for the next couple of weeks, but I would like to invite you to the screening that occurs on April 30th in the Caplin Theatre at 7pm where you will be able to see the film and the techniques that I used. I'm extremely grateful for the opportunity to receive this grant in order to further my artistic abilities.