

Headshot Minigrant Proposal

I. Proposal Abstract

After attending the Stella Adler Studio of Acting this past summer, courtesy of Miller Arts Scholars, I acquired professional acting advice to update actor headshots. Through our Practicum and Film & TV courses, we learned how to address an actor's type, and more specifically their TriForce. The TriForce is a combination of an actor's essence (first impression when they walk in a room), personality, and temperament (behavior). Guest artists and alumni who spoke in our practicum classes all advised us to use our TriForces to inform a headshot photo shoot aesthetically. For example, there must be a wide range of emotions displayed in the pictures, enough to give an agent a good idea of what projects you'd best fit into. Since I've never taken headshots in this style before and I am currently seeking representation, I ask for the Miller Arts Scholar's Fall Minigrant to fund this endeavor.

II. Merit Qualifications

I am a third-year drama and commerce major who has been acting, singing, and dancing for 14+ years. I have been professionally coached in all three spokes of the triple threat wheel, taking a variety of dance classes to include tap, jazz, ballet, and contemporary for 10 years, acting lessons for 5 years, and voice lessons for 5 years. At UVA, I've had the privilege to perform in First Year Players' productions of *Pippin*, *Anything Goes*, Shakespeare on the Lawn's *Romeo and Juliet*, and two drama department shows. Junior year of high school, I qualified for the International Thespian Festival with my monologue package and won the highest honors (Superior) from all 3 adjudicators. As a senior in high school, I won two, audition-only performing arts scholarships, competing with prospective performing arts majors from all of the Hampton Roads high schools. That same year, I auditioned for 40+ colleges at the Virginia Theatre Association's college conference and received callbacks from programs to include the American Shakespeare Center and New York Film Academy. This past summer, I used the MAS Third Year arts award to study at the Stella Adler Studio of Acting for 10 weeks. Moving forward, I hope to use my experience and double major qualifications to lead a successful career in the film industry.

III. Financial-Need Qualifications

As the daughter of two army veterans, the challenges and character-building exercises accompanying financial responsibility were made apparent to me from an early age. Both of my parents attended the United States Military Academy in West Point, NY. As alumni of an all-expenses paid institution, my parents' favorite pastime involves casually boasting and reminding their four children that, just as they earned scholarships and a debt-free opportunity, they expect their children to front the entirety of their college tuition. To make a long-story short, here I stand, the oldest of the four children, facing the elusive frontier of college tuition, scholarships, and cosigning my own student loans. I am more than appreciative of my parents' sacrifices and their parenting decisions, and this one in particular, is a lesson I believe all young adults should

learn. I am a financially-independent 19-year-old with a holistic understanding of budgeting, retirement savings, and credit scores. Nevertheless, I recognize that the words “financially stable” and “actor” are not on speaking terms. In pursuit of an acting career, I seek funding from the Miller Arts Scholars Fund for new headshots to continue nurturing my career.

IV. Project Narrative

I will take a headshot photoshoot in line with my newly discovered TriForce from Stella Adler. After meeting with an agent at Stella, I determined my TriForce (see description above in Proposal Abstract) and am ready to design a photo shoot in line with its aesthetic. Essentially, the agent delivered 3-4 ideal projects he could see us getting cast in, and our job was to discover who casts those projects, how to reach them, and how their agencies are rated.

a. Objectives

Design a headshot photo shoot in line with my TriForce, take the photoshoot, update my website, and contact agents.

b. Significance

As one of the top three things all actors are advised to do before seeking representation/pursuing a professional career, funding for this project will help me propel my career without external financial concerns or lack of time preparation.

c. Project Execution

I will be taking Headshots with both Greg Harris (Charlottesville) and Jeremy Bustin (Richmond) after getting the recommended professional hair and makeup done the morning of. Dates are still unknown, but will be happening by the end of October/Early November. After the photoshoot is complete, the headshots will be uploaded on my website (veronicaseguin.com) and sent to ABC Prints in Missouri for in-person copies for auditions/callbacks.

d. Detailed Budget

\$78 – Hair Blowout
\$20 – Professional Makeup
\$168 – Hard Copy Headshot Prints through ABC Prints
\$225 – Headshots

Total: \$491.00