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Mckinnon Artist Mini Grant Outcome Report  
Spring 2025

I purchased two audio plugins (Soothe 2 and Pro-Q 4) from Sweetwater, with the total coming to \$387.49. Just as a quick refresher, Soothe 2 is a dynamic resonance suppressor that removes harsh resonant frequencies from recordings, while Pro-Q 4 is an industry-standard EQ plugin.

I began by reading the instruction manuals and experimenting with both plugins to understand their full capabilities. I firmly believe that an audio plugin is only as powerful as the person using it. I'm still getting used to fully integrating both into my workflow, but with time, I'm confident using them will become second nature.

I've already produced and mixed one song using these plugins titled "Three Eyes," which is set to release in late June. Soothe 2 proved incredibly versatile during this project. I used it as a de-esser to tame harsh "s" sounds in my vocals, and to reduce resonant frequencies around 250 Hz in a vocal stack. Its dynamic processing allowed me to target problem frequencies without completely cutting out the low end of the vocal stack.

I also used Pro-Q 4 on nearly every channel in the mix. It offers several features that make it an efficient and intuitive EQ, such as the ability to freehand sketch EQ curves to quickly get a rough idea of the sound you want. I found the dynamic EQ bands and the wide range of presets helpful as well.

Looking ahead, I'm committed to mastering both plugins. They still feel a bit new, and that sometimes slows me down, but I know that with more time and practice, that will change. I'm incredibly grateful to have received the McKinnon Artist Mini Grant to support this work.

### **Budget**

Item	Price
FabFilter Pro-Q 4 EQ and Filter Plug-in	\$179
Oeksound soothe2 Dynamic Resonance Suppressor Plug-in	\$199
<b>Total Cost After Taxes</b>	<b>\$387.49</b>

