

### **A Musical Journey: Nationally & Internationally**

This summer of 2017, I would like to pursue my performance-based career goals and continue developing both my skills as an individual and as part of an ensemble (a key part of being a performer). I hope to work with past and new teachers in an attempt to better understand and exercise my voice, all the meanwhile gaining valuable insight from the professionals at the programs.

I plan to apply and attend two programs. The first, which I also had the chance to attend last summer, is the Bethesda Summer Music Festival. This year, two productions and at least two recitals are included in the program for vocalists. The opera production is *Die Zauberflöte* by Mozart and it is my hope to join this talented cast and perform in one of Mozarts most well-known and beloved operas; the roles to which I am applying (Pamina, Papagena, and potentially one other) will also challenge me both as a vocalist and an actress. The program also offers extremely helpful master classes, allowing students to workshop arias and art songs (which I have been studying with my voice teacher, Mrs. Pamela Beasley). The BSMF also gives vocalists the chance to sing with a string quartet and piano ensemble, as opposed to the typical solo piano accompaniment, further challenging vocal technique in performing with a new instrument. Because I had the amazing opportunity to attend this program last summer, also thanks to the Miller Arts Scholars Award, I formed professional relationships with most of the faculty at the program, and as a result feel prepared to return to the program and study with conductors and coaches who already understand my voice and how to best improve it.

[Note: As my art supplement for this grant application, I have included two of my solos from the two shows that BSMF produced and performed last summer. I played Susanna in *Le Nozze di Figaro* and Carrie in *Carousel*; both of these roles challenged me and really provided me with ample opportunities to grow and develop as an individual and as part of an ensemble.]

Secondly, I am applying to the Bel Canto in Tuscany program, which takes place in Tuscany, Italy in the small town of Chianti. This program features a very impressive faculty of performers, instrumentals, and vocal teacher/coaches that, I have no doubt, would be extremely helpful in my journey as a performer. This program, unlike the BSMF, does not produce a full-stage production, and focuses more on language skills and technique, with performance opportunities like recitals still being offered. I have taken 3 years of Italian and would love the chance to test my language skills and continue studying the language (vital to classical vocal performers since many operas and art songs written in Italian) the summer. The experiences gained over this potential summer and interaction with new teachers/coaches would be not only helpful in continuing to fine-tune my musical performance techniques and personal style, but also be fantastic resources and mentors in regards to whatever future endeavors my musical career holds.

These two programs, similar, and yet unique in their focuses, will aide in making me an overall more well-rounded performer. Building my resume as a young performer is crucial both for my own personal development and experience and for improving my ability to work with ensembles, something that future graduate school programs and directors will assuredly seek out among hundreds of resumes. More importantly, these summer opportunities would provide me with the warm-welcomed chance to take time away from distractions and focus solely on making, interpreting, and performing music.

## Proposed Timeline

- Spring 2017: I will continue studies in vocal performance and background research in preparation of potential summer roles. [I will also give my outcome presentation for my previous grant award.]
- Summer 2017: I hope to first have a role in Die Zauberflöte with the Bethesda Summer Music Festival and partake in a festival that I was able to perform with last summer. In July, I hope to travel to Chianti, Italy to partake in the Bel Canto in Tuscany program. During the program, I hope to improve my Italian language skills (I have taken up to 3010 at UVA so far) and work on my overall performance technique and skills.
- Fall 2017: I plan to return to UVA more prepared in beginning applications to graduate school and preparing for my final full DMP recital in Spring 2018.
- April 2018: I will use the technical skill and tools I've acquired from training and networking at UVA and from programs that I have been able to attend to present my outcome presentation/ performance and piece together my DMP.

### Budget:

Bethesda Music Festival Application Fee	\$50.00
Bethesda Music Festival Tuition	\$1,000.00
Bel Canto in Tuscany Application Fee	\$30.00
Bell canto in Tuscany Tuition	\$4,500.00
Flight Travel Expenses Estimated	\$1456.00
Personal Expenses (both programs) Food, gas, daily expense, etc.	\$800.00

**Total Budget: \$ 7836.00**

The budget above contains projected costs. To aide in counterbalancing the steep costs and fees, I am applying for a budget of \$3,000. This grant would cover part of the tuition for both vocal programs. I would be willing to compensate the remaining travel costs and daily personal expenses. This generous grant would help offset the most expensive costs and make payments more feasible.

### **Participation in the Arts at UVA, Participation in the Arts Scholars Program, and the Future Ahead**

My participation in the Arts at UVA has only become stronger and more exciting each day. With acceptance into selective groups and programs like the Miller Arts Scholars and the new Performance Concentration, my participation in the music and arts community at UVA continues to increase, becoming ever-more vital to my life and identity as an artist at UVA. This is partially

as a result of both the formal Miller Arts Scholar involvement and the causal. The Arts Scholars Lectures make me a more rounded and informed artist, connecting me formally and professionally with Professors and performers at UVA and the larger Charlottesville community. Regarding personal, more casual relationships, the Miller Arts Scholars has brought together some of the most dear people to me at UVA. The support from the Arts Scholars community makes pursuing the arts at UVA a little bit easier and keeps me working towards my goals.

Part of what amazes me about the University of Virginia is the amount of resources and extra opportunities we are provided as student researchers. I have had a long interest in vocal performance and had also had interest in Speech Pathology, but it wasn't until I came to UVA that I began to understand the amazing relationship that exists between the two. I have never been so excited to start a research project and I'm fully looking forwards to combining two of the biggest and most influential passions, and hopefully future careers, in my life thus far. The speech pathology program has been fairly well established for years now, but finally it feels as though the music and arts departments have begun stepping up with the help of the Dean's office- the most clear example of this being the addition of not only the performance concentration, but a new performance-based class. With the potential help of this Arts Scholars Award in achieving my goals of continuing music education, my dream of performing seems a bit closer than before. I plan on continuing my participation in Arts Scholars and both the music and arts community on grounds as I have for the past 3 semesters.