

Susana Kuhn
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Art Scholar Mini Grant Application (Spring 2022)

Applying for a Summer of Professional Theater Experience

I am a Miller Arts Scholar with a concentration in Drama. I have participated in theatrical productions throughout my entire life as well as have talked broadly about a future in the arts, I have yet to gain real world experience in the field (outside of a purely academic context). As a double major in Global Development Studies, I have wanted to further this engagement by looking to theater on a global scale and how acting methods vary cross culturally. However, while I came into college hopeful for opportunities to perform and advance my acting career, many of these opportunities were cut short by COVID-19. Additionally, there are only 2 acting courses offered at UVA and all other acting opportunities require being cast in a main stage production, all of which are highly competitive. Thus, my goal for the summer is to try and pursue more advanced theater training to better prepare me for auditions both in my final year at UVA and beyond.

My hope for the summer is to start acquiring these experiences and prepare myself for a career post-graduation through an immersive acting experience in Dublin, Ireland at the [Gaiety school of Acting](#). Since this program is external to UVA, my mini grant will go towards the [administrative fee](#) required by education abroad to allow enrollment in this course. Although I have not yet been granted acceptance to this program, my application is in the process of being processed and after consulting twice with an abroad academic advisor, I have been told that it is very likely I will be granted admittance. I would also like to note that although this grant proposal will be applied to a fee that correlates with study abroad, I am still waiting upon details to be finalized. However, I will submit by study abroad form alongside my Fourth-Year grant proposal once the details and paperwork are finalized in April.

At the Gaiety school of Acting, 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. This opportunity excited me because not only will it help enhance my performance skills but will introduce me to other aspects of the theater industry such as script analysis and production. Through these courses, I plan to sharpen my skills as a theater artist, make connections with others in the field, and delve deeper into the intersection between my two majors as I study theater cross culturally.

As I enter my fourth year, it is becoming more and more important to gain hands on experience in the theater world. However, the financial aspects of pursuing these opportunities can often be a deterrent. If and when I am granted admission to this program, I plan to apply for a Fourth-Year grant to supplement the overall cost of the entire program alongside personal funds which I have earned by working full time throughout winter break this past year. The funds from both grants will allow me to enjoy my experience abroad and fully immerse myself in the culture and acting without the stress of the additional financial burden or need to work part time while in another country.

Budget:

Option 1- A Summer at Gaiety:

Expense	Description	Amount
Study Abroad Administrative Fee	Required to apply/ participate to study abroad programs outside of UVA	\$500

Total: \$500

Timeline:

Spring 2022:

- Wait on admittance to Abroad Program
- Pay \$500 Fee to finalize position and commit
- Apply for Fourth Year Miller Arts Award to supplement additional funds/ travel expenses for this program.

Summer 2022

- Study in Dublin for approximately 6-weeks (May 24-July 9)
- Gain hands on experience in the theater world, network, and reflect