

Connor Noble, *cpn8ftn*

College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2023

Miller Arts Scholars Mini Grant Application, Spring 2022

Project Title: Home Studio Equipment Upgrade

Description / Limitations:

The core of my creative electronic music production at a professional-level is a studio space that caters for my own expression. Although I have been able to pursue this passion in my current studio space, there are very important barriers that I've come across which inhibit my ability to create meaningful, impactful and plentiful music. I recognise that these issues are resolved via the purchase of new equipment. In my current space, one of my largest issues is the inability to access all of my equipment simultaneously, often due to a lack of flat desk space. This causes inhibitory set up time that often results in creative ideas being lost in switching out connections. As a producer, listening to the most authentic real version of the music is essential, but my current computer speakers have a significant bass-heavy bias. Studio monitors are a solution to get better sounding mixes and productions overall due to their neutral audio profile, and suspending them on separate monitor stands are ideal for my studio space. Similarly, as a performing DJ, and being 6'3" as I am, I find it difficult to practice performing on any surface accessible to me currently as they are all too low and result in significant back pain. To address this I look to a higher standing desk to cultivate a beneficial space to work on and practice my art form. Lastly, the MIDI keyboard I rely on now is small and has 25-keys, which introduces difficulty when it comes to playing wider ranges of harmonies and improvising altogether. A larger keyboard is a perfect solution I've identified to address this bottleneck.

Objectives:

- Improve sound quality and aural ability in monitoring, detecting and analysing audio material via a neutral sound profile
- Enable greater practicability and engagement with instrumentation/performance and production equipment

Timeline:

- Mar 4, 2022** Minigrant Application Submission
- Mar 18, 2022** (approx.) \$500 received, equipment purchased
- Mar 25, 2022** Integrate equipment into home studio setup
... continue working on current productions

Detailed Budget breakdown

Item	Price	Link	Description
KRK RP5 Rokit G4 Studio Monitor, Black (RP5G4-NA)	\$179.00	Link	Studio monitors used for both producing music with better acoustic accuracy, and for practicing DJing in my home setup.
Gearlux Studio Monitor Stands	\$79.99	Link	Stands to be used to raise and isolate studio monitors from desk surface, and move around to cater for DJ practicing as well as music production.
Standing Loring Standing Desk Vintage Oak - Project 62™	\$60.00	Link	Standing desk to be used for DJing, catering more for my height (6'3) as my current DJ table is uncomfortably low (causes back pain with prolonged use).
Alesis V61 61-Key USB MIDI Keyboard Controller	\$169.99	Link	A larger midi keyboard (61 keys) allows for more creativity in producing music versus the limitation of my smaller 25-key midi keyboard.
Rockville Adjustable Dual Shelf DJ Controller Midi Keyboard Laptop Stand, Rockville Adjustable Dual Shelf DJ Controller Midi Keyboard Laptop Stand	\$49.95	Link	Due to a lack of desk space, this shelf allows me to hold my computer and up to 2 more keyboards in a compact space. Helps to make the production flow more seamless and quick from idea to result.
Total (tax not included):	\$538.93		

** the \$38.93 surplus + tax is to be covered by me separately*