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Third Year Miller Arts Scholar
Spring 2025 Minigrant Proposal

Audio Plugins to Enhance My Mixes

Project Summary:

I recently completed my Third Year Arts Award project and released 12 songs over the past 10 months. Throughout this process, I refined my skills as a producer and gained valuable experience during my fall semester independent study with my faculty mentor, Michael Rasbury.

I am requesting funding for two audio plugins that will allow me to control frequencies in my mixes with greater precision and efficiency than my current software permits.

Fabfilter Pro Q 4 is an industry standard EQ plugin that has much more detailed parameters than the stock Logic Pro EQ I currently use. The feature that is most valuable to my work is the dynamic EQ bands that would allow me to cut or boost frequencies with greater control. For example, a mix may have too much energy in the high end (often 3-4khz in my mixes) but only at certain times. Dynamic EQ bands will reduce these frequencies exclusively when necessary in order to preserve the sound of the mix overall. EQs have such a wide variety of uses in mixing and audio production and having one that is both powerful and intuitive to use is an invaluable asset.

Soothe 2 is another plugin used widely among professionals. Its main purpose is to cut out specific harsh frequencies from recordings. I often do this manually with my EQ plugin in a process that is called surgical EQ. Soothe 2 automates a lot of this process and does it in a way that is more thorough. Since I frequently record at home and in spaces without proper acoustic treatment, I often encounter harsh frequencies. A plugin like this will not only enhance the sound of my mixes but also streamline my workflow, allowing me to work more efficiently.

I am incredibly grateful for the opportunities provided by the Miller Arts Foundation, and I sincerely thank you for your consideration.

Timeline:

Late March

1. Receive grant and purchase plugins from Sweetwater
2. Use the plugins and incorporate them into my workflow
3. Mix new songs with these plugins and release them

Budget

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