

**Emily Hunter**  
**Spring 2023 Miller Arts Mini Grant Outcome**

**“Music DMP Preparation”**

Original Proposal:

I applied for the Music Distinguished Major Program with the intention of performing a fourth year recital. I hope to perform *Prelude et Scherzo* by Henri Busser, Marin Marais’ *Les folies d’espagna*, *Fantasia* by Philippe Gaubert, and *Le Merle Noir* by Olivier Messiaen. This recital would be centered around French repertoire from different time periods. As I would be pushing myself out of my comfort zone, private instruction is crucial to prepare for this recital, especially given its extensive list of repertoire. I am studying music in Vienna, Austria this semester through the IES abroad program. As I am living in the musical hub of the world, a number of opportunities to develop this repertoire are available now, here. Most specifically, that includes taking private flute lessons from Furugh Karimi in Vienna, Austria.

Outcome:

Furugh Karimi charges €80, or \$87.78 per 60-minute lesson at the current exchange rate (\$84.40 at the time I wrote the proposal). My program gives music students a €500 stipend for private lessons and requires 12 hours of instruction. This brings my total to €960, or \$1,053.54 at the current exchange rate. I am extremely grateful to have been awarded this mini-grant because these lessons have truly changed my flute-playing. Throughout the semester, we worked on *Le Merle Noir* by Olivier Messiaen, the entirety of *Concerto in G Major* by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, *Ballade* by Frank Martin, Anderson Etudes, exercises from Mathieu André Reichert’s *Il Flauto Traverso* method book, and other personalized technique exercises.

I noticed the greatest difference in the way I practice. Furugh Karimi reminded me in each of our lessons that I should practice the way I want to perform. Practicing etudes now feels more like a performance rather than a chore since I am working on phrasing, as well as dynamics and articulation. This was the first time I went back and relearned pieces from years ago. It was cool to see how much I have grown as a flute player since first learning *Concerto in G Major* and *Ballade*. The beginning of the semester’s lessons focused on the style of the Classical Period. Now we are starting to work on the French Contemporary piece, *Le Merle Noir*. I am playing this piece next spring for my DMP recital (which has now been approved!). It requires extreme abdominal support and tonal flexibility, which we are working on with selected technique exercises and etudes. I hope to continue practicing everything Furugh Karimi has taught me as I prepare the rest of the DMP repertoire.