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Art Scholar Fourth Year Award Application (Spring 2022)

## **A Summer Acting Intensive in Dublin Ireland**

### **My Theatrical Experience:**

My entire life I have loved to perform. I started acting at around 9 years old and consistently participated in annual musicals, have taken drama classes, and even completed a 2-year IB Theater HL course. Thus far at UVA, I have gained a diverse skill set in the dramatic arts. I have gained experience performing both in plays and musicals, conducting research, directing, script analysis, and stage management. I have been an active member of First Year Players theater group here at UVA through performances of *The Music Man* as well as on the artistic and production team as event coordinator, historian, and choreographer. Within the drama department, I have taken Acting I, acted in the New Works festival audio drama during the spring of 2021, and played a role in all 4 of the productions for Virginia Players 2022 "*Play in a Day*".

While these experiences have been rewarding, they have also been limited due to the COVID-19 pandemic as I have missed out on over a year of live performance opportunities. Throughout 2020 into the beginning of 2021, I was uninspired by the online alternatives available to further my acting career at UVA. Starting my third year with this lack of more professional experience, it has been extremely intimidating to get involved in the department where it is highly competitive to be cast in main stage productions. However, even with these barriers, my love for acting has not died. Thus, my goal for the summer is to reconnect with this skill set through an intensive experience and prepare myself for auditions both in my final year at UVA and beyond.

### **Proposal:**

I am applying for a fourth-year award to supplement a summer study abroad experience at the Gaiety School of Acting in Dublin, Ireland. The program I will be attending is an [Acting Intensive through IES Abroad](#). This program includes 2 weeks in Killarney, Ireland at their West End House followed by four weeks in Dublin at the Gaiety. This program would take place from May 25- July 9 and would cost a total of **\$7,864** before accounting for flights and personal expenses.

The program itself is for students such as me seeking intensive "conservatory style" performance skills. Throughout the duration of this program, I will take courses in acting, voice, and writing as well as participate in a theater workshop to teach about me about the production side of performance. Through these courses, I plan to sharpen my skills as a theater artist, make connections with others in the field. Outside of the intensive, I intend to immerse myself in the cultural and theatrical atmosphere that is clearly present throughout Ireland, particularly in Dublin. This will include attending performances by other theater artists at the Gaiety, as well as using my weekends to travel to neighboring cities in search of live performances by professional as well as street performers. This will be an experience unique from anything I could find within the United States, let alone the UVA community. Additionally, I will be able to

expand my network and make connections with professional theater artists to learn about their experiences with the arts.

Throughout my experience I intend to keep a journal of reflections on my experiences both inside and outside of the classroom. In my final weeks, I will participate in a live showcase of scenes demonstrating my growth throughout the program. I plan to record this performance as well as record additional monologues showing personal growth to be recorded for the outcome presentation once I return to the states. While I am currently working with Dave Dalton ([dnd8b@virginia.edu](mailto:dnd8b@virginia.edu)) to find a more appropriate faculty mentor for this experience, I plan to review these performances and reflections alongside the selected mentor in preparation for my outcome report and arts award presentation in Spring of 2023.

As I enter my final year at UVA, these experiences are essential in shaping my view of my craft and how it can fit within broader contexts. Yet, while this hands-on experience grows increasingly important, the financial aspects of pursuing these opportunities can often be a deterrent. The \$3,000 supplementation provided by the Fourth-Year award would provide tremendous support in allowing me to take advantage of these opportunities and expand my acting career beyond what has been possible at UVA.

**Budget:**

**IES Abroad Acting Intensive Program (6 weeks)**

Expense	Description	Amount
Tuition / IES Fee	Covers course costs, immunization expenses, and room and board in both Dublin and Killarney	\$7,864
Food/ Groceries	Estimated grocery budget of \$100 per week for 6 weeks	\$600
<a href="#">Airline Tickets</a> <b>Prices subject to change depending on date purchased!</b>	Round Trip Economy Tickets departing from Newark on May 24 and returning July 10	\$706
Personal Expenses	Miscellaneous	\$300

Total Estimated Cost: \$9,170.00

*\*I acknowledge that the estimated costs surpass the \$3,000 allotted by the arts award and intend to cover any additional expenses from personal funds earned this winter\**

**Timeline:**

Spring 2022:

- Finalize paperwork for IES

- Buy plane tickets
- Confirm faculty mentor and establish specific goals for the program

#### Summer 2022

- Study acting in Dublin for approximately 6-weeks (ranging from May 24-July 9)
- Gain hands on experience in the theater world, network, and reflect
- Keep a journal / blog reflecting on my experience abroad both culturally and academically in preparation for my final academic year.

#### Fall 2022

- Utilize newfound skill set to audition for UVA Drama Department and Virginia Players productions

#### Spring 2022

- Prepare for award outcome presentation

Thank you for your consideration!